

Tensolite

High-Performance Cable & Interconnect Systems

NEWS RELEASE – TENSOLITE ANNOUNCES W. L. GORE HAS DISMISSED ITS PATENT INFRINGEMENT LAWSUIT AGAINST TENSOLITE

St. Augustine, Florida, January 12, 2001 ... Tensolite Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Carlisle Companies, Inc. has successfully defended a lawsuit brought by W.L. Gore and Associates, Inc., one of Tensolite's competitors in the high performance cable assembly market. In October 1999, Gore sued Tensolite for patent infringement and unfair competition, including inappropriate use of trade secrets. According to Tensolite, however, after over a year Gore has conceded that its patent claims were based upon an invalid signal interconnector module patent and permanently abandoned all rights in that patent. Tensolite further reports that Gore admitted that it had been unable to find evidence of any significant misappropriation of its trade secrets by Tensolite. On January 3, 2001, Gore's patent infringement and trade secret misappropriation claims were *dismissed with prejudice*. Gore is now precluded from raising these claims again.

John Berlin, President of Tensolite said, "We are vindicated by this result. From the start of the lawsuit Tensolite has consistently held that Gore's claims were without merit. Customers for high performance cable assembly products may now confidently choose Tensolite products without fear of retribution from W.L. Gore."

As a result of the discovery process, Tensolite filed a counter-claim against Gore based upon, among other things, Gore's actions in bringing its lawsuit against Tensolite in the first place. Tensolite intends to continue to vigorously pursue its claims against Gore.

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