Bekaert in brief

September 2020
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- Founded in 1880 by Leo Leander Bekaert
- The world’s largest independent producer of steel wire products and solutions
- Serving customers from a very wide range of industry sectors in 120 countries and operating a global manufacturing platform with 28,000 employees worldwide
- Combined sales of €5.1 billion and consolidated sales of €4.3 billion (2019)
- Listed on Euronext® Brussels
1880
Leo Leander Bekaert starts a small business in barbed wire in Zwevegem, Belgium

1922
First investment abroad: Tréfileries de Bourbourg, France

1948
First investments in Latin America: Argentina and Chile

1952
Steel cord production start

1964
Establishment of R&D center in Deerlijk, Belgium

1965
Start-up of Engineering facility for machine design and manufacture

Early 1970s
New steel cord plant openings and expansions in US, Brazil, Belgium, Japan

1972
Listing on the Brussels stock exchange to fund continued growth

1975-1977
Establishment of joint ventures in Ecuador and Brazil

1988
New plant openings in the US in response to local demand

1990
Bekaert has become a truly international company with 15,000 employees worldwide

1993
Bekaert recognizes China’s huge market potential and builds a first steel cord plant in Jiangyin, Jiangsu Province

1995-1977
Establishment of joint ventures in Ecuador and Brazil

Early 1980s
Bekaert moves into composite materials, non-ferrous forged products, vacuum coatings and filtration

1988
New plant openings in the US in response to local demand

2000-2010
Strong growth in China, Central Europe, and start-up production in Russia

2013
Bekaert lifts its ambition level and deploys global excellence programs across the business

2014-2016
Bekaert concludes its largest acquisition (Pirelli) and merger (Bridon) ever

2019
The company implements a new organizational structure to revitalize its performance
Rubber Reinforcement (RR)
Tire cord, bead wire, hose reinforcement wire and conveyor belt reinforcement

Steel Wire Solutions (SWS)
Steel wire products and solutions serving industrial, agricultural, consumer and construction markets

Specialty Businesses (SB)
Building products, fiber technologies, combustion technology and sawing wire

Bridon-Bekaert Ropes Group (BBRG)
Ropes and advanced cords businesses

The sectorial mix in H1 2020 was impacted by COVID-19: automotive sales were down, while the agriculture, energy & utilities and basic material sectors were less affected.
Bekaert has a strong presence in diverse sectors. This makes Bekaert less sensitive to sector-specific trends and it also benefits our customers, because solutions we develop for customers in one sector often form the basis of innovations in others.
Often hidden or unknown… but always there…

About 30% of all tires around the world are reinforced with Bekaert tire cord.

Every year over 1 billion bottles of sparkling wines are opened via the *muselet* made of Bekaert steel wire.

Bekaert’s customers annually use 3.5 million kilometer of bookbinding wire.

Every year, 10 million m³ of concrete is being reinforced with Dramix® steel fibers invented by Bekaert.
Bekaert technological leadership

€ 70 million R&D in 2019

International R&D teams in Belgium – China – India – UK

About 1800 patent rights

Co-creation with customers and suppliers

Outward orientation
- internationalization of technologists
- cooperation with internationally renowned research centers & universities
- venture capital and R&D partnerships

Intellectual property protection
Bekaert core competencies

steel wire transformation

- from wire rod 6.5 mm
- drawing, bunching, cabling, profiling, welding, knitting, weaving...
- to metal fibers 1 μm

coating technologies

- from traditional coatings
- adhesion, corrosion resistance, wear resistance, anti-fouling
- to advanced coatings
Our Vision - Our Field of Play

Consistent with our better together aspiration, we relentlessly pursue to be the preferred supplier for our steel wire products and solutions, by continuously delivering superior value to our customers around the world.

» Goal Statement for the Heart
Drive value creation through a One Bekaert Team with the passion to win, operating in a no-harm-to-anyone working environment

» Goal Statement for the Head
Increase: Revenue Profit ROCE

» Our Long Term Core Strategies
1. Drive the customer into the heart of our business
2. Value driven growth
3. Technology leadership and speed
4. Leverage scale, reduce complexity and reach lowest total cost
5. Engage and empower people

» Our Immediate Must Win Battles
1. Advance customer excellence
2. Accelerate profit restoration
3. Improve organizational efficiency
4. Enhance operational excellence
5. Re-energize growth and innovation

Our Values
We act with integrity - We earn trust - We are irrepressible!
Welcome @ www.bekaert.com

About Bekaert

Transforming steel wires and applying coatings is what we do. Explore our world of wire.