

## SECTION 306

### MECHANICALLY STABILIZED SUBGRADE - GEOGRID

#### 306.1 DESCRIPTION:

The work under this section shall consist of furnishing and placing a geogrid material within or below the aggregate base as shown on the project plans to mechanically stabilize the subgrade. Work shall provide a stabilized paving platform section on which paving materials can be placed. Geogrid type, fill thickness, pavement cross-section and associated details, shall be as shown on the contract drawings.

This specification shall be used for a construction platform and not as a means of mitigating swell (retaining moisture in subgrades) unless retaining moisture in the section can be assured by other means.

#### 306.2 MATERIALS:

The geogrid material shall be supplied in accordance with and conform to the material requirements of Section 796 and Table 796-4.

Other geosynthetic fabrics as described in Section 796 may be used in the cross-section to provide separation, filtration or drainage; however, no structural contribution shall be attributed to the geosynthetic materials other than the specified geogrid.

#### 306.3 PREPARATION:

The surface upon which the geogrid is to be placed shall be brought to a compacted condition, true to line and grade as directed by the Engineer or as shown on the plans. During this process any unsuitable soil or material shall be removed and replaced with acceptable material. The compacted surface shall be at the proper elevation as specified, shown on the plans, or as directed by the Engineer, for the placement of the geogrid. At completion of this phase, the material and surface shall be approved by the Engineer before proceeding with the next step.

The geogrid shall not be placed when weather or surface conditions, in the opinion of the Engineer, are not suitable for placement. This will normally be at times of wet and snowy conditions, heavy rainfall, extreme cold or frost conditions, or extreme heat.

#### 306.4 EQUIPMENT:

Mechanical or manual laydown equipment shall be capable of laying the geogrid properly and smoothly, according to the manufacturer's recommendations.

#### 306.5 GEOGRID PLACEMENT:

The geogrid shall be installed in accordance with the installation guidelines provided by the manufacturer or as directed by the engineer.

The geogrid may be temporarily secured in place with ties, staples, pins, sand bags or backfill as required by fill properties, fill placement procedures or weather conditions or as directed by the Engineer. A 12-inch minimum secured overlap is required at all joints (both transverse and longitudinal). At transverse joints, the preceding roll shall overlap the following roll in the direction that the aggregate base will be placed. The geogrid shall be rolled out along the alignment in the direction of advancing construction. All wrinkles and folds shall be removed.

The geogrid shall be tensioned by hand and anchored to the ground at the edges, including overlaps, and in the center of the roll at 30-foot intervals along the roll length, at the corners if applicable, or as directed by the Engineer. Securing locations may be reduced or eliminated by the Engineer if it can be shown that by careful installation the geogrid is adequately tensioned by hand and anchored by the placed aggregate in a progressive installation process as recommended by the manufacturer's representative.

Care shall be taken to ensure that geogrid sections do not separate at overlaps during construction. Placement of geogrid around corners will require cutting of the geogrid product and diagonal overlapping of the same to make sure that excessive buckling of geogrid material does not occur.

### **306.6 PLACING AND COMPACTING AGGREGATE FILL:**

The aggregate shall be back dumped and spread in a uniform lift maintaining the design aggregate thickness at all times. The aggregate material shall be bladed onto the geogrid in such a manner that the aggregate rolls onto the grid ahead, by gradually raising the dozer blade while moving ahead.

When underlying substrate is trafficable with minimal rutting, rubber-tired equipment may pass over the geogrid reinforcement at slow speeds (less than 10 mph) when integrally-formed geogrids are used. This shall not be allowed with coated geogrids. Sudden stops and turning by trucks shall be avoided while on the grid. A minimum loose fill thickness of 6 inches is required prior to operation of tracked vehicles over the geogrid. Turning of tracked vehicles should be kept to a minimum to prevent tracks from displacing the fill and damaging the geogrid.

Any ruts which might develop during spreading or compacting the aggregate shall be filled with additional aggregate rather than bladed from surrounding areas. Placing additional aggregate into the rutted areas insures that the design aggregate thickness is maintained.

Aggregate base shall be compacted as specified in Section 310. Aggregate base material shall not be mixed or processed on the geogrid. The aggregate base material shall be premixed at the stockpile area or another location in a manner approved by the Engineer. Aggregate base materials will be sampled for acceptance after premixing and prior to placement on the geogrid material. Contamination and segregation of aggregate base materials prior to or during placement shall be minimized.

### **306.7 REPAIR:**

Any roll of geogrid damaged before, during and after installation shall be replaced by the contractor at no additional cost to the owner.

Proper replacement shall consist of replacing the affected area overlapping geogrid at least 3 feet beyond all sides of the affected area.

### **306.8 PAYMENT:**

Geogrid reinforcement will be measured by the square yard in-place. Measurement will be to the nearest square yard. No allowance will be made for material in laps.

The accepted quantity of geogrid reinforcement, measured as provided above, will be paid for at the contract unit price per square yard, which price shall be full compensation for furnishing all labor, material, and equipment, and performing all operations in connection with placing the geogrid as shown on the project plans. No payment will be made for geogrid reinforcement rejected due to either contamination or damage due to either the fault or negligence of the contractor.

Paving platform found deficient shall be removed and replaced.