



TECHNICAL BULLETIN 001 January 2005

STATEMENT REGARDING THE USE OF ASTM D4632 TEST PROTOCOL WHEN EVALUATING KNITTED GEOTEXTILE FABRICS

To whom it may concern:

ASTM D 4632 (STANDARD TEST METHOD for GRAB BREAKING LOAD and ELONGATION of GEOTEXTILES) states in section 1.1 of its scope that *“This test method is not suitable for knitted fabrics and alternate test methods should be used.”*

This statement was added to ASTM D4632 protocol in the early 1990's when it was recognized that due to the inherent difficulty in mounting the flexible knitted fabric structure into the clamping jaws of the testing equipment, that results of the procedure were flawed due to the high incidence of fabric “jaw breaks”.

As a result, neither Zodiac nor Carriff, evaluate or report GRAB STRENGTH values of our circular-knitted Sock™ fabrics, nor have they done so since 1993.

It was deemed at that time by ASTM Committee D35 that a multi-directional test procedure such as the Mullen Burst or the more current ASTM D6241 “STATIC PUNCTURE STRENGTH of GEOTEXTILES and GEOTEXTILE RELATED PRODUCTS USING A 50mm PROBE” was, and is better suited as an index test to evaluate the breaking resistance or strength of knitted SOCK™ geotextile fabrics.

Zodiac Fabrics Company and Carriff Corporation strongly support the use of ASTM D6707 “Standard Specification for Circular-Knit Geotextile for Use in Subsurface Drainage Applications” for the evaluation of their circular-knit geotextile products. This protocol was established by producers, fabric specifiers, and end users and published by ASTM in 2001.

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