

TensiNewsflash

SPRING – 2026

Dear TensiNet member,

Please find below the latest TensiNewsflash.

TENSINEWS 50

We hope you enjoy reading this anniversary edition of TensiNews. Three landmark projects from the 1990s have recently been renovated with new membrane cladding, extending their lifespan by at least 20 years with little new material. Further articles cover a transformable Expo façade to be used at three Expos and a new, ETFE covered climate house in Amsterdam. Josep Llorens has written a detailed report on the ‘Structural Membranes 2025’ event in Munich, and Julian Lienhard on lightweight architectural projects at the Osaka Expo 2025.

Use this [link](#) to find the recent TensiNews issues (login)



TENSINEWS 51 - CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS DEADLINE 22.07.2026 -----

You can already submit for the next TensiNews 51 issue an article, project description, upcoming event, new development, research report or book review*. For this edition, we would also like to set aside a special section to showcase student work produced at our member universities: workshop outcomes, models, prototypes, and so forth. 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 SUSTAINABILITY & COMFORT -----



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.

On Friday 22nd May, the TensiNet Association has submitted a response to the consultation through Chemservice, based on the completed questionnaires received. The TensiNet Association is either asking for a full exemption with respect to the scope of the proposed PFAS restriction or, if this is not accepted, for a time-unlimited derogation for the specific use of fluoropolymers in tensioned membrane structures. The main statements are: (1) a Responsible Manufacturing Programme for fluoropolymers is in place, aiming to reduce emissions throughout the manufacturing stage and the supply chain; (2) the use stage is safe; and (3) concerning the end of life, fluoropolymers can be recycled (ETFE), landfilled or incinerated without degrading into hazardous PFAS, as proven by recent studies.



WG leader: Maxime Durka

WEBINARS

Following the success of the first webinars, we have started to develop a full programme of webinars that could take place monthly around lunchtime (GMT +1).

Last week, there was a brainstorming session with various universities that have expressed their interest in collaborating on the organisation of **webinars and workshops**. Another meeting is planned for those who were unable to attend this one. Further updates on this will follow shortly.

CALL to present. TensiNet members are invited to give a presentation about projects, materials, LCA, recycling, etc. during one of the upcoming webinars. Please send an email to info@tensinet.com giving a summary of the topic you would like to present.

LinkedIn

Keep following us. We've recently reached the milestone of 3000 followers on LinkedIn!

ACTIVITIES AND NETWORKING

Minutes General Assembly at Techtexsil 2026 – 22 April 2026

The General Assembly took place at Techtexsil on Wednesday 22nd April from 14.00 till 15.30 in a hybrid format. Please find the [link](#) to the minutes (login).

Approval of the annual accounts 2025 and the budget 2026

The balance sheet has been in the red in recent years because costs have exceeded income. Membership fees have not been adjusted over the last 20 years to account for the high inflation rate of almost 60%. The gap between Partner and Firm member will also be reduced. The membership fees will be adjusted from 2027 on as follows:


- Partners: from €2400 to €2700 (+12.5%)
- Firms: from €600 to €800 (+33.3%)
- Universities: from €300 to €400 (+33.3%)
- Individual members: from €150 to €175 (+16.7%)

8th TensiNet Symposium 2026 & 7th Essener Membranbau Symposium 2026 SHAPING THE PATHWAY TO FUTURE TENSIONED MEMBRANE DESIGN 30 September – 2 October 2026, University of Duisburg Essen, Campus Essen



The symposium is hosted by the Institute for Metal and Lightweight Structures, University of Duisburg Essen, campus Essen. The symposium is dedicated to the latest developments in tensile architecture and membrane structures. The main topics are 1/ Design, Modelling and simulation of structural membranes; 2/ Materials and executions and 3/ Sustainability and building physics.

With lesser than a half year to go, the organising committee is in full preparation mode. Papers have been reviewed by the scientific committee. Below is a preliminary programme. A more detailed programme will follow shortly.

| Time Slot | Wednesday 30 September 2026 | Time Slot | Thursday 1 October 2026 | Time Slot | Friday 2 October 2026 |
|---------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--|---------------|---|
| 08:30 – 09:00 | Registration | 08:30 – 09:00 | Registration | 08:30 – 09:00 | Registration / TensiNet WG |
| 09:00 – 09:30 | Welcome & Introduction | 09:00 – 10:00 | Keynote Lectures III | 09:00 – 10:00 | Keynote Lectures IV |
| 09:30 – 10:30 | Keynote Lectures I | 10:00 – 10:30 | Coffee Break | 10:00 – 10:30 | Coffee Break |
| 10:30 – 11:00 | Coffee Break | 10:30 – 12:30 | Plenary/Parallel Sessions | 10:30 – 12:30 | Plenary/Parallel Sessions |
| 11:00 – 13:00 | Plenary/Parallel Sessions | 12:30 – 13:30 | Lunch Break | 12:30 – 13:30 | Farewell Lunch |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | Lunch Break | 13:30 – 15:30 | Parallel Session | 13:30 – 18:30 |  |
| 14:00 – 16:00 | Parallel Sessions | 15:30 – 16:00 | Coffee Break | | |
| 16:00 – 16:30 | Coffee Break | 16:00 – 18:30 | Transfer and Tour <i>Zeche Zollverein</i> | | |
| 16:30 – 17:30 | Keynote Lectures II | | | | |
| 17:30 – 20:30 | ELLF / Welcome Reception | 18:30 – 19:00 | Reception | | |
| | | 19:00 – 23:00 | Conference Dinner | | |

Early bird registration. Benefit from a lower registration fee by registering before 30th June.

There is still the opportunity to **sponsor** the TensiNet-EMS 2026 symposium. There are 4 categories with corresponding benefits: Platinum sponsorship for 4000€; Gold for 3000€; Silver for 2000€ and Copper for 1000€. If additional information is needed, please contact evi.corne@vub.be.

For more information on the symposium see <https://www.uni-due.de/iml/tensinet-ems2026.php>.

Kind regards,

Evi Corne & Marijke Mollaert