

# Press release

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Lenzing Aktiengesellschaft  
Werkstraße 2  
4860 Lenzing, Austria  
www.lenzing.com

Phone +43 (0) 7672 701-2713  
Fax +43 (0) 7672 918-2713  
E-mail a.guldt@lenzing.com

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## **Lenzing Will Continue to Supply Flame-Resistant Fibers to the U.S. Army**

### **U.S. President Obama signs permanent import approval**

The Lenzing Group will continue to supply flame-resistant specialty fibers for a new generation of U.S. Army combat uniforms. The signature of U.S. President Obama on December 31, 2011 formally approving the National Defense Authorization Act enables the delivery of "TenCate Defender<sup>TM</sup>M" uniform fabrics for an unlimited period of time ("permanent waiver"). The key component included in this fabric is the heat protection fiber Lenzing FR<sup>®</sup> of the Austrian Lenzing Group. In principle, only clothing products "Made in USA" are allowed for the U.S. Army. Up until now, textiles made from Lenzing fibers were supplied on the basis of a limited exemption granted in the year 2008.

Lenzing exports flame-resistant fibers from Austria to its American cooperation partner TenCate Protective Fabrics (TenCate). The company is the leading manufacturer of flame-resistant fabrics for the U.S. Armed Forces. The President's signature approving the waiver now allows Lenzing to make the required volumes of the specialty fiber Lenzing FR<sup>®</sup> available to the U.S. Army without restrictions in the future.

### **Lenzing FR<sup>®</sup> advantages**

The uniform fabric Defender<sup>TM</sup>M meets the enhanced need of U.S. soldiers for flame and fire protection related to the rise in attacks using unconventional explosive and burning devices. In contrast to other fibers, Lenzing FR<sup>®</sup> not only offers the stipulated flame and heat protection properties, but comfort and good breathability and last but not least the fast and reliable delivery capability of sufficient quantities on an industrial scale. The close cooperation of TenCate and Lenzing combines excellence in the fabric development and production of flame-resistant fibers.

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TenCate Defender™M fabric with Lenzing FR® fiber offers superior protection and the high wearing comfort of conventional non-protective fabrics.

In August 2007 TenCate was officially commended by the United States Marine Corps for superior excellence in delivering an outstanding level of quality in its products and services in response to the demands of the U.S. Armed Forces.

**For more information please contact:**

Angelika Guldt

Head of Corporate Communications

Phone: +43 (0) 7672 701-2713

E-mail: [a.guldt@lenzing.com](mailto:a.guldt@lenzing.com)

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**The Lenzing Group**

The Lenzing Group is an international group of companies with headquarters in Austria, production sites in all major markets and a global network of sales and marketing offices. Lenzing provides the global textile and nonwovens industry with high-quality man-made cellulose fibers based on the renewable resource wood.

Lenzing quality and Lenzing innovative power set standards for man-made cellulose fibers world-wide. More than seventy years of fiber production expertise make us the only producer world-wide of all three man-made cellulose fiber generations, from classic viscose to modal and lyocell. Lenzing's unique combination of consistent customer orientation with leadership in quality, innovation and technology is the foundation of our success.

Lenzing is committed to the principles of sustainable management and very high environmental standards.

Lenzing's core business fibers and plastics are complemented by our activities in business field engineering.

**Key Figures Lenzing Group 2010:**

Sales: EUR 1.77 bill.

Export share: 91.3 %

Fiber production: 653,717 tons

Staff: 6,530

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