TensiNewsflash

AUTUMN – 2026

Dear TensiNet member,

Please find below the latest TensiNewsflash.



TENSINEWS 51 ----------

As besides presenting interesting projects, four universities offer a glimpse into their student projects, membrane workshops and Master's projects. It is important to inspire enthusiasm for our technology and architecture among the next generations. Use this **link** to find the recent TensiNews issues (login).

TENSINEWS 52 - CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS DEADLINE 17.02.2027 ----------

You can already submit for the next TensiNews 52 issue an article, project description, upcoming event, new development, research report or book review*. Send your contribution to evi.corne@vub.be. Please follow these simple rules:

- The text should be written in English, submitted in Word-format
- Images are to be sent separately, with a resolution of 300dpi in .jpg-format (For easy reference during the layout process, it can be useful to include a copy of the pictures in the text file as well).
- For research articles the maximum word amount is set to 5000 words (equivalent of four pages in TensiNews layout).
- Project descriptions need to be accompanied by full contact details of the author, and other information such as architect, contractor, approx. span, height, membrane material, etc. This facilitates the inclusion of the project in the online database. (See below)

Name of the project: Location address: Client (investor): Function of building: Type of application of the membrane: Year of construction: Architects: Multi-disciplinary engineering: Structural engineers: Consulting engineer for the membrane:

Engineering of the controlling mechanism:
Main contractor:
Contractor for the membrane (Tensile membrane contractor):
Supplier of the membrane material:
Manufacture and installation:
Material:
Covered surface (roofed area):

* TensiNet and TensiNews provide to partners and members a platform to present projects, new developments and scientific results. The articles within TensiNews should have a scientific, technical or journalistic value, i.e. it should be informative, and not mainly marketing information.

WORKING GROUP EUROCODE ----------

WG leader: Marijke Mollaert

A summary of the work done in CEN TC250 WG5 was summarised in the presentation *Introduction to CEN/TS 19102 – Design of tensioned membrane structures* (available at https://uni-duisburg-essen.sciebo.de/s/QXsPHPDTeKKyH9i?dir=/&editing=false&openfile=true) given at the 8th TensiNet Symposium 2026 & 7th Essen Membrane Structures Symposium 2026.

Currently WG5 reviews the comments received from the mirror groups on *EN 19102-1-1 Eurocode 12 — Design of tensioned membrane structures — Part 1-1: General rules and rules for buildings, bridges and civil engineering structures*.

A new informative annex on wind actions has been proposed by Michael O'Shea. It will be discussed further.

There is a proposal to have different modification factors k for **base material**, **seams** and **edges**. Members are asked to provide values for k-factors for PES-PVC fabrics up to Type III, k-factors for PES-PVC fabrics Type IV and Type V, k-factors for glass-PTFE fabrics up to type G-II, k-factors in glass-PTFE fabrics from Type G-III up to type G-V, k-factors for ETFE foil membrane for ULS verification and k-factors for ETFE foil membrane for SLS verification.

WORKING GROUP SUSTAINABILITY & COMFORT ----------

Sustainability & Comfort Working Group TensiNet

WG leader: Carol Monticelli

The TensiNet association has engaged Chemservice to collect information on the socio & economical impact of a PFAS ban and to prepare a dossier to reply to SEAC. TensiNet Association has submitted a response to the consultation through Chemservice, based on the completed questionnaires received. Send an email to info@tensinet.com if you would like to receive a copy of this document.

SEAC is currently reviewing all the comments submitted. The committee intends to finalise its definitive opinion by the end of this year, which will then be sent to the European Commission for the final decision-making process regarding PFAS restrictions. The TensiNet Association takes this opportunity to thank its main sponsor Serge Ferrari, and its sponsors AGC Chemicals Europe, Nowofol, Sioen Industries and

Taiyo Europe for their financial support and assistance during the process leading up to the submission as well as the members of the Working Group Sustainability & Comfort.

ACTIVITIES AND NETWORKING ----------

8th TensiNet Symposium 2026 & 7th Essen Membrane Structures Symposium 2026 SHAPING THE PATHWAY TO FUTURE TENSIONED MEMBRANE DESIGN







From September 30th till October 2nd, the Institute for Metal and Lightweight Structures of the University of Duisburg-Essen, in cooperation with the TensiNet Association, hosted the 8th TensiNet Symposium in conjunction with the 7th Essen Membrane Structures Symposium. 145 international participants travelled from 19 countries to devote three full days to membrane structures. Eight keynote lectures by renowned experts in the field of lightweight membrane structures and 62 submitted papers were presented. Many of the talks focused on the currently most discussed topics: structural design, modelling, materials, execution, sustainability, building physics and renovation. However, topics beyond these areas were also presented. Numerous fascinating membrane structures were showcased.

The reception on the first evening included guided tours of the Essen Laboratory for Lightweight Structures (ELLF). The second day concluded with guided tours of the Zollverein Coal Mine Industrial Complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and a conference dinner overlooking the Rhein-Ruhr region. During this event, awards were also presented for the best papers by young engineers. At the end of the third day, two technical tours were offered. One tour took participants to the Serge Ferrari Group's coating plant in Krefeld, and the other to the foil-cushion roof over the tropical hall at Zoom Gelsenkirchen.

We would like to thank all participants as well as the 17 sponsors who contributed to the success of this symposium.

The conference proceedings have been published in the online Library Wiley **Link papers**. You can find them also on the website of UDE **Link papers**.

YOUNG ENGINEERS AWARDS 2026

During the conference dinner, prizes were awarded for the best papers by young engineers. These upcoming talents will have the opportunity to develop their work further and publish it as an open-access article in the journal Steel Construction. Thanks to the publisher Ernst & Sohn for its support of this award and congratulations to the winners!



First prize

Emma de Groen | Rogier Houtman | Pauline van Dongen - The Umbra Pavilion: A lightweight shading structure composed of Heliotextile and a cable net

Runner-ups

Manuel Blum - Façade greening with stainless steel cable systems – design, technology and ecology in harmony

Mohamed Salam |Alexandra S.M. Wittmar | Jörg Uhlemann | Corina Andronescu | Natalie Stranghöner | Mathias Ulbricht - Factors affecting the all-cellulose composites (ACC) structure formation and their impact on mechanical properties and biodegradability

Siman Zhang | Alessandra Zanelli - Photovoltaic-Integrated Textiles in Buildings: Materials, Integration Strategies and Applications

TENSINET MEETING 02.10.2026

Before the start of the presentations on Friday 2nd October a TensiNet meeting was organised with following agenda:

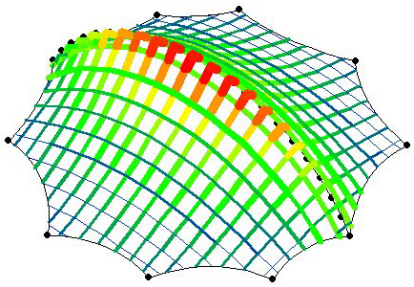
- **Textile Roofs 2026 – student competition**
- **2nd Level Specialising Master TENS.ART Textile Architecture and Tensile Structure Design**
- **Basic Course Archineer® in Membrane Structures**
- **Shortlist of possible webinars topics for 2026-2027**
- **work package and the follow-up of the TensiNet association**

Please find the **link** to the minutes including the ppt presentation (login).





TEXTILE ROOFS 2027 + STUDENT COMPETITION, Berlin 23-25.05.2027



There are a few new program elements and a slightly modified setting, but the familiar character of the event series naturally remains unchanged. New for this 28th edition is the **student competition**: **the winning structure, selected the day before Textile Roofs begins, will be built collaboratively by all participating students over the course of the three-day event**. For more information see **Flyer**.



MASTER AFTER MASTER possibilities

The **2nd Level Specialising Master TENS.ART** has been recently launched. It is a combination of online courses, courses at POLIMI and Technical visits. The application period is open till 20th November. The online Kick-off meeting is foreseen this year, the working sessions are scheduled from January 2027 on. Duration of the course is 18 months. See also www.polimi.it/en/education/specializing-masters-and-postgraduate-programmes/master-detail/3266

Since 2006, the IMS BAUHAUS® ARCHINEER® INSTITUTES organises t**he Basic Course Archineer® in Membrane Structures**. The course contains 3 parts: theory; computer workshops and student project. See also https://www.ims-institute.org/ims-education/archineer/

Kind regards,

Evi Corne & Marijke Mollaert