



ECTC Releases Distributor Update – Winter 2006

1/28/2006

For Immediate Release

Western Excelsior is committed to continuously improving the support of its distributor network by providing industry news and information as it becomes available. Visit WESTERNEXCELSIOR.COM to stay connected to the RECP industry.

The Erosion Control Technology Council (ECTC) is a non-profit organization comprised of Rolled Erosion Control Product (RECP) manufacturers, distributors, parent material producers, testing and academic agencies. ECTC's mission is to develop standardized testing and specification systems, liaison with federal, state and local government entities and to present an unbiased presentation of the RECP industry. ECTC also endeavors to provide unbiased information regarding RECP projects, installation and use. To that end, the ECTC publishes periodic updates specifically intended for distributors of RECPs and erosion control materials.

The following update is the latest release from ECTC. This edition provides an update on ECTC activities for the second half of the year of 2005. These activities include meetings with federal agencies, development of performance verified product selection and installation guidance.

Western Excelsior – Engineered Environmental Stewardship by

“Blanketing Nature with Nature”

ECTC MEETS WITH ASSOCIATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

On June 20-21, 2005, ECTC members met with government agencies and association partners in Washington, D.C. to discuss the ECTC's Installers Training Program that ECTC has developed and is working in partnership with industry associations to present.

Other participating associations included: American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA), National Association of County Engineers (NACE), American Society of Landscape Architects

and (ASLA), Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA). Members of ECTC also met with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

The recent implementation of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Phase II stormwater regulations mandates that every construction site one acre in size or larger must have a stormwater plan. The use of rolled erosion control products (RECPs) is a recognized best management practice. When RECPs are used to control soil migration from construction sites, the quality of the stormwater is positively impacted. The ECTC's Installers Training Program consists of a review of the NPDES regulations, an overview of RECPs, and instruction on the proper installation techniques for RECPs.

Meeting results

As a result of these meetings, ECTC partnered with the Solid Waste Association of North America to conduct this course

via their E-course Program. The course was held on Oct. 11 and 18, 2005. See page three of this newsletter for a review of this E-course.

ECTC offers course at Intertraffic North America Show

In a separate agreement, ECTC offered to conduct a course at the American Road and Transportation Builders Association's Intertraffic North America Show, which took place Sept. 27-29, 2005 in Baltimore, Md. The session, held on Sept. 28, was entitled, "An Overview of the State-of-the-Art in Erosion Control Products."

Additional information

For more information on ECTC's Installers Training Program, contact Laurie Honnigford at +1-651-554-1895. Visit www.ectc.org for additional course information.



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- ECTC Meets With Associations and Government Agencies in Washington DC.
- What is ECTC?
- ECTC Technical Committee Work
- ECTC New Product Selection Tool
- SWANA and ECTC Offer E-Course

**WHAT IS ECTC?
THE MISSION AND GOALS OF ECTC**

The ECTC provides a vehicle for its members to remain focused on the continued growth and recognition of the erosion control industry. We believe our standardization efforts will lead to increased understanding and facilitate proper selection by specifiers of rolled erosion control products. We hope to take some of the mystery out of speci-

fying these products and replace it with industry accepted states-of-practice.

The ECTC is working in coordination with the International Erosion Control Association (IECA), National Transportation Product Evaluation Program (NTPEP) and has submitted standards to ASTM committees for ratification.



ECTC'S TECHNICAL COMMITTEE WORKS ON QDOR LOGISTICS AND OTHER INITIATIVES DURING JUNE AND SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

ECTC's Technical Committee met June 1-2 and Sept. 21 to discuss current initiatives. The following is a brief update of the projects currently under development.

The ECTC Website Product Selection Tool has been a success in the user community. The test numbers used to determine the product placement were developed from a variety of test protocols. ECTC members are developing a new protocol for listing products on the ECTC website charts.

ECTC Tool Products

The June meeting included a discussion about ECTC Tool products. The scope of what ECTC is trying to develop is a program that allows the end user to develop his/her own specification and to provide the specifiers with useful information that can be used with their specific parameters in mind.

ECTC's purpose is to develop a performance-based specification and website selection tool.

This program would include the following three parts:

1. Data - Manufacturer provides data as required.
2. Quality Data Oversight Review (QDOR) – This could be a third party that looks at the data and information provided. QDOR would be the filter that products must pass through to be listed in the

ECTC Tool.

3. ECTC Tool is the website selection tool to help end users with product selection.

QDOR

During the June meetings, participants discussed QDOR performance including the following points:

- Categories should be defined by the hydraulic action that is happening, i.e. rainfall or channelized flow.
- ECTC would not put factors of safety into the numbers that are presented – the designer would get raw data. Engineering judgment would have to be used when using these numbers.
- ECTC needs to develop a document available to the end users that explains QDOR. ECTC will have to explain how the numbers were derived. This will help the designer use these numbers properly.

During the September meeting, the Technical Committee recommended that the Marketing Committee prepare a campaign for the final QDOR product.

Changes to ECTC Specification

In September meetings the installation component of the ECTC Specification was updated. This update gives the end user better direction in how to install RECPs.

Guidance Document
Roy Nelsen and Chad

Lipscomb are progressing on their revision of the Guidance Document. Sam Allen will provide a brief summary of test method within document. Allen volunteered to update index testing/physical properties testing to reflect update ASTM methods.

New Business

The CAD drawings used in the installation guideline paper will be updated to reflect changes in the ECTC Specification. These documents will be available on the new ECTC in both a PDF and a DWG format for easy download.

INSTALLATION VIDEOS UPDATE

In 2004, ECTC conducted a survey of end users, government officials, inspectors, engineers, manufactures of RECPs and other professionals within this industry segment. The survey showed that the biggest obstacle to RECP function was poor installation. Because of this survey result, ECTC decided proper installation education was in order.

One of the main vehicles for disseminating the information on proper installation was video. Three videos currently are being produced and are expected to be launched at the beginning of 2006:

- Installation of RECPs in Channels
- Installation of RECPs on Slopes
- Installation of RECPs at Shorelines

These videos will provide step-by-

step instruction on proper installation procedures including site preparation; blanket (RECP) replacement; RECP stapling/staking; anchor trench details; and shingling of RECPs.

Each video will be approximately eight minutes in length and will be ideal to be used as training before a contractor sends installers into the field.

The focus of these videos is installation only; they will not contain product selection or design information. This information will be a part of future videos.

For additional information, contact Laurie Honnigford at laurie@ectc.org.



ECTC'S NEW PRODUCT SELECTION TOOL AVAILABLE ON WWW.ECTC.ORG

ECTC has retooled its product selection tool designed to assist designers and contractors in solving erosion control problems.

Log onto www.ectc.org and click to the section entitled "Product Descriptions." Choose either the [Slope Product Selection Tool](#) or the [Channel Product Selection Tool](#).

If you chose the [Slope Product Selection Tool](#), select the slope ratio and then the functional longevity. The website provides a table consisting of the product/s each manufacturer typically recommends for the application parameters inputted. Once you have located the chart with the materials listed, there is a convenient link provided that will take you to the manufac-

turer's website where you can get additional product information and specific design data.

The [Channel Product Selection Tool](#) website charts work in a similar manner. With this application, the first selection you must make is the functional longevity and the second is the maximum flow-induced shear stresses the channel will be exposed to in a vegetated condition during storm flow events. The third selection will be flow-induced shear stresses the channel is exposed to in an unvegetated condition. Once you have made your selections, the site will then direct you to the product/s each manufacturer typically recommends for your project design.

A [Slope Design Assistant](#) and

a [channel Design Assistant](#) are available if the user needs additional help in using the [Product Selection Tools](#).

The ECTC does not endorse or recommend the individual products or applications listed in the charts. The numbers, information, performance values and product recommendation provided by individual manufacturers are the sole responsibility of that manufacturer and are not necessarily the views of the ECTC. The ECTC Technical Committee reviews each

submittal prior to placing it on the website. This helps ensure that products are placed in the proper categories.



SWANA AND ECTC OFFER E-COURSE

On Oct. 11 and 18, ECTC partnered with the Solid Waste Association of America (SWANA) to conduct a two session e-course: Controlling Erosion & Stormwater Runoff on Landfill Caps.

This course educated more than 50 participants about the recent implementation of the NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Phase II storm water regulation and how to avoid violations. Content included:

- Review of NPDES Regulations

- Overview of Rolled Erosion Control Products (RECPs)
- Installing RECPs
- Design & Selection of RECPs

Deron Austin, a licensed professional engineer in the State of Tennessee, conducted the session. Austin has authored over 20 technical publications and is involved with numerous trade and professional organizations including serving as Vice Chairman for ECTC.

Those registered for the session watched live on the

Internet while they actively participated in a conference call, allowing for questions and a lively discussion.

"I thought the e-course went very well," said Scott Nelson, Geo-Synthetics, Inc. "Deron did a good job demonstrating the materials and the questions presented added to the program."

For over 40 years, SWANA has been the leading professional association in the solid waste field, serving over 7,200 members throughout North America, and thou-

sands more with conferences, certifications, publications, and technical training courses.

Both ECTC and SWANA found this e-course a success and are discussing the possibility of a follow-up session for a later date.

NEW MEMBERS

ECTC would like to welcome the following members who have joined ECTC in 2005:

East Coast Erosion Blanket

Directing Member

Uzet

Corporate Associate

Access ECTC's Knowledge Bank

www.ectc.org

EROSION CONTROL TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

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Who We Are

Members of the ECTC are committed to promoting the proper use of RECPs by providing education and industry leadership. For more information, visit our Website or contact any of the Directing Members listed here.

American Excelsior Company

Belton Industries

Colbond Geosynthetics

Conwed Plastics

East Coast Erosion Blankets, LLC

Erosion Control Systems

ErosionControlBlanket.com

Mat, Inc.

North American Green

Profile Products LLC

SI Geosolutions

Southern Environmental Conservation Inc.

Tenax Corporation

Verdyol Plant Research Inc.

Western Excelsior Corp.

CALENDAR OF ECTC AND INDUSTRY EVENTS

RPA Seminar held by the Resource Professional Alliance (RPA)

*ECTC is a Partnering Organization for this event
January 16, 2006
Milwaukee, WI

ASTM D18 Meeting: Soil and Rock

February 5-8, 2006
Phoenix, AZ
www.astm.org

IECA's EC06

*ECTC is proud to be an EC06 Partnering Organization
February 20-24, 2006
Long Beach, CA
www.ieca.org

ECTC Quarterly Meeting

March 28-29, 2006
Atlanta, GA
www.ectc.org