news from sika worldwide

issue no. 6

ambitions direct

Exploration

Ecosystems around the globe

As one of the world's most vital ecosystems, the oceans cover two thirds of our planet and produce half of the oxygen that we breathe thanks to plankton and micro-organisms which are mostly unknown to man.
The Tara Expeditions project is affiliated to the United Nations Program for the Environment exploring such marine systems. The boat will now cross the planet's seas for three years as Tara Oceans, traveling a distance of 150,000 km between September 2009 and November 2012. From the Mediterranean to the Arctic Ocean and the Indian Ocean, a team of 14 scientists will measure the effects of climate change on ocean life, drawing up a functional map of the marine ecosystems to raise public awareness of changes in oceanic life.

60 stopovers in 50 countries throughout the world – long distances demand the highest of technical standards! As an expert in the maritime sector recognized by the world's foremost sailors, Sika has joined forces with Tara Oceans, providing its expertise along with high-performance bonding and sealants products.

Sika France: Official supplier of Tara Oceans
Having already completed more than six expeditions and traveled more than 74,000 km, the boat was given a complete overhaul before its latest departure. As an official supplier, Sika France identified what needed to be repaired and recommended a set of products to ensure that the boat is perfectly watertight and thus guarantee the crew's comfort.

The products used include:

Sikaflex®-295 UV
Sikaflex®-291
Sikaflex®-292
Sikasil® P Marine
SikaSense® E Marine
SikaBond®-F100

Innovation & Consistency | since 1910

The right welcome

Welcoming – That's the kind of greeting we like when we enter a hotel, a guesthouse or even a country. From the very moment you arrive at your holiday destination airport, you gain a first impression of a country and its mentality. An inviting airport can obviously contribute to the frequency of visits.

Within the last few years Tunisia has developed its tourism infrastructure and is now one of the first destinations in Africa for holidaying Europeans wanting year-round sunshine, excellent hotels and beaches, superb golf courses, and first-class service. The airport at Enfidha, Tunisia, can handle the demand thanks to its 4,300 ha state-of-the-art international airport complex offering first-class shopping, restaurants, entertainment facilities besides airline and passenger services. The design of the terminal was conceived as a square diamond, the points of which are directed towards the landing strips. The terminal building is covered by a light roof in a futuristic design in the form of giant wings.

Sika Tunisia provided reliable and high-quality construction solutions for Tunisia's Enfidha Airport project, including **Sika® ViscoCrete®** Tempo 12 concrete admixtures, **Sikament®-90 MF** super plasticizers, as well as **Sikaflex® T 68 W** products used for horizontal sealing between concrete and asphalt, and **Sikasil® WS-605** between granite and aluminum.

These are just a few examples. The airport complex also required Sika tile and sandstone adhesives, products for structural strengthening and concrete repair, coatings for drinking water reservoirs, wedging solutions for column and structural steel, products for the anchorage of bars and bolts made from structural steel, adhesives for structural glazing and joint sealing. The facilities of a modern and luxurious airport can only live up to their promises if construction products are chosen that meet the stringent quality demands.

Sikament® 90 MF: used for piles, superstructures and solid floors.
Sika® ViscoCrete® Tempo 12: concrete strength C35 in 72 hours.
Sika® Ceram® Range: used as tile adhesive for sandstone.
SikaGrout®-212: used for wedging column and structural steel.
Sika® Carbodur®: used as structural strengthener for solid floors and beams (to withstand added operating loads).
Sika® Monotop®-612 F: used for concrete repair.
Sika® Monotop®-650: used for concrete repair.
SikaTop®-209 Reservoir: used for coating drinking water reservoirs.
Separol® Mineral: used for metallic frameworks.
Sikadur®-30: used for anchorage of bars and bolts made from structural steel.
Bande **Sika® PVC**: waterstop used for expansion joints.
Sikaflex® T 68 W: used for horizontal sealing between concrete and asphalt.
Sikasil® WS-605: used as a sealer between granite and aluminum.
Sikasil® SG 20: used for structural glazing.
SikaCeram®-105 and **SikaCeram®-205**: tile and sandstone adhesive.

Water – our blue gold

Saving more than 6,000 tons of potable water in just one year – how is this possible? By creating a comprehensive value chain by means of recycling and treating residual water, Sika Colombia has found a viable way to combine ecological and economical benefits.

The complete water recycling circle starts with the collection of rain water from all the roofs of the buildings on the plant site and an integrated cleaning program in order to avoid rain water contamination. All the rain is collected for treatment in a plant which provides water for industrial use. Then water is stored in separate tanks. There is one tank for fire water, one for potable water with a connection to the local aqueduct, sanitary water that covers all the plant's sanitary services, and one tank for industrial water to supply all the industrial processes and final products.

Once the water has been used, it is directed along an independent pipeline to an industrial water treatment plant which returns the water to its original quality by physical and chemical processes. This water is re-circulated into the system feeding the sanitary water tank and has chlorine or methyl blue added to it in order to safeguard the biological microorganisms.

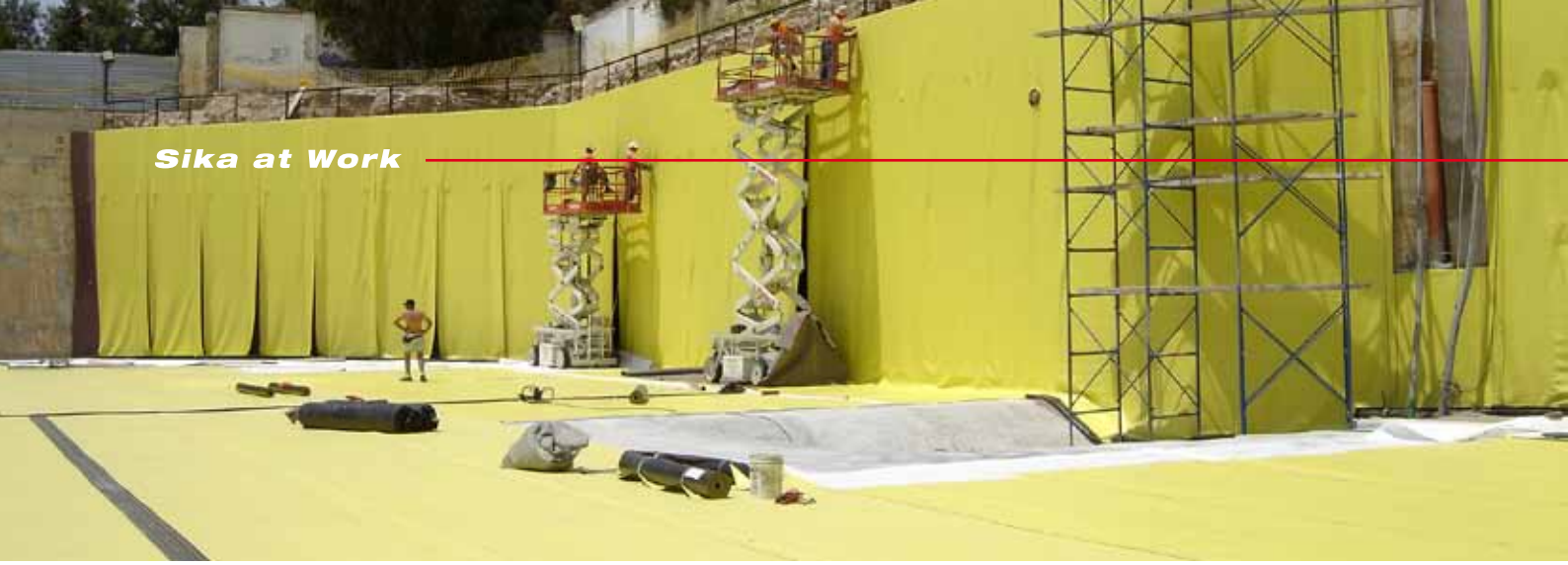
Finally the water used in the sanitary facilities is conducted to a residual water treatment plant, where, by biological and chemical processes, it is recovered in compliance with environmental guidelines so it can be discharged back into a river.

The third glass shows the final result of the purification process.

In order to complete the value chain, the waste is also recycled for compost production to generate humus, which is used for gardens and by tree nurseries in the neighborhoods. There is only one waste material from industrial water that is disposed of as debris.

Environmental care and sustainability of industrial activity diminishes the impact on natural resources, is cost effective and improves environmental responsibility. The target of the second phase of this water program is to have zero waste. Sika is now sending a request to the local environmental authorities for a license for further development.

Proud employees of Sika Colombia



Sika at Work

From basement to roof out of one hand

What are the customer's crucial targets when facing a complex project? What makes a partner reliable and a solution cost-effective? Sika provides an all-inclusive-package which directly meets these crucial targets. Customers benefit greatly from getting a wide product system range from basement to roof through a one-source supplier. Personal and technical services from a single source make project planning and implementation efficient, time-saving and easier for the customer.

A good example of this is Sklavenitis, Greece's third largest retail group. The company was founded in 1954, initially as a wholesaler. The first supermarket was opened in 1969 in a suburb of Athens. As of 2007, the company has 38 stores mainly concentrated in the Greater Athens area, but it aims to expand nationwide in the near future. The firm still belongs to the Sklavenitis family, which is where the market's name comes from. A new 3-level hypermarket was constructed comprising an 11,000 m² shopping area, 5,000 m² of warehouse space and 530 parking places. The project budget was about EUR 20 million. Buildings with high frequency visitor traffic such as supermarkets have to be extremely durable and stable from basement to roof.

Starting from the basement, which covered an area around 7,000 m², a double layer PVC waterproofing system was installed by Sika Greece consisting of **Sikaplan® WP 1100-20 HL**, **Sikaplan® WP**, Protection Sheet **15 HE, S Felt S 800, S Felt M 500** and **Sika® Waterbar AR 25**. Covering a surface of 5,000 m², the roofing system employed was **Sarnafil TG 66-18, S Felt A 300** and **Sarnabar**. Furthermore 15,000 m² of flooring system created by **Chapdur® Premix**, **Sikafloor®-161**, **Sikafloor®-156** and **Sikafloor®-263 SL** were laid in the car park. **Sikafloor®-155 WN**, **Sikafloor®-81 EpoCem®** and **Sikafloor®-325** were applied in the low temperature storage area.

This is just a selection from Sika's bottom-to-top solution. To meet customer's crucial targets, Sika aims to create mutual benefits along the entire project value chain – from the initial outline design phase to finishing and final handover.

Our Employees

Sustainable business

Claire Thorey, Vice President Appliances & Components, Sika Services AG

What is your job about?

It is about discovering new growth opportunities for Sika, and transforming these opportunities into sustainable businesses. Together with my team, we are responsible for defining Sika's global strategy in a number of industrial market segments such as renewable energies, and building elements.

Which means exactly what?

Understanding how we can help our customers to improve their products and processes. We design adhesive solutions that will generate lots of added value. We are lucky at Sika because we have a huge choice of technologies to play with, and our chemists as well as our sales and technical engineers are always up for a new challenge.

What fascinates you and what is your main motivation?

Changing, improving, achieving targets is what motivates me. I have a personal vision of the future, and I will work hard to shape the way Sika does business in my areas of responsibility, according to what I believe is right.

How does Sika help to make the world a little "greener"?

Take for instance our systems for window bonding: instead of mechanically holding the glass unit in the frame, we advocate bonding it, with specifically designed adhesives. This opens the possibility for very innovative designs, but most importantly it substantially improves the energy efficiency of the windows. When bonded windows are installed, you need a lot less energy to heat or cool the house.

What would you change if you could change the world?

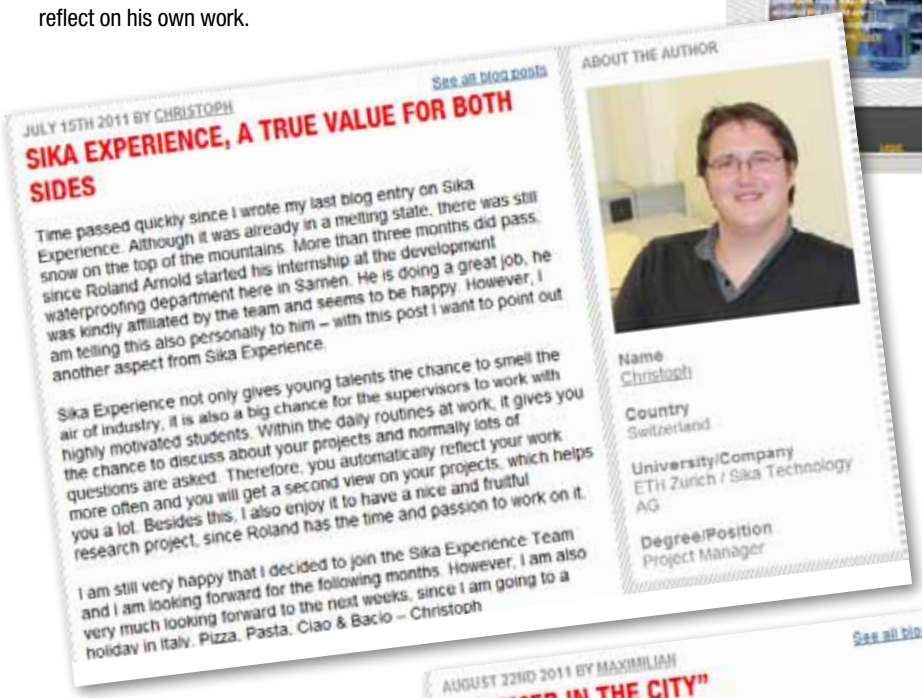
I wish I could make sure that no one, especially no child, ever dies of hunger anymore.

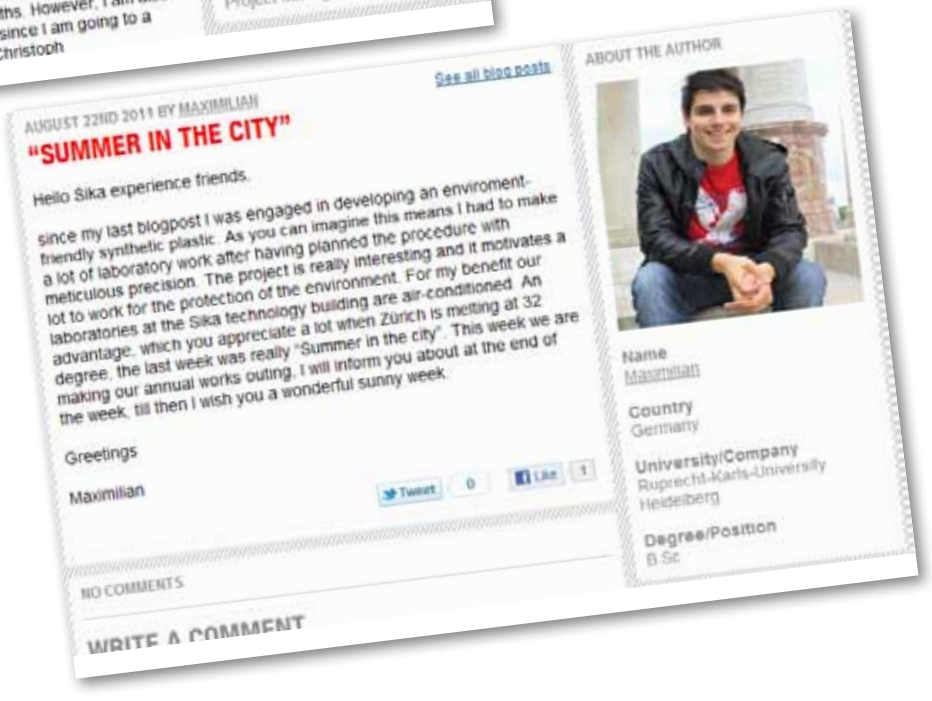
Smelling the air of industry

How can I find out how it really is to work for Sika? What kind of culture is influencing the way people collaborate? What is it going to be like to work with people from other nations and different parts of the world? What might be a challenging work content that at the same time brings joy and pleasure? Could I imagine going abroad to start a new job? Don't we all have questions in mind like these when we are looking for a new job? Don't we all know this feeling of insecurity before starting new vocational challenges?

Our Sika Experience initiative helps students and young professionals to get a real, tangible and authentic impression of what working at Sika is like. You will find blog posts on Sika Experience from students reporting from their internships worldwide or on Sika Experience trips to many different locations and projects. Given that the pictures drawn by many individuals are as diverse as people themselves, the blog posts also reflect the student's own views of things. Read how Maximilian (below) is experiencing work within Sika's Research&Development.

Taking on students obviously brings benefits for Sika. Read below how Christoph, Project Leader with Sika Technology AG, benefits from young talents not only in terms of fresh ideas but in the way it prompts him to reflect on his own work.





Visit Sika Experience and follow its bloggers online:
http://experience.sika.com

Watch out for the upcoming Sika Concrete Experience:
http://experience.sika.com/sika-experience/experience-trips/#exp-2178

Less is more on sea

Being a seaman onboard a commercial vessel means being exposed to tremendous noise 24 hours a day. The chief sources of vibration are the main engines, propellers, bow thrusters, HVAC systems and other electrical installations.
International authorities have set high standards when it comes to health issues on board commercial vessels. It is crucial for the seaman to be able to move in an environment where he can work as well as relax without being exposed to damaging sounds and tremors.

With more than 30 years of experience and deliveries to over 2000 ships worldwide, Sika is one of the leaders in the development, manufacture and supply of marine floors. **Sikafloor® Marine**, a complete line of cement based floor systems, supports the marine industry to help the shipyards and owners meet the latest requirements.
In 2011, a whole new one-component product line was introduced to replace the old multi-component systems. Fewer components give the shipyards and installation companies the benefit of better time management, as mixing, logistic and handling time is reduced. To avoid cracking of the floor material owing to structural movements in the steel deck, the new product line has improved flexibility and strength.
Sika provides a range of water-based pre-treatment solutions for glass, wood and concrete. Customers can thereby avoid solvents, consequently improve working conditions and save costs in potential investments for ventilation systems.
And there is more – with up to 20 kg less weight than commonly used products, the new line consists of lightweight products providing the same sound and vibration reduction as before. Less weight means cost savings thanks to lower fuel consumption throughout the year. So when you choose Sika, you choose a cost saving solution which also meets the high standards of health and comfort required by seamen.

Smart

Expertise through professional training

Four years ago Sika Brazil began running an outstanding Training Program called “5000 Training Program”, which aims to train 5,000 professionals per month. “It’s a very ambitious goal, but we feel it is empowering professionals on the construction market.” says Sonia Rogatto from Sika Brazil. Thanks to the program over 50,000 professionals are trained in Brazil every year.

This year new training materials were developed presenting products and solutions authentically. Specific application fields can be seen directly on construction sites through movies or presentations. Professionals get point-of-sales materials, which make it easier for them to increase their sales competence and provide customers with comprehensible and diverse knowhow about applicability within the wide range of solutions. Sika training sessions go beyond the conventional standards and incorporate social responsibility. In cooperation with a relief organization, Sika for example provides vocational courses in civil construction in the poor “Mangueira” shantytown district of the city of Rio de Janeiro. It targets young people, encouraging them to go back to school. Sika also gives support by providing classes with teaching materials on waterproofing as well as retraining teachers in new technologies. Every year about 100 youngsters obtain a certificate which opens up much better job opportunities.

Extraordinary

Olympic Spirit

In July 2007, the Olympic Committee decided to award the Olympic Winter Games 2014 to Sochi. One of the largest resort city and summer capital in Russian`s South, Sochi now is to host the world`s foremost sports competition. It is located nearby the Black Sea in a subtropical climate.

The Games will take place at two locations. All indoor sports like hockey and skating will be held in Sochi itself and the outdoor sports in the nearby mountains. In order to build up a well-planed timetable for all the sports events a quick and well-connected transportation network is indispensable. Thousands of athletes, trainers, journalists and visitors will have to use the travel routes at the same times – so routes and infrastructure have to be carefully thought out. Once the road and rail network is built, it will be possible to travel quickly between the mild Black Sea to the harsh mountainside climate.

The huge investments of more than 23.8 Billion Dollar to upgrade the current infrastructure are financed by the government and private investors. Tunnels, bridges, stadiums, harbours, hotels, shopping malls and many other buildings need to be built in a short time, since the first test events will take place already in 2012.

Precise customized quality solutions were provided through Sika Russia’s valuable on-site service combined with advanced technologies, comprehensive consulting and unique expert knowledge. Local and international expertise combined with a large product range of admixtures, accelerators, tunnel membranes, roofing, flooring and protection systems helps the organizers to meet their deadlines.

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Sika' international newsletter to customers

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Atacama Desert becomes productive

One of the milestones that Sika Chile witnessed was the opening of a second production facility located in the city of Antofagasta, the center of an important mining hub in the Atacama Desert. Overall, mining accounts for 60% of regional GDP and around 45% of the national GDP of Chile.
Construction of the new production facility was not an easy task, as it is situated in the driest place on earth. Building began at the end of 2009 and was completed by November 2010. The factory is now on stream, supplying the cities of Antofagasta, Calama and Iquique, and soon operations are to be extended to other northern areas of the country.
To erect a plant in an area with 300 years lasting periods of drought in the past, water needed to be transported from other areas, just one of the many efforts which had to be undertaken to build this facility. Nonetheless, neither weather conditions nor the numerous obstacles could prevent this task from being accomplished.
The new facility enables Sika Chile to provide a better on-site service to their customers as well as respond faster to inquiries. This will increase support for major mining projects in Chile tremendously.