Australian Standard®



# Geotextiles—Methods of test
# Method 6: Determination of seam strength

## 1 SCOPE

This Standard sets out the method for determining the seam strength of geotextiles.

## 2 APPLICATION

The method may be used for testing any type of seam or joint, either from manufactured rolls or joints made in situ, whether by stitching, heat-bonding or other means.

## 3 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS

The following documents are referred to in this Standard:

AS
3704 Geotextiles—Glossary of terms
3706 Geotextiles—Methods of test
3706.1 Method 1: General requirements, sampling, conditioning, basic physical properties and statistical analysis
3706.2 Method 2: Determination of tensile properties—Wide-strip method

## 4 PRINCIPLE

A specimen containing the seam is gripped across the entire width in the jaws of a tensile testing machine, which is operated at a prescribed rate of extension. A force (perpendicular to the seam axis) is applied to the specimen until the joint/seam of the geotextile ruptures. A corresponding specimen of unseamed material is tested by the wide strip method (see AS 3706.2). The strength of the seamed specimen, as a percentage of that of the unseamed specimen, gives the seam efficiency.

## 5 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Standard, the definitions given in AS 3704 and those below apply.

### 5.1 Seam strength

The maximum resistance of the junction formed by stitching or joining two pieces of geotextile.

### 5.2 Seam efficiency

The tensile strength of a joint or seam between two pieces of geotextile, expressed as a percentage of the tensile strength of the unseamed specimen, as determined by this test.

## 6 APPARATUS AND REAGENTS

The apparatus and reagents shall be in accordance with AS 3706.2.