

Newsletter - Summer 2025

Exciting News for the FGI: We're Now the Flexible Geomembrane Institute

After sixteen years as the Fabricated Geomembrane Institute (FGI), we're proud to announce that we have officially changed our name to the **Flexible Geomembrane Institute**. This change marks an exciting new chapter for our organization, expanding our mission and further



solidifying our commitment to the innovative field of geomembrane technology, while maintaining focus on factory fabrication and modular construction.

This updated name better reflects the evolving landscape of the industry and the diverse needs of FGI's growing community of members and industry professionals. By emphasizing flexibility, our new name speaks to the Institute's broader reach, while staying true to the foundational principles and deep expertise in geomembrane applications.

"Expanding the FGI to focus on all flexible geomembrane installations allows us to include field fabrication with our long-term interest in factory fabrication and modular construction," said Dr. Timothy D. Stark, Technical Director of FGI. "As we continue to innovate and grow, we are still the same great organization, providing useful content on current and emerging trends in the industry." Patrick Elliott, President of the FGI also commented, "This simple but strategic change helps align our goals and work closer to represent the needs of our members and industry. While our core focus will always be on factory fabrication the fact remains, we want to provide industry research and technology to focus on providing the best products and techniques to solve all project challenges."

New Domain, Same Valuable Resources

Alongside the name change, FGI has announced a new domain name. Our website is now located at www.thefgi.org. Visitors will continue to find the same valuable content, resources, and educational materials, with the added benefit of a shorter and easier domain name. For any inquiries, please contact Jen Miller at her new email address Jen@thefgi.org.

Please join all of us with the FGI in celebrating this exciting advancement.

About the Flexible Geomembrane Institute (FGI):

The Flexible Geomembrane Institute (formerly the Fabricated Geomembrane Institute) is a leading resource for the development, education, and promotion of geomembrane technology. The FGI is an industry-sponsored, non-profit institute dedicated to advancing the use of fabricated flexible geomembranes through education, research, and technology transfer. The FGI is housed at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering.



Featured Technical Topic

Each month during the FGI's Membership Teleconference, Tim Stark introduces a new technical topic for discussion and possible action. This month's topic was: "Exposed v. Backfilled Geomembranes – Need for Ballasting". This topic generated significant discussion. The white paper, including photos, can be viewed/downloaded from the FGI

FGI Safety First Program

The FGI believes it is important to always put safety first. Our Tailgate Safety Program is a safety training resource for construction and other high hazard industries. Print out and conduct training right from your tailgate on the job site, or in a formal meeting at your office.

This month's featured Safety First Flyer is on **Proper Lifting Technique**. Properly lifting heavy objects can help prevent back and muscle pain and injuries, missed work, and reduced productivity. Check out the FGI's Safety Tip Program to learn more about Proper Lifting Techniques.



Download FGI Safety Flyers



Upcoming FGI Webinars

Join us for one of our exciting and educational upcoming FGI Webinars. All webinars are free and presented in the Central Time Zone, with the recordings available the next day in Australia, South Africa and Japan time zones (please see the **FGI Events Calendar** for more information). All past webinar recordings are posted on the FGI Website for ondemand viewing. Each attendee will receive a One (1.0) PDH Certificate of Completion.

August 12, 2025 at Noon CDT: Geosynthetics Case Studies

This webinar will address three case studies in the geosynthetics industry. Todd Harman (Hallaton Environmental Linings) will present the Druid Hill Reservoir Project, which included creating a liner system to contain one half of the one-billion-gallon (55 acre) potable water storage reservoir that supplies the city of Baltimore and surrounding counties.

Ron MacKenzie (Inland Tarp & Liner) will discuss the Sutter Field Construction Lining Project, which utilized large factory fabricated liners for athletics fields. Ron will also discuss the use of impervious membranes to allow for enhanced control of water usage and exacting moisture controls. Finally, Patrick Elliott (Colorado Lining Int'I/Viaflex) will present the Tesla Reservoir Rehabilitation Project, which is an equalization basin for the 28 MW Tesla Hydroelectric Power Generation Plant in Colorado Springs. The project included upgrading the reservoir bottom liner system to a thicker CSPE membrane to handle the heavy ice, rapid draw downs, an extensive slope ballast system, and to protect the geomembrane from uplift during low water periods.1.0 PDH

<u>September 16, 2025 at Noon CDT: Slope Stabilization and Earth Retaining Structures with Geosynthetics - Case Studies</u>

This webinar, presented by Sebastian Lobo-Guerrero of the American Geotechnical & Environmental Services, Inc., will present a webinar on Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil (GRS) slopes and earth retention structures have evolved to become cost effective solutions used widely in transportation projects. This presentation covers the design and construction of these systems through projects and case studies developed by the author. Hybrid systems involving GRS-IBS, and deep foundations, are discussed highlighting the future of these technologies. 1.0 PDH

Register for FGI's August Webinar

Register for FGI's September Webinar

University of Illinois - FGI Online CQA Course & Certification

If you missed the live offering of the FGI's Online Course and Certification Exam on Manufacturing, Fabrication, & Installation for QA/QC for Geosynthetics, we have you covered. All five parts of the course were recorded and are now available to participate at your convenience in an on-demand course format. The on-demand course will be offered monthly. The five course sessions will be available the first three weeks of each month, with the certification exam available to take online during the last week of the month. The five course sessions are: Part 1 - Manufacturing MQC & MQA, Part 2 - Subgrade Preparation, Part 3 - Factory CQC & CQA, Part 4 - Field CQC & CQA, and Part 5 - Post Installation Maintenance & Leak Location.

Cost \$500 (includes five course sessions and online certification exam) \$300 (includes five course sessions only, used code: NOEXAM200) Regulators/government employees, use code REGULATOR

August Online CQA Course & Certification - On-Demand Registration September Online CQA Course & Certification - On-Demand Registration October Online CQA Course & Certification - On-Demand Registration

FGI's Website - #1 Resource for Flexible Geomembranes and **Factory Fabricated Panels**

- Online PDH Credit Program
- Installation Details & Drawings
- Audio and Video Podcast Series
- Geo-Engineering Pop Quizzes
- Pond Leakage Calculator
- Panel Weight Calculator
- Webinar Library
- · Project Spotlights
- Member Directory
- Latest Specifications & Guidelines
- Material and Equipment Guides
- Videos of ASTM Factory & Field Test Methods
- Technical Papers & Journal Articles
- Industry News and Events
- Photo and Video Gallery



Website

Flexible Geomembrane Institute | Jen@thefgi.org | www.thefgi.org | 217 333-3929

STAY CONNECTED







