

Slope stabilisation for major landscaping works

Project: Glasgow Transport Museum
Client: Glasgow City Council
Contractor: Gross Max Landscape Architects
Product(s): TERRAM™ Geocell & TERRAM™ Geocomposite 1B1

With over 1 million annual visitors expected to pass through the doors of the Riverside Museum in Glasgow's Harbour district when it opens to the public in 2011, the new home of Glasgow's Museum of Transport is set to become one of the city's most popular visitor attractions. The purpose-built Riverside Museum, will be an exceptionally accessible venue, providing a much more stable environment for Glasgow's significant Transport and Technology collections, including exhibits stored materials not currently on public display.

The challenge for awarding-winning UK landscape architects, Gross Max was to create an external landscape that would complement the symbolic and functional design of the exhibition layout, ensuring an aesthetically pleasing external environment that would also accommodate outside events, including transport related events, and endure the high volume of visitors to the museum.

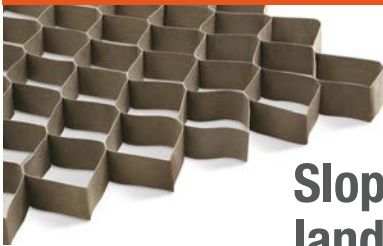
Leading the design, Gross Max specified TERRAM Geocell, and TERRAM 1B1 as the preferred geosynthetic solution for the landscape's construction. The use of geosynthetic materials such as TERRAM Geocell provided a robust and environmentally sound ground engineering solution, while enhancing the aesthetics of the landscape.

The landscaping surrounding the 7000m² exhibit area comprises grassed slopes, at different levels, stabilised at the surface with horizontal geocell layers filled with a free-draining granular material.

The newly-formed slopes were stabilised against erosion with geocell filled with a high-quality topsoil and a low-maintenance turf (see figure 1).

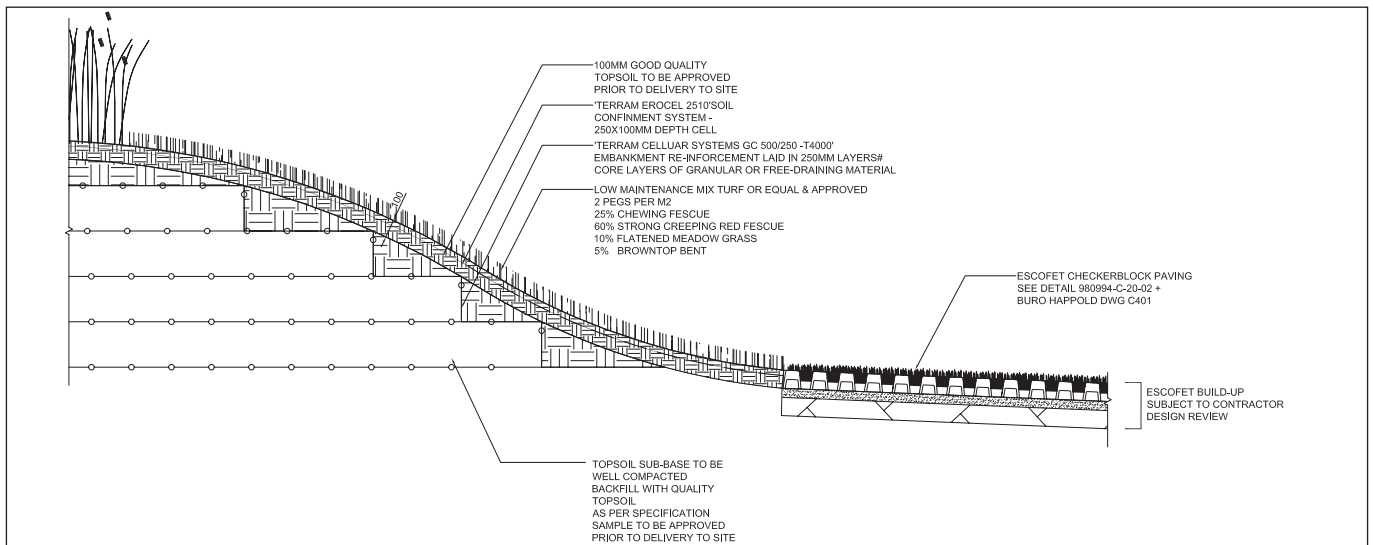
Another important element in providing a sustainable and environmentally friendly landscape for the museum was the strict compliance with SUDS regulations in urban developments. Current legislation in Scotland dictates that any urban landscaping development must ensure that it includes designs for adequate and sustainable drainage such that it does not contribute to an increase in surface water entering the main drainage systems. Being fabricated from a geotextile means that water can drain from one cell to another as the geocell's walls are permeable. Equally, oxygen can reach the whole of the rootzone leading to healthy vegetation.





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The design drawing for Terram Geocells from Gross Max landscape architects



Terram Geocells, 220mm x 220mm, 3m x 6m panels, first layer



Terram Geocells, 220mm x 200mm, 3m x 6m panels, second layer



Terram Geocell 250mm x 150mm, 7m x 5m panels