

CASE STUDY

Geocomposite Drains

Project: Waipawa Log Yard
Date: End of August 2007
Client: Earthworx HB Ltd
Location: Waipawa, Central Hawkes Bay



Megaflo®

The Waipawa site was formerly an unused logging yard having been decommissioned many years ago. This site was chosen as a location for a new sawmill which required investment to upgrade the existing mill site for log processing. The area has a soft underlying clay foundation and along with a high water table creates a major drainage issue for any new development.

Geofabrics was approached by the contractor to suggest a solution to the problem of developing a hardstand area capable of supporting heavy logging trucks over soft wet ground. The solution was in two parts, the first, considering a subgrade strength CBR of 3%, suggested the use of a layer of bidim geotextile for separation and **Tensar geogrids** to provide support to the granular fill. The second part of the solution addressed the drainage problem through the introduction of **Megaflo®** panel drains that offer high flow rates at low hydraulic gradients. The high crush strength of **Megaflo®** was well suited for this heavy loaded pavement.

Once the soft fill had been removed it was found that the clay foundation was firmer than initially thought eliminating the need for the geogrid. The contractor then focussed on draining the site with parallel lines of **Megaflo® 170**. Separation of the clay and imported 600mm river run was achieved by using **bidim® A19** in 6m widths to minimise wastage.

Megaflo® 170 provided a fast response time for water removal and combined with **bidim® A19** resulted in a cost efficient option. The best feature of the site was collecting water which once had nowhere to go, but by using **Megaflo® 170** the site was quickly drained making it useable within 1 week for the 40 tonne logging trucks to access the new sawmill.



Megaflo® 170 exit into drain



Laying bidim® and river run

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