



# AGRU AMERICA TIMES

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## GMA Executive Council Now Includes Agru America

Agru America has joined the governing body of the Geosynthetic Materials Association, becoming the 13th member of the group's Executive Council.


Chris Eichelberger, Agru America Vice President of Technical Marketing, is the company's primary liaison on the GMA Executive Council. Its member companies are the GMA's primary source of funding, and their representatives serve on the GMA Board of Directors and direct the group's activities.

The association's purpose is to provide engineering support, business development opportunities, educational programming, government-relations expertise and industry recognition. GMA also influences specifications and lobbies on behalf of member companies. GMA says it targets key U.S. states to expand the geosynthetics market and provides a network to exchange information, solve common problems and develop mutually beneficial relationships. GMA has focus groups for geotextiles, geogrids, erosion control and distribution.

GMA currently has 82 corporate members. Alongside Agru America on the Executive Council are AVINTIV, Crown Resources, GSE, Hanes, Huesker, Propex, Skaps, TenCate, Tensar, Thrace-Linq, TRI, and Willacoochee.

GMA is a division of the Industrial Fabrics Association International, a trade group representing the producers of specialty fabrics and advanced textiles. IFAI says it invests more than \$8 million each year to advance the fabrics industry and support member companies. 





# Agru Installed Geomembrane Benefits Gsteng Water Reservoir and Regional Economy

## Project Overview

Location: St. Johann, Alpendorf, Austria

Products: 241,112 sq ft HDPE Structured Liner (DBL MicroSpike® HighGrip), 100 mil - 75,347 sq ft HDPE Smooth Liner, 100 mil - 2,162 ft drainage pipes DA 160 (SDR 17) - 4,810 ft perforated PE pipes DA 160 (SDR 17)

## The Problem

Previously, only small upstream water sources were used for the 247 acre skiing area in Alpendorf, Austria. These sources each utilized three small water reservoirs. During winters of inclement weather, starting the tourist season was severely limited to a minor number of passable ski routes. Due to these conditions, the ski region's reputation as an attractive tourist destination was at risk, creating significant economic disadvantages/hardships. In order to overcome these challenges, it was clear that an investment in artificial snow technology was essential.

## The Solution

The Gsteng reservoir was constructed and filled with over 46,000 gallons of water in the fall of 2014. Providing a solid foundation for the production of

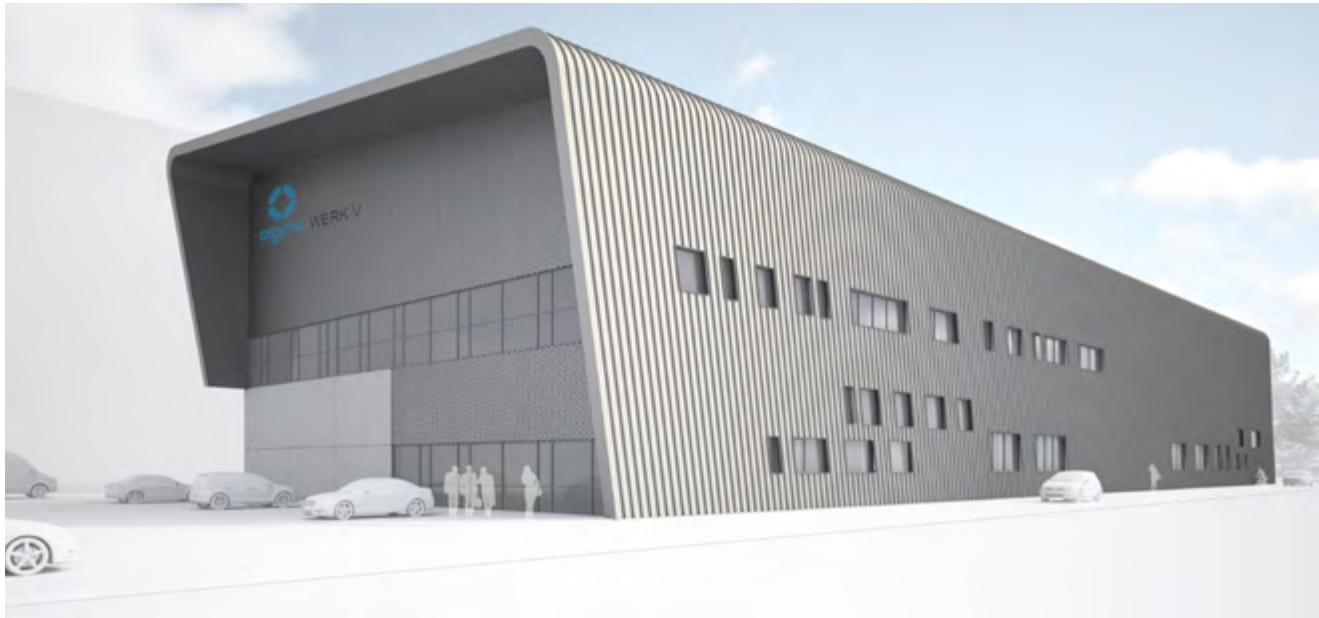
artificial snow, the reservoir will ensure that St. Johann will continue to be a thriving winter sports center. Utilizing Agru's MicroSpike® HighGrip geomembrane, the reservoir was constructed under severe weather conditions by the installation company, IAT (Kärnten).

Agru's MicroSpike® HighGrip Liner is a further development of the MST+/MSB liner that has proven to be a reliable choice over the last decade. The liner is an improvement on its predecessor through the configuration and optimization of the spike placement, as well as the placement of more than 20,000 spikes per square meter on each side.





## Agru Celebrates 50 yr. Anniversary of Fittings Production




## Agru Austria Highlights Environmentally Friendly Manufacturing

A methodical transition to electric forklifts by Agru Austria is reducing annual CO<sup>2</sup> emissions by more than 34 tons as well as cutting energy needs by more than 104.55 MWh a year. The company shared a photograph of a plant interior, noting, “In our new clean room plant 5, the injection molding machines for PVDF are already operating and produce PURAD products of highest purity.”

In a second external communication Agru Austria noted that, “Agru takes the respect for the environment very seriously. It is important to have the most state of the art technologies and



equipment in order to act as environmentally friendly as possible.” 




## Horizontal Directional Drilling Let Both Water and Traffic Flow



In projects of any size, there always seems to be at least one significant obstacle in the way. Last year in Austria, when a pipeline was needed to and

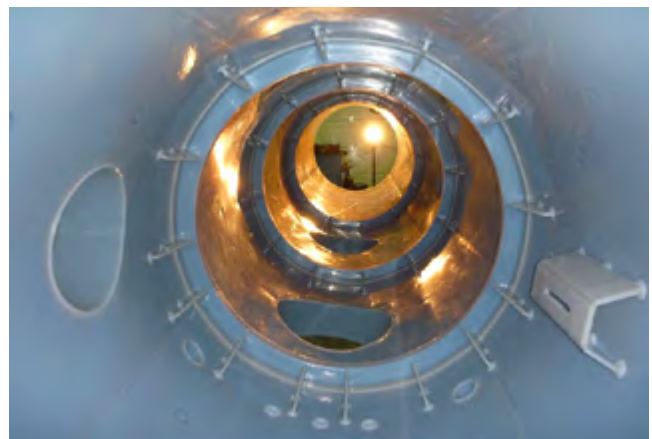
from a new drinking water reservoir in Traunleiten, that obstacle was a road. To complete the pipeline project without closing the road, the building contractor used a horizontal directional drilling technique and Agru Sureline® pipe. The horizontal directional drilling installation, as well as the trench installation, used 560 m SDR 17 Sureline® pipe utilizing a protective layer reducing scratches.

After the installation was completed, scratches of no more than 1.5 mm depth were found. That guaranteed the intactness and operational reliability of the inner PE 100-RC pipe. 


## New Fluoropolymer Products for Extreme Applications

Agru has expanded its semi-finished product line with fluoropolymer products that show excellent resistance against all kinds of chemicals. Their increased durability and extended maintenance intervals lead to reduced life-cycle costs.

These new products supplement the existing sheetstock product line perfectly. As a result Agru is now able to provide semi-finished products made from PVDF, ECTFE, FEP and PFA. The incorporation of these materials into the Agru semi-finished product line was facilitated by the company's acquisition of fluoropolymer production assets in Lenzburg, Switzerland, that were dismantled and reinstalled at Agru's facility in Bad




Hall, Austria.

The fluoropolymer line is available beginning in May 2016. 



## PE Pipes and Fittings for Higher Pressure Demands



It includes pipes, electro-fusion couplers and fittings with long and short spigots, such as stub flanges, tees, reducers and bends in dimensions from OD 63 mm to OD 500 mm. The standard and the customized fittings were designed according to state-of-the-art standards and fulfill all necessary performance requirements. 

Increased demand for pipes and fittings with higher pressure ratings led Agru to extend its supply range with PN 25 pipes and fittings.



For more information on Agru America and  
our innovative products, please reach out to a  
member on our team.



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