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## **Non-toxic antifouling – Thorn-D® - for aquaculture nets using Dyneema® fibers contract signed with Cannes Aquaculture**

Delft, November 26, 2007.

Further collaboration between DSM Dyneema and the Dutch company Micanti, in the development of strong and tough aquaculture nets with a new revolutionary non-toxic antifouling treatment, has been rewarded with an order from Cannes Aquaculture in France. Micanti has delivered two fully coated cages to the farms of Cannes Aquaculture. The combination of the new developed non-toxic Thorn-D® antifouling, from Micanti, with durable Dyneema® fibers, provides long-term, non-toxic resistance to fouling and thus avoids environmental and fish-health issues. The benefit for the fish farmer is reduced maintenance and lifecycle costs for fouling prevention as well as healthier and larger fish.

Cannes Aquaculture stated: "We believe that the use of nets made with Dyneema® fibre and coated with Thorn-D® is an important step in reducing operational cost and towards non-toxic antifouling providing an ecologically improved environment for our fish."

Biofouling, or build-up of algae on nets, can reduce the efficiency of material and equipment used in farming, leading to their actual damage, as well as causing problems such as reduced water quality. Toxic antifouling coatings currently available, containing heavy metals such as copper can pollute not only the water but the toxins can enter the fish and accumulate in the human food chain. Finally, practice has shown that such coatings can degrade in performance after one year, requiring re-treatment of the nets at great expense.

The Thorn-D® antifouling treatment was developed by Micanti, an innovative provider of fouling defense solutions, over a number of years and has been tested in various salt and fresh water environments. The major benefit of the coating, besides being non-toxic, is that the coating will remain on the net for a number of years, decreasing the maintenance cost and the life cycle cost for fouling prevention. It will also decrease the stress the fish have to endure when nets need to be cleaned.

"We are very excited working together with Cannes Aquaculture and provide them with our coated nets. Cannes Aquaculture is strongly looking at improving environmental conditions with respect to antifouling and we are happy to contribute towards that goal," declared Daniel Blokmaker, co-founder of Micanti. André van Wageningen, Market Segment Manager Commercial Fishing for DSM Dyneema: "Our collaboration with Micanti is leading to opportunities for fish farmers to change their business case and the way they work. We are happy to contribute to the synergy between both our products".

### **About Micanti**

Micanti is a highly innovative company focusing on solutions for the Marine industry. It is wholly owned by Material Innovation Centre B.V.. Micanti provides Thorn-D® coated netting systems on various base materials to the fish farming industry. It is also active in the development of coated foils as well as providing other innovative solutions through its distribution organization. Further information is available at [www.micanti.com](http://www.micanti.com).

Thorn-D® is a registered trademark of Materials Innovation Centre.

Materials Innovation Centre.

Materials Innovation Centre is an innovative company focusing on the application and testing of materials in different ways and the research and development of new materials. In addition to its activities through Micanti, the company focuses on innovative surface engineering solutions, coating integrity measurements and corrosion analyses. Further information is available at [www.materialsinnovation.nl](http://www.materialsinnovation.nl).

Dyneema® is a registered trademark of Royal DSM N.V.

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