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Installation guideline for Tensar TriAx geogrids within Working Platforms

This installation guideline applies to Tensar TriAX geogrids supplied by Tensar International or any of its appointed distributors. It provides a basis for Specifiers in the compilation of Specification Clauses particular to their own projects and it applies to both the permanent and temporary stabilisation of areas over which vehicular access is required.

Specifications for the products are available on request from Tensar International or a local Tensar Distributor.

Subgrade Preparation

For subgrades over which construction plant cannot safely traverse:

Tensar TriAx geogrids shall be laid directly on the site, having removed major protrusions such as rocks and tree and bush stumps and also having filled local hollows and depressions with the approved fill but otherwise retaining the vegetation and topsoil covering the site.

Or where site conditions permit:

The subgrade shall be levelled in accordance with Highway Agency, Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works, Specification for Highway Works, Clause 616.

Placing Tensar TriAx Geogrids

Tensar geogrids may be placed on the subgrade either parallel to the platform centre line or in the transverse direction.

If a second layer of reinforcement is specified within the fill, this geogrid shall be placed on the compacted surface of the approved fill.

Jointing Techniques

Simple Overlaps

This is the normal method employed on site as it generally presents the quickest and most economic means of making an effective joint.

The width of overlap between adjacent rolls is dependent upon the grading and thickness of the fill and the stiffness of the subgrade. The minimum overlap shall be 300mm and the maximum normally required shall be 600mm or as directed within the Contract Documents.

Overlaps must be maintained during the filling operation. This is generally achieved by placing small heaps of fill locally over the overlaps ahead of the main filling operation.

Granular Fill

A graded aggregate is required for the fill. A Type 1 or 2 sub-base or Type 6F1 capping, as described in the HA Specification for Highway Works, may be used, provided that it achieves the minimum of the value specified in the design. (For further information contact Tensar International)

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Placing Granular Fill

Lorry loads of approved fill material shall be tipped into stockpiles on fill and not tipped directly onto the geogrid/geocomposite. The fill stockpiles shall be spread by mechanical plant, which causes the aggregate to cascade onto the grids, such as an excavator bucket or dozer with an opening bucket.

Fill shall be spread in layers of not less than 150mm thickness. The maximum layer thickness shall be as specified within the Contract Documents.

In the stabilisation of wide and broad areas, fill shall be spread such that the first layer advances across roll widths rather than along roll lengths.

Care shall be taken to avoid damage to the grids. No traffic or site plant shall be permitted to travel on the geogrids prior to placing fill.

Compaction

Compaction of unbound materials for fill shall normally be carried out in accordance with HA Specification for Highway Works Clauses 802 or 612, for sub-base or capping, respectively.

Over exceptionally soft subgrade the degree of compaction applied to the lowest layer of fill may have to be reduced from the above DoT Clauses. Details shall be specified within the Contract Documents.

Contact Tensar International for specific advice.

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Tensar International Limited Tel: +44 (0) 1254 262431

Fax: +44 (0) 1254 266867 E-mail: sales@tensar.co.uk www.tensar-international.com

UK Head Office Cunningham Court Shadsworth Business Park Blackburn BB1 2QX United Kingdom



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Telephone 01489 893 596

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