

Heat resistant textiles



Safeguarding your products in the toughest bending conditions

Bekaert in a nutshell

- Customers in over 120 countries and in diverse markets and sectors
- Technologically strong in advanced solutions based on metal transformation and coatings: a unique combination of expertise
- High investments in research and development
- An international team of R&D specialists
- 28 000 employees worldwide
- Listed on Euronext® Brussels (BEKB)
- Headquarters in Belgium
- Founded in 1880
- Combined sales in 2011: € 4.6 billion
- Consolidated sales in 2011: € 3.4 billion



Imagine what we can do for you

Do you need stainless steel textiles that can resist high temperatures? Are you looking for a global supplier who's close to you? Would you like to work with a company that puts great effort into developing products tailored to your needs?

Whether you produce automotive glass or mirrors, hollow or solar glass or other products, we would like to play a part. With our history as one of the first companies in the heat resistant textiles market, our talent for innovation, as well as our global market leadership, we can engineer product solutions to strengthen your market position.

A global partner, close to you

For 130 years now, customers in more than 120 countries have continued to work with Bekaert. Working with us means you can count on local contacts that speak your language and are close to your business. With our global presence, we are witnessing market developments from the front seat.

Strong in-house R&D capabilities

Bekaert is a specialist in stainless steel textiles. Customers in heat resistant textiles, as well as in electro-conductive fabrics, appreciate our strong in-house development team. To anticipate your changing needs, Bekaert invests heavily in R&D, in testing, and in exchanging ideas with customers.

Superior performance in the hottest conditions

We want to be your preferred partner in heat resistant textiles. Bekaert's stainless steel fibers can deliver superior heat-resistance and withstand continuously high temperatures better than any other fiber. These fibers are processed into steel and blended textiles that can be manipulated as a standard fabric. Soft and flexible, our textiles safeguard your products from defects, scratches and in the toughest bending conditions both in-furnace and out-of-furnace.

Heat resistant textiles, a proven solution for different applications

You can find Bekaert products in automobiles, windmills, elevators, tunnels and bridges; in homes and offices; in machines and offshore. Our presence in just about every sector is a unique strength, both for Bekaert and for our customers.

Drivers of the automobile industry

In today's challenging automotive industry, car manufacturers are looking for reliable, secure and safe solutions.

In the automotive glass industry, we see five main drivers.

- **Larger variety of windows per platform:** there is demand for various shapes of car lites within the same platform.
- **More complex shapes:** the more inclined the lite, the more complex the glass production in terms of curvature and surface tolerance.
- **Added functionalities on the glass:** built-in antennas, head-up displays and communication sensors.
- **Weight reduction:** thinner glass lowers the total weight of a car. Though more fuel efficient, this results in higher optical requirements.
- **Shorter batch sizes:** more frequent changes in the production of the glass.

In-furnace or out-of-furnace, you can trust that our stainless steel textiles will protect your glass the most from deformities while being shaped. The textiles are made with soft stainless steel fibers that can be woven, braided, knitted, warp-knitted, needle-punched or water jet entangled.

Our products can help you to develop new lites and to produce complex shapes. Together, we can develop textile products that result in higher volumes, more flexibility, less scrap, fewer stops, fewer defects and higher complexity.



Safeguarding your hollow glass

Reducing the potential damages during the handling of your delicate glass products is key. Bekaert textiles offer a number of solutions to make your workflow more efficient and more productive.

We see two main drivers that can affect your performance:

- **Less maintenance:** our products last longer by which replacement of coverages can be delayed
- **Scrap reduction:** avoiding scratches and pitting that can lead to waste

Bekaert heat resistant textiles are soft and durable. Their excellent damping effect reduces the vibrations on your bottles or other tableware and can withstand high temperatures up to 600 - 700°C. You can cut them to fit your needs. They are easy to mount and leave no scratches or pitting on your hollow glass.



Performance in other applications

Thanks to their excellent heat resistance and flexibility, Bekaert's knitted cloths are also used as gas burner surface media. Compared with other materials, they offer the most complete and powerful burning process possible on a limited area.

The stainless steel textiles can be used in a myriad of ways. They are used while bending complex glass forms, in welding stainless steel cooking pans, as replacements for asbestos, as an alternative for fiberglass, as roller coverings for the glass and aluminum industry, or as heat and vibration insulation of aircraft engine pipes.



Global presence to support your business

Your need for worldwide service is met just around the corner.

The close proximity of our warehouses and plants to your production sites results in a constant supply of heat resistant textiles, fast deliveries and minimal inventory held in your sites. Our strategic presence in different regions guarantees a flexible and just-in-time supply, even at the last-minute.

Furthermore, you can count on our local sales and service teams for technical commercial support. Dedicated account managers work closely with you on your project and can advise you about how our heat resistant textiles can fulfill your needs.

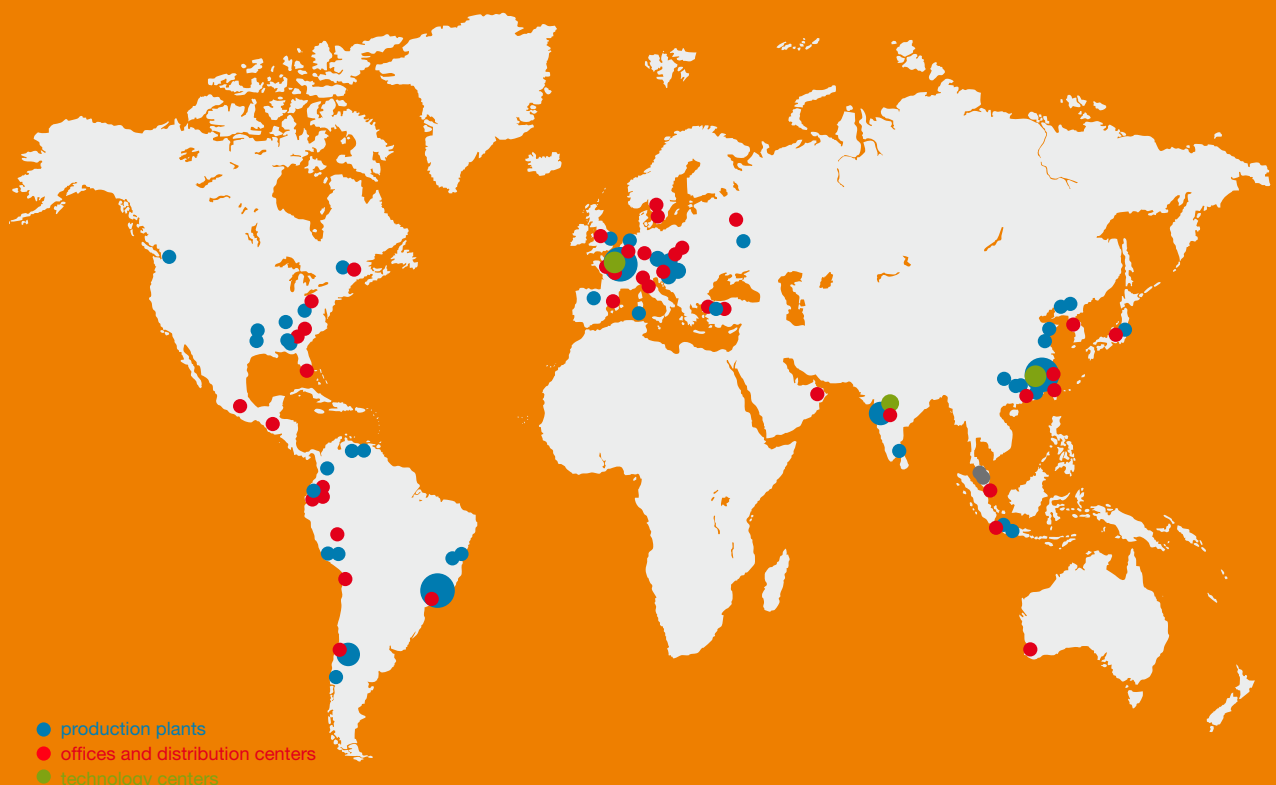
Developing for tomorrow

Being at the forefront of technological evolution is one of our key pillars.

We attach particular importance to co-development, starting from highly specific problems or business situations because, to us, innovation is a continuous improvement process.

So that you benefit from shorter development cycles and consistently reliable product quality, we have an in-house furnace to test products in a real-world setting. We work with universities, machine suppliers and institutes to use modeling in order to design products that are fully in line with your requirements.

At Bekaert, R&D goes beyond product development. Our technology centers are equipped with lab facilities for both fundamental and applied research. This allows us to develop solutions that are customized for your business.

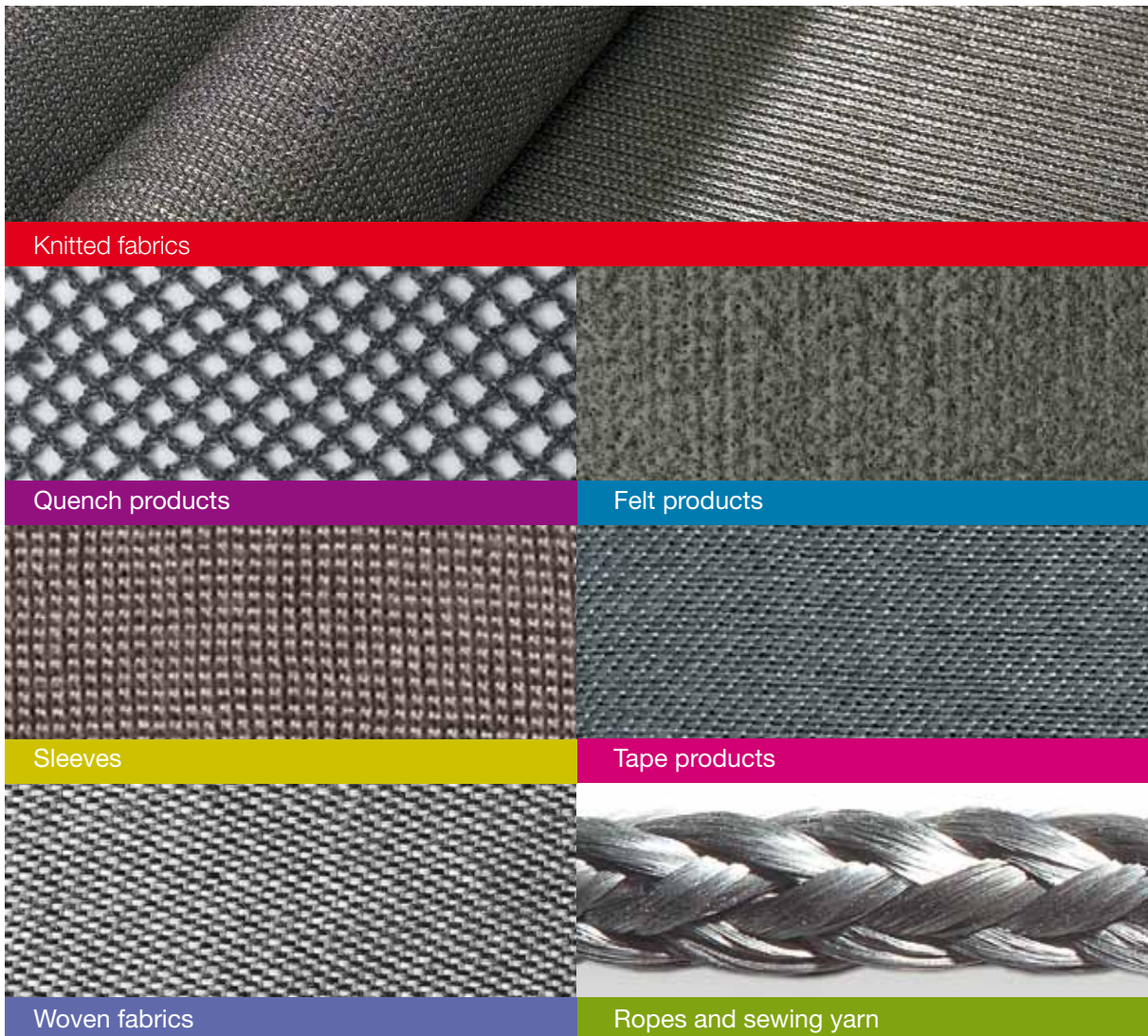


Product portfolio based on your practice

When you partner with Bekaert, you can rely on a diversified geographic presence and product portfolio, combined with innovation and operational excellence. To optimize the uptime of your process and to minimize your operating costs, we engineer technical textiles with high permeability, good anti-sticking features and insulating properties in case of out-of furnace bending. Using our products means premium optics, less sagging and a longer lifetime.

Reliable quality under extreme conditions

Maintaining a high level of quality is a continuous process. That is why our quality procedures are regularly evaluated and why we use the feedback of our customers to do so. Our extensive quality control and defect filtering offers a consistency warranty while eliminating excessive waste and safeguarding the quality of your glass. Choosing Bekaert is choosing for a high performance product supported by Total Quality Management.



How can your company benefit from Bekaert heat resistant textiles?

Building close partnerships

We want to work with you to better understand your needs. It's a pre-condition for building close partnerships that result in solutions that work for your company. With control over the entire production process, the fibers can be developed with the product properties you need. We have the ability to draw wire in ultra-fine diameters and to find unique coatings. We can tailor our product to offer you specific electro-conductive and heat resistant characteristics. Your results are oxidation resistance and stress-free performance.

If you want to find out how our high quality fibers, filaments and yarns can work for you too, we are happy to advise.

Please contact your local Bekaert specialist.

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