

**Application: Sludge Cap**

**Customer: Georgia Pacific Paper Mill, Nahoela, Alabama**

**Product: Installation of Sludge Cap**

### THE PROBLEM

As part of its acquisition of Fort Howard, Georgia-Pacific was responsible for increasing its capacity to retain sludge at its Nahoela Mill plant.

### THE DESIGN

The plan provided by The Fletcher Group was to install a layer of HP 570 geotextile over the lagoon, backfill it and then install geotubes so that sludges could be pumped into the "tubes" allowing the water to filter through while retaining the sediments.



### THE TEAM

Flint Industries, as the installer, and TC Mirafi, as the manufacturer, were selected to provide both the material and services.

### THE RESULT

The fabric was installed as a single layer in January 2001 in both extremely wet and cold conditions. Daily production rates of 4,000 to 6000 square yards were achieved using handheld sewing machines.

The site, originally covered in brush and stumps, required some clearing by the general contractor prior to installation of fabric. The water was removed from the site initially, but the area was soon "drenched" again. Installation was often accomplished while the crew waded through deep water.

After installation of the geotextile was completed and backfilled, geotextile tubes were deployed for dewatering pulp and paper sludge.



**OWNER**  
Georgia Pacific Corporation

**MANUFACTURER**  
T C Mirafi

**INSTALLER**  
Flint Industries Inc