



## PARALINK INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

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- 1 Note should be taken of the PARALINK roll dimensions and weight by reference to the Data Sheet for the product. Standard PARALINK rolls are 4.5 metres wide, edge to edge of roll, and 4.7 metres, end to end of the central lifting tube. Standard roll length is 50 or 100 metres depending upon the grade although other lengths can be produced on request. Consequently roll weights can vary between 237 and 980 kg.
- 2 Care should be taken in the handling, lifting and positioning of PARALINK rolls. The weight of the rolls is such that mechanical lifting arrangements are necessary, the use of a lifting beam is recommended.
- 3 To ease the laying, and proper performance, of the PARALINK the formation on which it is to be laid should be flat without ruts and sharp undulations.
- 4 PARALINK rolls should be placed on the formation in the position shown on the Drawings where the length of PARALINK is shown to start and with the rolls as closely as possible to a position at right angles to the line of the PARALINK run. If the run is subsequently laid out of line it is difficult, because of the weight of the material, to reposition it. Accurate alignment of the roll at the start is therefore essential.
- 5 The roll should be un-wound a small amount by pushing the roll in the direction of the PARALINK run. The loose end of the PARALINK now exposed should be secured by weighting or pinning it to the formation. The roll should then be un-wound carefully ensuring that no slack or undulations occur in the PARALINK as it is laid. If these do occur they should be corrected immediately before proceeding. When the roll is completely un-wound the free end of the PARALINK should be hand tightened and secured by weighting or pinning.
- 6 The run of PARALINK should be reasonably straight and all strip elements should be flat and not twisted. No undulations in the PARALINK should be evident.
- 7 Where PARALINK is to be used in two layers at right angles to each other the edge joints will normally be simple butt joints. The Drawings should be consulted to verify this as certain circumstances may dictate otherwise.
- 8 Where a number of rolls are to be laid at one time the rolls should be placed in a slightly staggered formation to avoid the lifting tubes interfering with one another.
- 9 Where PARALINK is to be anchored by passing it round an anchorage block, such as a gabion basket, and back on itself, then the PARALINK should be pulled tight around the block and secured by pinning or weighting until fill around the block has been placed. Fill should not be placed on the return length of PARALINK until the length around the anchorage block has been secured by filling.

10 PARALINK is a structural material and, where joints are necessary in its longitudinal direction, such joints should be full structural joints capable of carrying the full design tensile force. This will normally be shown as a full anchorage bond length on the Drawings. The anchorage bond length depends on the type and characteristics of the fill in which the PARALINK is to be placed and this must be advised by the Designer. Where PARALINK is being used to span pile caps this length is unlikely to be less than the distance across three pile caps. Where PARALINK is being used to span subsidence voids it will depend upon the size of the void anticipated by the Designer.

11 Fill in immediate contact with the PARALINK should be placed and spread in the longitudinal direction of the PARALINK only. If this results in some undulation of the PARALINK then the secured end should be released and the undulation removed by pulling the free end of the PARALINK.

12 Under no circumstances should tracked vehicles be allowed to traffic over the laid, unprotected PARALINK.

13 As a structural material PARALINK will have been incorporated into the design by careful consideration of the properties of the material by the Designer and of its behaviour in the soil and under the loading conditions which prevail. No two circumstances are the same and practices adopted at one site may not necessarily be appropriate for another. The Drawings must be followed at all times and, where these do not give guidance on a particular matter, the Designer's instructions should be sought.

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