

Bekaert to issue Retail Bonds

NV Bekaert SA to issue 7-year bonds up to € 200 million

Bekaert announces today the launch of an issuance of bonds with a maturity of 7 years for a total global amount of up to € 200 million (the “**Bonds**”). The Bonds will be issued in a public offering in Belgium open to retail investors and, to a lesser extent, to qualified investors, with a subscription period from Friday 11 October 2019 until Friday 18 October 2019 (subject to early close). BNP Paribas Fortis is the Global Coordinator of the offering and will act as Joint Lead Manager for the transaction together with ING Bank and KBC. The Bonds will be listed on the regulated market of Euronext Brussels.

The key features of the Bonds are listed below:

Issuer	NV Bekaert SA (incorporated under Belgian law)
Denomination	The Bonds are available in denominations of € 1 000
Form and status	Unsubordinated dematerialized securities, subject to Belgian law. The Bonds constitute direct, unconditional, unsubordinated and, subject to the provisions of the negative pledge, unsecured obligations of the Issuer.
Offer period	From 11 October 2019 at 9.00 am CET until 18 October 2019 at 5.30 pm CET (subject to early close)
Issue and payment date	25 October 2019
Size	Up to € 200 million
Annual coupon	2.75% (gross) paid annually on 25 October
Issue price	101.875% (including a commission of 1.875% to be borne by retail investors ¹)
Gross Actuarial Yield at issue price	2.455% (assuming that the Bonds will be held until the Maturity Date)
Net Actuarial Yield after 30% withholding tax	1.639% (assuming that the Bonds will be held until the Maturity Date)
Scheduled Maturity Date	25 October 2026
Repayment	100% per denomination
Rating	The Bonds will not be rated
ISIN Code	BE0002673540

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The Bonds constitute debt instruments. An investment in the Bonds involves risks. By subscribing to the Bonds, investors lend money to Bekaert which undertakes to pay interest on an annual basis and to reimburse the principal on the maturity date. In case of bankruptcy or default on the part of Bekaert or it becoming insolvent, investors may not recover the amounts they are entitled to and risk losing all or part of their investment. The Bonds are intended for investors who are capable of evaluating the interest rate in light of their knowledge and financial experience. An investment decision must solely be based on the information contained in the prospectus related to the offering of the Bonds (the “**Prospectus**”). Before making any investment decision, the investors must read the Prospectus in its entirety (and, in particular, Part 2: Risk factors on pages 10 to 24 of the Prospectus). Investors should in particular note that the long tenor of the Bonds might increase the materiality of the identified risk factors related to the Issuer and the Bonds, that the Issuer’s debt ratio is substantially increased over the last three to four years and that it is exposed to a (re)financing risk. Each potential investor must investigate carefully whether it is appropriate for this type of investor to invest in the Bonds, taking into account his or her knowledge and experience and must, if needed, obtain professional advice.

¹ A different commission is applicable for qualified investors, as set out in the Prospectus.

Use of proceeds

Bekaert will use the proceeds of the transaction first to refinance the outstanding amount of € 89.5 million under the bridge loan entered into with the Joint Lead Managers – see the “[Bekaert restructures and refinances the debt held by Bridon-Bekaert Ropes Group](#)” press release of Bekaert of 15 October 2018 – and, secondly, for an expected remaining amount of up to € 110.5 million, its bonds maturing on 6 December 2019. Any remaining amount (for an expected amount of € 84.5 million) to be repaid under those bonds will be repaid with available cash of the Bekaert Group. With the Bonds issue, Bekaert aims to increase the average maturity of its outstanding debt and achieve an optimal balance between bank financing and financing through the capital markets.

Subscription

The minimum subscription amount for investors is € 1 000.

Retail Investors are encouraged to subscribe to the Bonds on the first business day of the subscription period (i.e., Friday 11 October 2019) before 5.30 pm (CET) to ensure that their subscription is taken into account when the Bonds are awarded, subject, as the case may be, in case of oversubscription, to a proportional reduction of their subscription. Subscribers may have different reduction percentages applicable to them depending on the financial intermediary through which they have subscribed to the Bonds.

Costs

Retail investors shall pay a selling and distribution commission of 1.875%. The financial services in relation to the Bonds will be provided free of charge by the Joint Lead Managers. Investors must inform themselves about the costs that their financial institutions might charge them.

Prospectus / Selling Restrictions

The [Prospectus](#) has been approved as a prospectus by the Belgian Financial Services and Markets Authority (*Autorité des Services et Marchés Financiers/Autoriteit voor Financiële Diensten en Markten*) (the “**FSMA**”), as competent authority under Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 (the “**Prospectus Regulation**”). The FSMA only approved the Prospectus as meeting the standards of completeness, comprehensibility and consistency imposed by the Prospectus Regulation. Approval by the FSMA should not be considered as an endorsement of the issuer or (of the quality of) the Bonds. Investors should make their own assessment as to the suitability of investing in the Bonds. Potential investors should read the Prospectus before making an investment decision in order to fully understand the potential risks and rewards associated with the decision to invest in the Bonds.

The Prospectus (which includes the applicable selling restrictions) can be consulted on the websites of the Belgian Financial Services and Markets Authority (www.fsma.be/fr/prospectus-ems), on the website of Bekaert in the section addressed to investors (www.bekaert.com), on the website of BNP Paribas Fortis (www.bnpparibasfortis.be/emissions), on the website of ING (www.ing.be, go to “Beleggen – Obligaties” or “Investir – Obligations”) and on the website of KBC (www.kbc.be/bekaert). The Prospectus is available in Dutch and English and a French language summary is also available.

Company profile

Bekaert (bekaert.com) is a world market and technology leader in steel wire transformation and coating technologies. We pursue to be the preferred supplier for our steel wire products and solutions by continuously delivering superior value to our customers worldwide. Bekaert (Euronext Brussels: BEKB) is a global company with 29 000 employees worldwide, headquarters in Belgium and € 5 billion in combined revenue in 2018.

Complaints

If you have a complaint to make, you can send it:

- By regular mail to BNP Paribas Fortis – Klachtenbeheer – Warandeborg 3, 1000 Brussel or by email to: klachtenbeheer@bnpparibasfortis.com.
- By regular mail to ING, Customer Service, Sint- Michielswarande 60, 1040 Brussel or by email to: klachten@ing.be.
- By email to KBC, klachten@kbc.be or by phone, 0800 62 084.

In case your complaint doesn't get settled through the above channels, you can contact the Ombudsman in financial matters (<https://www.ombudsfin.be/>) by regular mail to North Gate II, Koning Albert II-laan 8, bus 2, 1000 Brussel or by e-mail, ombudsman@ombudsfin.be.

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