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## Research Continues at EPI

EPI is continually involved in research on thermal welding of PVC geomembranes. Mark Wolschon, Quality Control Manager at EPI, recently traveled to Austin, Texas to assist in welding of PVC geomembrane at TRI/Environmental. Inc. He worked with Mr. Rick Thomas of TRI to weld samples of 30 mil and 40 mil PVC with a dual track thermal weld. Testing of the large number of samples will form the basis for research being done by TRI on air channel testing of dual track welds in PVC.

Mark will be traveling to Austin again in November to weld additional samples and provide welding expertise for the continuing PVC research at TRI.

Mark Wolschon also thermally welded approximately 283,000 square feet of 30 mil PVC this summer at the Montmorency-Oscoda-Alpena landfill closure near Lewiston, MI.

Bacon Contracting installed the PVC liner and GCL. EPI supplied the liner and welding of the field seams.

This was the first project that EPI THERMALLY WELDED ALL REPAIRS AND DETAILS FOR THE INSTALLATION. Boots were installed by thermal welding. Seam sample repair patches and all repairs of the new PVC liner installation were installed and welded by hot air thermal welding.

The September 2001 issue of Geotechnical Fabrics Report (GFR) features an article titled



PVC AQUACULTURE LINERS STAND THE TEST OF TIME. The

paper, coauthored by Erik Newman, Fred Rohe, and Dr. Timothy Stark, reports on the forensic study of 20 mil PVC geomembrane exhumed after 30 years of service at Michigan State Universities' Kellogg Research facility.

Erik Newman, Mark
Wolschon, and Fred Rohe were
on site during the excavation of
the liner that was originally
installed in 1971. Visit the MSU –
Kellogg website for more
information on this project.

