
SmartDitch

New studies indicate SmartDitch, a thermoformed, corrugated-plastic ditch lining system, dramatically improves irrigation water transport and delivery. Studies conducted by New Mexico State University found that SmartDitch improved water flow from 35 percent to more than 90 percent.

In central New Mexico, the Sandoval Reservoir is the main source of water for the Pueblo of Acoma and surrounding communities. It supplies the area with much-needed water for crops. Much of the ditch is lined with concrete, which has broken apart over the years.

Water loss through the dilapidated canal system reached 65 percent, wasting the already scarce supply of water in central New Mexico. SmartDitch was installed at Acoma in 2005.

Laboratory tests revealed the seepage rate of SmartDitch to be 10 cubic centimeters, per hour, per section. That translates to less than a half ounce of water in any given section of the ditch liner throughout a one-hour period—a few drops of water every hour.

Researchers said that when compared to a concrete-lined or earthen ditch, SmartDitch's plastic sections provided a near water-tight seal. The equipment could add up to more than 170 million gallons of water being saved each year in Acoma, they said.

SmartDitch, manufactured by Penda Corporation, is environmentally safe, nontoxic, completely recyclable and industry-certified for durability.

Penda is uniquely qualified to supply the market's changing demand for a wide range of world-class thermoformed plas-

tics solutions. For more information, e-mail info@smartditch.com or visit www.smartditch.com. Copies of both test results are available upon request by calling Mark Mahoney at (414) 274-3002 or by e-mail at mmahoney@insidesh.com.