

> Welcome to a world where technical textiles are designed to serve a new generation of habitats.







world over as the benchmark for supreme quality outdoor fabrics. Its products, marketed under two flagship brands, DICKSON® and SUNBRELLA®, are used solutions for four key markets: solar protection, outdoor living spaces, interior

## **EDITORIAL**



"While Dickson's strength may reside in its ability to constantly innovate and the incomparable quality of its products, it is derived first and foremost from the talented people behind the scenes."

## "Extending Dickson's leadership to the entire range of technical textiles dedicated to home improvement."

#### INTERNATIONAL

Known as the world's leading awning fabric manufacturer, Dickson has now set its sights on expanding its leadership to include all kinds of high-tech habitat textiles, in all 110 countries where its products are sold. The diversification of our target markets will provide powerful strategic leverage for Dickson's international development. In 10 years, exports have gone from 50 to 75% of revenues, thanks to our drive to innovate, coupled with our vast sales network.

#### **INNOVATION**

Today more than ever, our R&D efforts make our products stand out from the competition, and position them as genuine solutions for improving people's living environments. In terms of solar protection, our fabrics help save energy by keeping the interior cool. Our R&D investments, which have tripled over the past five years, also deliver a positive response to a growing global trend: the blurring of lines between indoor and outdoor living spaces.

#### SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

Buildings account for 40% of the world's energy consumption. As a responsible player in the global economy and a leader in this specific industry, we have focused on developing effective solutions to address the current environmental issues. An example of this is our new photovoltaic fabric, which actually generates renewable energy. We now apply these principles to more than just our products, taking in every stage of the manufacturing process, through the end of the fabric's life cycle. Certified ISO 9001 since 2000, Dickson is pursuing its sustainable growth initiatives with ambitious next steps such as ISO 14001 and OHSAS18001 certification.

#### **HUMAN EQUITY**

While Dickson's strength may reside in its ability to constantly innovate and the incomparable quality of its products, it is derived first and foremost from the talented people behind the scenes who know how to listen, anticipate, come up with new ideas, and to go the extra mile in order to meet our customers' needs. At Dickson, technical expertise is useless if it's not paired with a genuine sense of service with a smile. Active in 110 countries, our teams are at the very heart of our success and always close to our customers, considering themselves as true partners.

Eugène Deleplanque CEO, Dickson Group



Editorial

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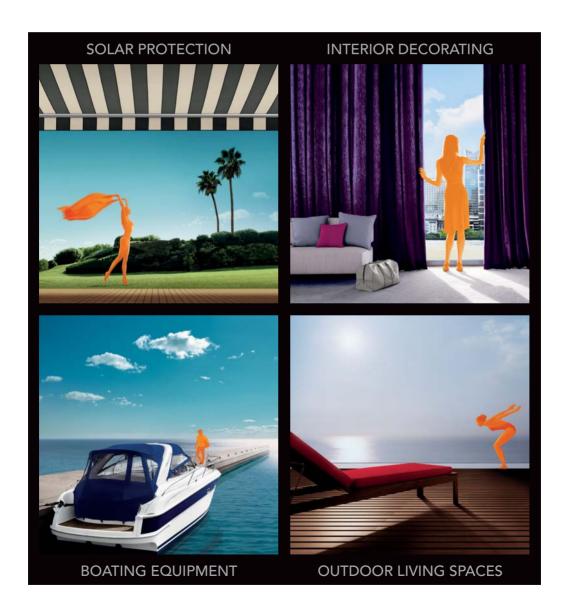
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> 2 leading and complementary brands covering both indoor and outdoor textile markets





#### PERFECTING SUNACRYL®, THE ULTIMATE IN HIGH-TECH FIBRE

Specifically designed for outdoor applications (awnings, umbrellas, exterior lounges etc.), Dickson's R&D department developed Sunacryl<sup>®</sup>. This new generation acrylic fibre is solution-dyed, which means the colour pigments are incorporated during manufacturing process, instead of after. The result: exceptionally long-lasting colour-fastness, remarkable rot-proofing and extreme resistance to inclement weather.

## CLEANGARD® AND PERMACLEAN® : 2 TECHNOLOGIES THAT CONVERT FABRIC INTO INTELLIGENT TEXTILE

In collaboration with a major chemical company, Dickson developed the Cleangard® and Permaclean® treatments based on nanotechnology. Cleangard® gives fabrics unbeatable resistance to stains, grease and water. While Permaclean®, mimicking the famous lotus effect, transforms the fabric into a truly intelligent matter that's both waterproof and self-cleaning.



# THE WORLD'S FIRST PHOTOVOLTAIC FABRIC PROTOTYPE, A MAJOR INNOVATION IN THE OUTDOOR INDUSTRY

The fruit of 3 full years of research, this "intelligent fabric" provides shade while generating electricity. It can be used for buildings, camping cars, boats, and so on.



#### A TEN YEAR WARRANTY, THE ONLY ONE ON THE MARKET

The high-performance fibres, treatments and weaving processes, most of which are conducted internally, distinguish the Dickson quality from that of all other fabrics on the market today. This technological superiority enables Dickson to guarantee the colourfastness and rot-proofing of some of its fabrics for up to ten years. This warranty is one of a kind on the outdoor fabric market, and clearly demonstrates the superiority of solution-dyed acrylic fibres in terms of technical performance and durability.

#### A QUALITY LABEL RECOGNIZED ON A GLOBAL SCALE

Sold in more than 110 countries, Dickson textiles have popular appeal all around the world not only for their creative designs, but also for their incomparable quality and durability. This added-value has boosted the company's international sales, with exports increasing from 50 to 75% of the company's revenues over the past ten years.

#### PRODUCTION FACILITY KEY FIGURES

guarantee its products up to 10 years.

27 500 sq. m. of factory floor space

10 000 sq. m. logistics site

1 625 product references in stock at all times

250 000 spools received monthly

100 000 sq. m. of fabric manufactured each day

25 million sq. m. of annual output





> TWO BRANDS, two stylistic territories that complement each other





#### 3,000 SKETCHES FOR EACH COLLECTION

Staffed with experts, Dickson's design team draws its inspiration from the close-knit collaboration between colour and style specialists, who together come up with increasingly vast and innovative collections of technical textiles. For each collection, more than 3,000 sketches are made. In the end, only 200 references are kept. Between the initial phase when the team travels in search of the latest decorating trends, the creative work done with stripes, patterns and colours, and the technical feasibility testing, each new collection takes more than a year to develop.

## HOMES, BUSINESSES, INDUSTRY: STYLISH CREATIONS FOR EVERY APPLICATION

The Dickson and Sunbrella collections offer increasingly high-tech solutions combined with unparalleled aesthetics which have become the company's signature. The array of colours and patterns is broader than ever before to meet the demands of today's decorating, design and architecture professionals as well as industrialists and business owners.



#### DICKSON, an eco-friendly player committed to improving people's living environments

Aware of the environmental stakes and of its responsibility as a key player in the building sector, Dickson bases its innovation policy on sustainable development. This principle also applies to each stage of our products' lifecycle, from beginning to end.

Buildings consume

40%

world's primary

energy sources.

Energy costs for cooling are 3 times

greater than for heating

Source: ADEME.

## ACTIVELY HELPING REDUCE ENERGY COSTS WITH ECO-FRIENDLY PRODUCTS

Fabrics that are thermo-regulating, self-cleaning, provide effective solar protection, and soon energy-generating (photovoltaic): the products developed by Dickson are designed to be eco-friendly and to improve people's living environments. They fit seamlessly into the new generation building standards, HQE and BBC.

#### MINIMIZING THE USE OF CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES

Concerned about limiting the carbon footprint related to its products as much as possible, Dickson makes efficient, long-lasting fabrics, most without dyeing, a process that pollutes and consumes considerable amounts of water.

#### **OPTIMIZING ENERGY MANAGEMENT**

Efficient management of both energy and water is a top priority for Dickson. Therefore, the tools and treatments used in the manufacturing process operate at temperatures of only around 100°C. The out-going water is reused to heat the incoming water, and waste from the production process is recycled.

#### BUILDING AWARENESS, INFORMING CUSTOMERS AND SPECIFIERS

Dickson helps build public awareness of the effectiveness of solar protection as a means for saving energy. In collaboration with industry experts, Dickson has notably developed software that calculates the energy savings generated by solar protection on the scale of an entire building.

- ➤ The majority of Dickson's products bear the OEKO TEX® label (attesting to their total harmlessness).
- Dickson is ISO 9001 certified since 2000.



#### A SUCCESS STORY WOVEN THROUGH CONSTANT INNOVATION

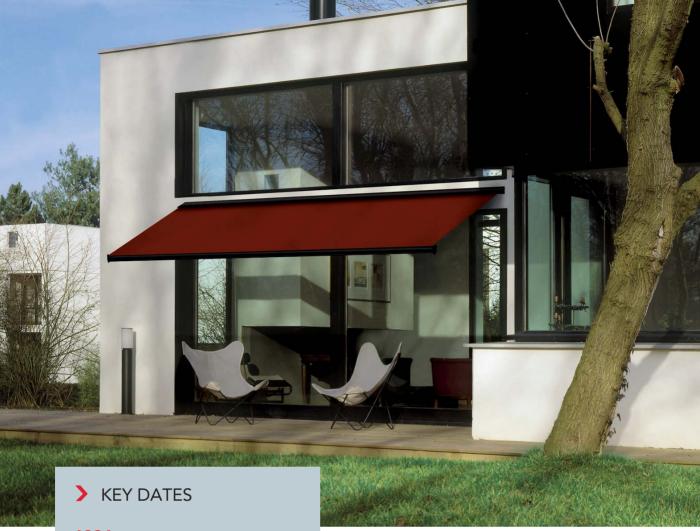
#### Initially, this was the first French linen mill

The origins of the Dickson group date back to 1836, when the young thread maker, David Dickson, left his native home in Scotland to start the first French linen mill near Dunkirk, in northern France. In 1840, the company really took off by combining thread spinning with fabric weaving. Focusing primarily on sails, the business grew by inventing new ways to prevent mold on seafaring fabrics. In 1909, Dickson became the official supplier of collapsible tents and tarpaulins for the French National Defense.

### From northern France to the USA, looking back at an authentic success story

In 1969, the Dickson textile mill merged with the Eugène Constant weaving company, operating in Lille since 1913. The union between these two French protagonists of the French textile scene led to the birth of a dynamic, innovative company, which quickly established a reputation as the benchmark for quality awning fabrics. In 1998, Dickson joined the American group, Glen Raven, the world's no.1 for outdoor fabric. The resulting technical and marketing synergies enable the company to provide its customers with top quality customized service, all around the world.

www.dickson-constant.com



**1836:** Dickson textile mill opens in Dunkirk, the oldest textile company in France

**1840**: Dickson adds weaving to its thread spinning business and joins the fabric industry, manufacturing sails and inventing new rot-proofing procedures for seafaring textiles

**1945:** Trailblazing, Dickson introduces textiles made with synthetic fibres for optimized durability

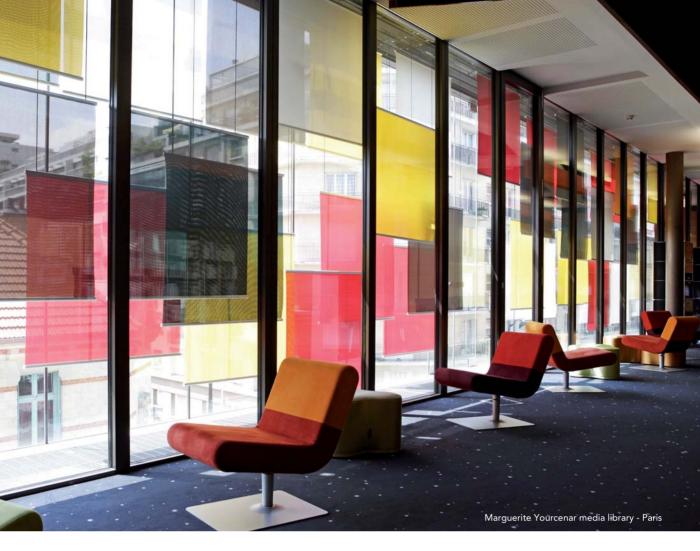
**1969:** Dickson and Constant weaving mills merge

**1980:** The Company expands internationally, opening several foreign subsidiaries

**1998**: Dickson-Constant joins the US group Glen Raven, the world's leading manufacturer of outdoor technical textiles

**2008**: Dickson-Constant invents the first photovoltaic fabric prototype







- **N°1** world leader in outdoor technical textiles
- **> 18 000 customers** across the planet
- **>** 600 Dickson employees worldwide
- **> 3 500** people affiliated with the Glen Raven group
- **> 14** foreign subsidiaries, covering **110** countries
- > 75% of turnover generated by export sales





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Sunbrella® is a registered trade mark of Glen Raven, Inc. - Dickson® is a registered trade mark of Dickson Constant.

