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ASTM D 7408 for PVC Seams

ASTM D7408 - 08 Standard Specification for Non Reinforced PVC (Polyvinyl Chloride) Geomembrane Seams was recently adopted by ASTM. This geotechnical engineering standard specification applies to factory and field welds in PVC geomembranes from 10 to 60 mils thick, made by chemical fusion, adhesive, bodied solvent, dielectric, and thermal fusion (hot air and hot wedge).

Dan and Fred Rohe traveled to Santiago, Chile in May to attend EXPOMIN, a biannual mining conference and exposition. Fred Rohe delivered a technical presentation on thermal welding and air channel testing of PVC field seams. ASTM D 7177 was a special

focus of the multimedia presentation. PVC liners are being used extensively in South America for heap leach mining applications and for solar evaporation ponds.

The session was attended by geotechnical professionals from Chile, Peru, Colombia and the United States. It was the only

geosynthetic technical presentation on the agenda as part of the EXPOMIN technical sessions.

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Mark Wolschon of EPI has been the task group leader on this Committee D35 project. The adoption of this standard is the culmination of

nearly two years of discussion and development.

Copies of the new ASTM D 7408 specification are available from ASTM individually or as part of a yearly subscription. All of EPI's technical specifications and quality control documents have been updated to reflect this new standard.

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