

Newsletter - Winter 2026

FGI's Online Welding Basics Courses are Now Available On-Demand

If you missed the FGI's December 2025 Online Welding Basics Short Course, all four sessions are now available to view on-demand. The short course focuses on the basics of geomembrane welding and understanding how to achieve a suitable weld using thermal fusion welding technologies. e.g., hot wedge and hot air, and hand extrusion welders. In particular, the course will focus on: (1) welding different geomembrane polymers, (2) types of welding equipment and selection, (3) welding parameters, and (4) importance of seam testing. The following people should consider attending: engineers, regulators, CQA personnel, installers, fabricators, and end users.



[Course 1 - Welding Different Geomembrane Polymers](#)

[Course 2 - Types of Welding and Equipment Selection](#)

[Course 3 - Welding Parameters](#)

[Course 4 - Importance of Seam Testing](#)

Cost: \$50 per course

1.5 PDH available per session (6.0 PDH Total Available)

Regulators/Government Employees use code REGULATOR

Presenters:

Eddie Weiser (Leister Technologies)

Gus Fauci (DemTech)

Timothy D. Stark, Ph.D, P.E., (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign)

Online Basics Welding Course Information



Dr. J.P. Giroud Headlines FGI's 100th Webinar

On March 10, 2026 at Noon CDT, the FGI will proudly present its 100th Webinar. The legendary Dr. J.P. Giroud will present a webinar titled, "New developments with Practical Implications on Geomembrane Liner Design and Performance Analysis." This presentation will address essential aspects of 10 subjects: (1)

Time necessary for a soil layer on a geomembrane liner system on a slope to slide when it is subjected to a rainfall. (2) Impact of seepage forces on slope stability. (3) Sliding of trucks and dozers on geomembrane liner systems. (4) Creep of seams of bituminous geomembranes. (5) Effect of temperature on the mechanical properties of geomembranes. (6) Frequency of holes in geomembrane liners. (7) Rate of leakage through holes in vertical geomembrane liners. (8) Magnitude of water diffusion through geomembrane liners. (9) Intentional geomembrane wrinkles. (10) Geomembrane seams next to rigid structures. All FGI webinars are recorded and posted on the FGI website, as well as a PDF of the slide decks, and are available to view at your convenience, while earning 1.0 PDH for each webinar viewed.

[March 10, 2026 at Noon CDT \(Live\)](#)

[March 11, 2026 at Noon AEST \(Pre-recorded - Australia\)](#)

Register for FGI's 100th Webinar

The FGI is Hiring....

The FGI, regarded as the top industry organization focused on fabricated flexible geosynthetics, is growing and is seeking a part-time (20 hours) per week position to help continue its role as one of the premier geosynthetics research organizations in the world. Ideal candidates are organized, enthusiastic, and people oriented with skills in MS Office Suite, website management, social media, and technical writing. If interested, please send your resume to admin@thefgi.org.

Your Liner is Leaking, What Should You Do?

Each month Tim Stark introduces a new technical topic for discussion and possible action. January's topic was: "Your Liner is Leaking, What Should You Do?". This topic generated significant discussion with a few of the main "take-aways" listed below.



- First action should be to determine if your liner/geomembrane is really leaking because loss of water/liquid could be due to evaporation
- Is it evaporation? – check evaporation using evaporation calculators (in article)
- With a single geomembrane bottom liner system, it is important to calculate evaporation rate because the geomembrane cannot be checked due to the lack of a leak detection zone below the geomembrane
- A double geomembrane bottom liner system has two geomembranes with a leak detection zone between the geomembranes so it can be determined if the upper or primary geomembrane is leaking
- If double-geomembrane bottom liner system is used, there will also be some liquid in the leak detection zone for a while after filling due to condensation, rainfall, etc. so don't worry immediately
- If the pond is double-lined and the liquid level in the sump is about the same as the pond, there is a leak because equalization of the liquid levels
- If you are concerned with leakage, the pond/reservoir should be double-lined
- If moisture gages installed outside of the pond are indicating increased moisture or similar contaminants as in the pond, the pond is probably leaking
- see full article for many more "take-aways" and calculators

[Download Full Article: Your Liner is Leaking, What Should You Do?](#)

FGI Member Spotlight: EPI

Environmental Protection, Inc. (EPI) was founded in Michigan in 1980 to manufacture 20-mil (0.5 mm) PVC geomembrane liners for the oil exploration industry. From those beginnings, the company steadily expanded into additional markets, including landfills, golf course water features, and wastewater lagoons. Today, EPI supplies fabricated geomembrane panels to end users, contractors, dealer-distributors, and professional installers.



The Liner Company

For full article, including photos, please click [HERE](#).

[Download Full Member Profile: EPI](#)

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Exciting News....the FGI has a new Flexible Geomembrane Institute company page on LinkedIn!!!

Please share this post with your industry contacts. Get all of the latest news, technical articles, webinar information, and more on the FGI's New Company Page on LinkedIn.

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
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[Visit our Website](#)

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