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## TESTING FORUM

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### Note on Thin-Walled Sampling Tubes

ASTM D 1587, Thin-Walled Tube Sampling of Soils, notes that "adequate resistance to corrosion can be provided by a suitable coating." The purpose of this note is to report favorable performance that was obtained with one particular coating. Though there might be other equal or superior coatings available, a phosphate coating with the registered trade name of Endurion has been found to be extremely effective in providing corrosion resistance for steel tubes.

Endurion coating can be provided by several plating firms across the country using chemicals supplied by Lea Manufacturing Co., Chemical Finishes Division, 49 Waters Avenue, Everett, Mass. 02149 (617/389-7452). Names of local providers of this coating can be obtained by Lea.

Recently, 3-in. diameter samples of Boston blue clay more than seven years old were removed from their Endurion-coated steel tubes to provide material for a laboratory demonstration. The samples were extruded with the ease of fresh ones, and the inside walls of the steel tubes were as bright and clean as if brand new. There was no discernible evidence of bonding or corrosion despite the long period of storage.

—Bruce N. MacIver  
Geotechnical Engineering Division  
Stone & Webster Engineering Corp.

### Geotechnical Conference and Exhibit

A Geotechnical Conference and Exhibit on Design and Construction, said to be the first conference to cover all aspects of the state of the art of geotechnical engineering, will take place 6-8 January 1981 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco. Sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers, the conference will include sessions on drilled piers, chemical grouts, offshore foundations, slurry trench technique, subsidence, expansive soils, earth reinforcement, and means of reducing the costs of underground construction.

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Anyone seeking additional information on the conference may contact ASCE's Conventions and Exhibits Dept., 345 E. 47th St., New York, N.Y. 10017 (212/644-7545).

### Arid Land Resources Symposium

La Paz, Mexico, will be the site of an international symposium entitled "Arid Land Resource Inventories: Developing Cost-Effective Methods," which will take place 30 November-6 December 1980 in the Gran Motel Baja. The symposium is sponsored by the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations, the Society of American Foresters, the Mexican Subsecretariat of Forestry and Wildlife, and Mexican Association of Professional Foresters, the U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

Topics to be discussed include arid land characteristics, resource information needs, inventory problems, inventory planning, classification schemes, economical remote sensing and mapping systems, cost-efficient sampling schemes, efficient field measuring techniques, resource data analysis systems, and proposals for exchanging research. More than 95 papers by authors from more than a dozen countries will be delivered.

Anyone wishing further information about the symposium may contact H. Gyde Lund, U.S. Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station, 240 W. Prospect, Ft. Collins, Colo. 80526.

### Model Geotechnical Agreement

A set of "Model General Conditions" for use with letter agreements between consulting geotechnical engineers and their clients is available from the Association of Soil and Foundation Engineers. The document was developed by ASFE's business practices committee. Items addressed in the model agreement include right of entry, utilities, samples, invoices, ownership of documents, disputes, standard of care, limitation of liability, insurance, termination, and assigns.

Copies of the document are available for \$3.50 each from ASFE, 8811 Colesville Rd., Ste. 225, Silver Spring, Md. 20910. Quantity prices are available on request.

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