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Standard Guide for Selection of Test Methods for Prefabricated Vertical Drains (PVD)¹

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1. Scope

1.1 This guide provides recommendations for the selection of appropriate test methods for prefabricated vertical geocomposite drains (sometimes referred to as Wick Drains) used in geotechnical engineering applications to provide consistency in data reporting.

1.2 This guide includes test methods for all types of prefabricated geocomposite drains manufactured in a plant and consisting of a polymeric core structure with a synthetic fabric (geotextile) jacket for filtration.

1.3 This guide is intended to aid all personnel involved in the selection, manufacture, installation, or evaluation of prefabricated vertical drains.

1.4 *This standard does not purport to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.*

2. Referenced Documents

2.1 ASTM Standards:²

- D3786 Test Method for Bursting Strength of Textile Fabrics—Diaphragm Bursting Strength Tester Method
- D4491 Test Methods for Water Permeability of Geotextiles by Permittivity
- D4533 Test Method for Trapezoid Tearing Strength of Geotextiles
- D4632 Test Method for Grab Breaking Load and Elongation of Geotextiles

¹ This guide is under the jurisdiction of ASTM Committee D35 on Geosynthetics and are the direct responsibility of Subcommittee D35.03 on Permeability and Filtration.

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² For referenced ASTM standards, visit the ASTM website, www.astm.org, or contact ASTM Customer Service at service@astm.org. For *Annual Book of ASTM Standards* volume information, refer to the standard's Document Summary page on the ASTM website.

- D4716 Test Method for Determining the (In-plane) Flow Rate per Unit Width and Hydraulic Transmissivity of a Geosynthetic Using a Constant Head
- D4751 Test Method for Determining Apparent Opening Size of a Geotextile
- D4884 Test Method for Strength of Sewn or Thermally Bonded Seams of Geotextiles
- D4886 Test Method for Abrasion Resistance of Geotextiles (Sand Paper/Sliding Block Method)
- D5101 Test Method for Measuring the Soil-Geotextile System Clogging Potential by the Gradient Ratio
- D5199 Test Method for Measuring the Nominal Thickness of Geosynthetics
- D5261 Test Method for Measuring Mass per Unit Area of Geotextiles
- D5322 Practice for Laboratory Immersion Procedures for Evaluating the Chemical Resistance of Geosynthetics to Liquids
- D5493 Test Method for Permittivity of Geotextiles Under Load
- D5567 Test Method for Hydraulic Conductivity Ratio (HCR) Testing of Soil/Geotextile Systems
- D5819 Guide for Selecting Test Methods for Experimental Evaluation of Geosynthetic Durability
- D6241 Test Method for the Static Puncture Strength of Geotextiles and Geotextile-Related Products Using a 50-mm Probe
- D6364 Test Method for Determining Short-Term Compression Behavior of Geosynthetics
- D6389 Practice for Tests to Evaluate the Chemical Resistance of Geotextiles to Liquids

3. Terminology

3.1 Definitions:

3.1.1 *geocomposite, n*—a product composed of two or more materials, at least one of which is a geosynthetic.

3.1.2 *geosynthetic, n*—a planar product manufactured from polymeric material used with soil, rock, earth, or other geotechnical engineering related material as an integral part of a manmade project, structure, or system.