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WORLD'S LEADING NONWOVENS EXHIBITION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rising to the sustainability challenge

The world is experiencing unprecedented change with a burgeoning population expected to reach nine billion by 2050. Global temperatures are rising and resources are being depleted as a result of unsustainable development. The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by world leaders in 2015, established 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to serve as a roadmap for countries and organizations over the next decade. In addition to this, leaders signed a global agreement to limit global warming to less than two degrees Celsius compared to pre-industrial levels, at the UN Climate Conference (COP21) in Paris last year. If aims are to be delivered, there remains much more to be done by businesses, governments, civil society and people around the world.

Visitors and exhibitors at INDEX™17, the world's leading nonwovens exhibition held in Geneva from 4th-7th April 2017, will have the chance to hear from "Big Picture" speaker, Dr. Russell Jones, International Geosynthetics Society (IGS) President, on the contribution of nonwoven geotextile materials to the global sustainability agenda. Some of the UN sustainable development goals to be achieved by 2030 include: ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all; building resilient infrastructure to promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization; making cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; and ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns.

The International Geosynthetics Society maintains that up to 50% of current CO₂ emissions in the world are related to infrastructure development. Were you aware that nonwoven geotextile materials are playing a key role in reducing the sector's carbon footprint? "Nonwoven geotextiles used in infrastructure help achieve longer road lives, protect the environment, control surface erosion, and enable improved water conservation," explains Russell Jones.

The rich three-day INDEX™17 programme features a free geotextiles seminar on 6th April, in which Russell Jones will put forward the key challenges facing the geotextiles industry, and renowned experts in the field will then discuss how nonwovens are contributing to solving these challenges, with key topics ranging from long-term durability and use in hydraulic applications, to waste management and sustainability.

Geotextiles seminar speakers include:

- **Daniele Cazzuffi**, CESI SpA and Former IGS President, will act as moderator
- **Russell Jones**, Director, Golder Associates, IGS President, will discuss sustainability in geotextiles
- **Jean-Pierre Gourc**, UJF Grenoble, and **Philippe Delmas**, CNAM Paris, will deliver a joint presentation on the behaviour of earthworks with geotextiles
- **Frits Doddema**, Berry Plastics, will address new nonwoven geotextile applications
- **Francesco Fontana**, President, AssINGeo, will speak on the durability of nonwoven geotextiles
- **George Papagiannis**, Thrace Nonwovens & Geosynthetics, will present on nonwoven geotextiles in geosynthetics and key global markets and trends



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- **Piergiorgio Recalcati**, Tenax SpA, will discuss design and applications of geocomposite drainage systems for landfills capping

Visitors from around the world will have the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of the latest developments in nonwovens for geotextile applications.

[Register online](#) now for INDEX™17, or book your own stand space [here](#). For hotel bookings and additional information, please visit our website on www.index17.org.

For any further media inquiries, please contact the INDEX™17 Press Office:

Laura de Pontbriand

Burson-Marsteller Geneva

Tel: +41 22 593 69 28

E-mail: laura.depontbriand@bm.com