

**EN ISO 12956:1999 – Geotextiles and geotextile-related products –
Determination of the characteristic opening size (*)**

IMPORTANT: This information sheet is not a standard. The full text of the standard can be obtained from your national standardization body.

(* an amendment will be published in 2009)

Scope:

Method for the determination of the characteristic size of the openings of a single layer geotextile (or geotextile-related product), using the wet-sieving principle.

Principle:

A quantity of graded granular material (usually soil) is brought on the surface of the geotextile and washed through with water. The geotextile acts as a sieve and the granular material, which passes the geotextile, is analysed.

The characteristic opening size (O_{90}) of the geotextile corresponds to a specified size of the granular material passed (d_{90}).

Number of specimens: Five specimens are used. Three specimens are tested. If results vary by more than 25% from the average, the remaining two specimens are tested.

Results are expressed in μm , according to the formula $O_{90}=d_{90}$, where:

- O_{90} = the characteristic opening size
- d_{90} = particle size for which 90% (by mass) of the particles is smaller than that particle.