



## The Value of IAGI's Certified Welding Technician (CWT) Program

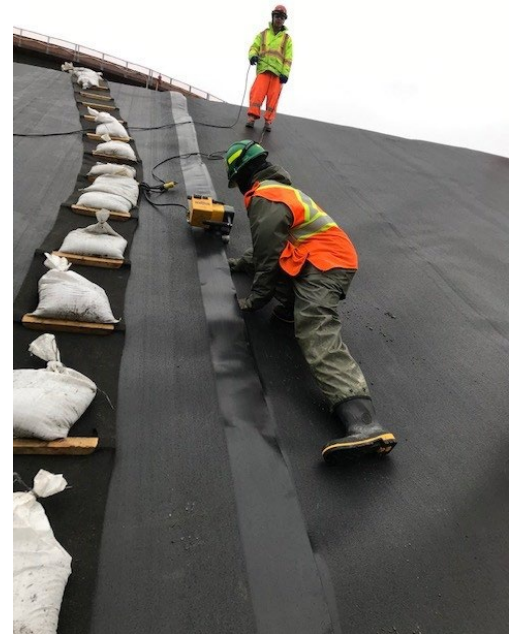
Written by: Brian Fraser & Evan Bao – October 10, 2025

The **Certified Welding Technician (CWT) program**, developed by the International Association of Geosynthetic Installers (**IAGI**), is a globally recognized certification that validates the skill, knowledge, and field experience of geomembrane welding professionals.

### To earn CWT certification, technicians must:

- Demonstrate a minimum of 90,000 m<sup>2</sup> (1 million ft<sup>2</sup>) of verified field welding experience
- Pass a comprehensive written examination
- Successfully complete a hands-on welding seam trial specific to material types such as HDPE, LLDPE, PVC, and Reinforced geomembranes

All exams and welding trials are administered by approved and experienced IAGI Proctors, with seam samples tested by independent, third-party geosynthetic laboratories to ensure compliance with industry standards.



*Layfield Canada crew wedge welding LLDPE*

### Why Certification Matters

For **engineers and asset owners**, specifying the CWT designation provides confidence that certified geomembrane welding technicians:

- Meets a minimum level of industry recognized standards of proficiency
- Possess proven experience with the specific geomembrane materials used on-site
- Deliver consistent, high-quality welds that meet the projects specifications and support long-term system performance



*Hallaton Environmental technician extrusion welding HDPE*

### **For Geomembrane Installers, CWT certification:**

- Demonstrates professionalism and technical expertise
- Enhances credibility and competitiveness in the marketplace
- Ensures compliance with project specifications requiring certified personnel

### **Raising Industry Standards**

IAGI developed the CWT program to:

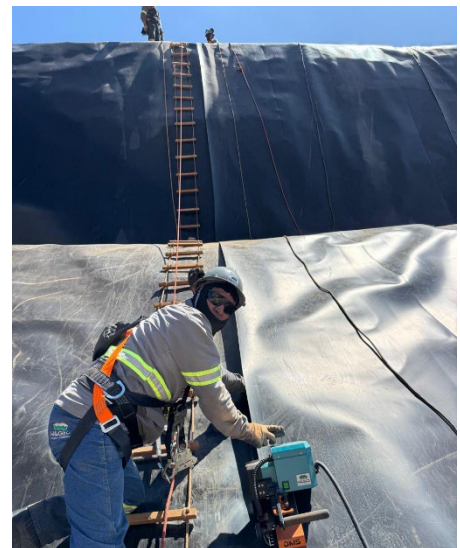
- Establish clear benchmarks for geomembrane welding proficiency
- Recognize and reward skilled technicians
- Promote higher quality and consistency across the geosynthetics industry

With thousands of certified welding technicians working around the world, the CWT program continues to elevate industry standards and reinforce the long-term integrity of environmental containment systems.

### **Summary**

The IAGI Certified Welding Technician (CWT) program sets a global benchmark for excellence in geomembrane welding. Through rigorous experience requirements, comprehensive exams, and material-specific welding trials, the program ensures certified technicians deliver reliable, high-quality work.

For engineers, asset owners, geomembrane manufacturers and installation professionals, CWT certification provides assurance of workmanship, supports regulatory compliance, and contributes to the durability and performance of environmental containment systems. With a



*M-Geo welding with DMS Equipment*

growing network of certified professionals worldwide, IAGI remains a leader in advancing quality and professionalism in geosynthetic installation.

**To learn more about the CWT program, contact IAGI directly at the CWT link below or visit our website.**

[cwt@iagi.org](mailto:cwt@iagi.org)

<https://www.iagi.org/about-cwt>

Photos courtesy of Comanco, Demtech, DMS, Hallaton, Layfield, M-Geo



*Comanco technicians performing extrusion welding*



*Demtech photo testing seams on tensiometer*