

# Normec QS: testing, inspecting and certifying for over 20 years



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For more than 20 years, Normec QS has been providing independent, accredited services in testing, inspection and certification of plastic films, pipes, structures, renewable energy and biobased products. Since 2021, the company has been part of the Normec Group, specifically the Sustainability division. Normec QS customers find that this allows them to be served even better, also because they often need services in multiple areas. Several new international customers have therefore joined the Normec Group since 2021. The complementary services certainly contribute to this. The personal, customer-oriented approach has remained. This is typical of the entire Normec Group.

## Service life testing for geosynthetics

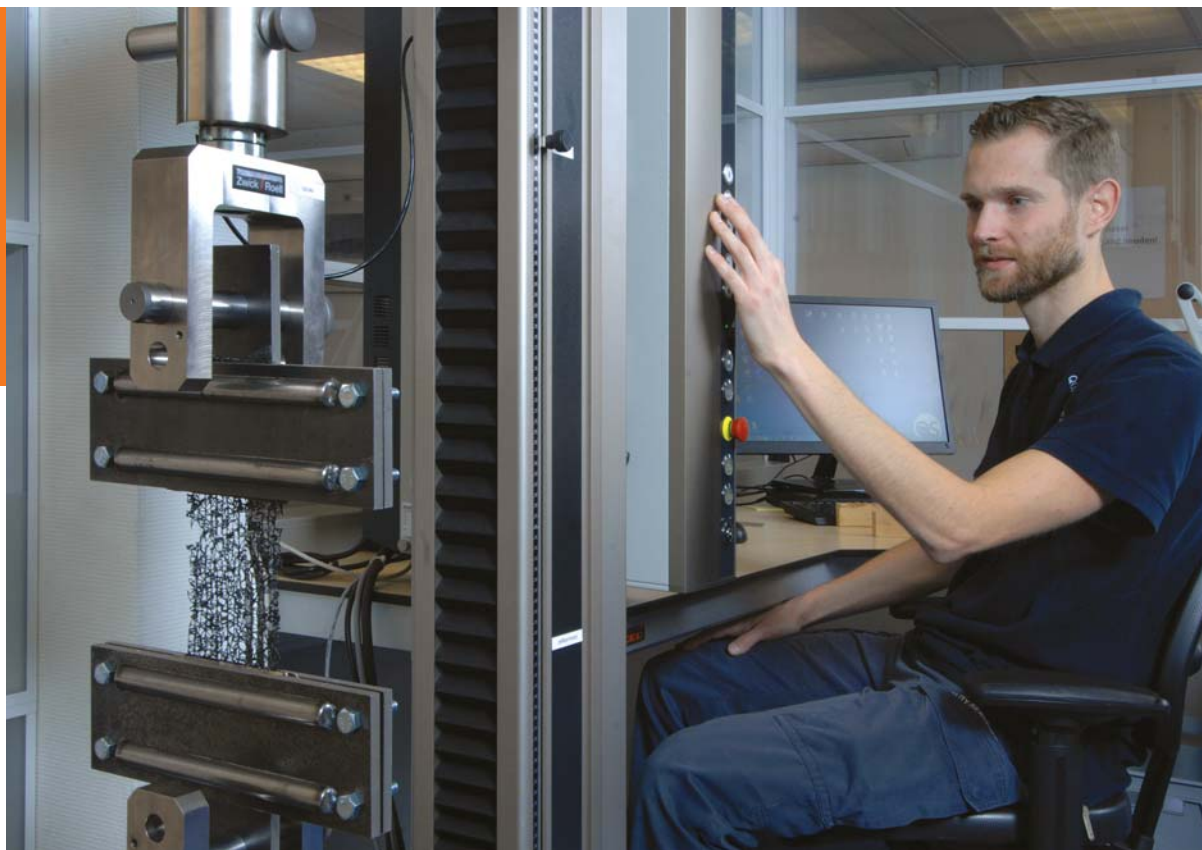
An example of that customer focus is the custom-made inspections Normec QS carries out for customers when it comes to the service life of applied plastics. This depends on various environmental factors. Due to chemical, physical and mechanical degradation processes, the service life may be shorter than expected. A laboratory study can identify this premature failure. Normec QS's laboratory facilities are equipped for research into the expected lifetime of plastic materials and structures, among others.

For example, research is carried out to determine the expected service life of a foil construction or geotextile. A starting point may be to carry out long-term tests. This allows a statement to be made about a life expectancy for a period of at least 100 years. A recognised long-term behaviour expert interprets the research results and records them in a research report with life expectancy.

## Fully independent inspection of plastic pipes.



*Destructive testing and lifetime prediction in the accredited laboratory.*



### Predicting residual lifetime

PVC and PE (pressure) pipes make up a large part of transport pipes for gas, drinking and wastewater. As these pipes have been laid and used since the middle of the last century, the (remaining) lifetime of plastic distribution pipes is a growing area of interest for operators. Normec QS has the expertise and research facilities to map the residual lifetime of piping systems.

By surveying the current condition of piping systems, it is possible to predict the residual lifetime. This allows more targeted investment decisions to be made. Thus, large-scale network renewal can give way to replacements at the most crucial locations.

### Biodegradability

For the combination lifetime and environmental impact, Normec QS collaborates with sister company Normec OWS. They are global leaders in determining biodegradability. When plastic products end up in nature, they should preferably degrade over time and not cause damage to the environment. Normec OWS offers degradation and toxicity tests

under different conditions to simulate how materials degrade and behave when released into different environments.

The environment in which the product is tested should depend primarily on the expected end-of-life. Degradability is not only an inherent material property, but also depends on environmental conditions such as temperature, biological activity and microbial diversity.

**In short, through its specialist knowledge of applied plastics, Normec QS helps make the world a better place and save costs for its customers. For more information, visit <https://normecqs.com> or contact Normec QS specialists directly. They will be happy to help you!**

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