



Tata Steel UK Limited

Electric Arc Furnace (EAF)

Stage 3, Arboricultural Method Statement

2483055

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report has been produced in relation to the Tata Steel EAF part discharge of Condition 67 and provides working methods and protection measures to minimise impacts on trees.

The work was commissioned by Tata Steel UK Limited (hereafter 'Tata Steel' or 'the Applicant') and was prepared by Robert Knight, on behalf of RSK Biocensus, in July 2026. It used tree data and plans completed by RSK Biocensus, as presented in the Stage 1 and 2 Arboricultural Impact Assessment Report, which formed part of the hybrid planning application (application reference P2024/0711) submitted to Neath Port Talbot Council (NPTC) in November 2024 and approved in March 2025.

A version of this 'Stage 3 Arboricultural Method Statement' was submitted in July 2025 and approved in September 2025 to partially discharge Condition 67 (application reference P2025/0523, pursuant to P2024/0711) in relation to Reserved Matters Application 1: New Substation Compound Works.

This version of the 'Stage 3 Arboricultural Method Statement' is submitted as part of Reserved Matters Application 2: Scrap Metal Handling Facility (pursuant to P2024/0711) to partially discharge Condition 67.

This report includes the details from the previous reports mentioned above so that impacts associated with the wider EAF development and the Reserved Matters 1: New Substation Compound development are presented as one alongside those associated with the Reserved Matters Application 2: Scrap Metal Handling Facility development.

1.2 Purpose of the Report

This arboricultural method statement has been prepared using the data and plans referenced above and seeks to describe the approach which will be taken towards protection of retained trees on site, including:

- timing of events;
- specifications of barriers and ground protection to protect retained features;
- precautions that will be taken when working near trees;
- details of site supervision; and
- details of an auditable system of compliance of tree protection measures and supervision.

The efficacy of this report relies on it not being viewed purely as a planning document, but as guidance for construction near trees to be followed before and during the project. Because of this, it will be circulated to all relevant parties involved with site management and works, including demolition contractors, construction managers, technical managers, landscape architects, drainage engineers, and any other disciplines that will be involved in groundworks near trees. The contents within will be checked with them, and they will be satisfied that the guidance is workable from a

buildability point of view and accept the guidance must be followed. No liability is accepted for recommendations that cannot be implemented unless they are highlighted prior to submission for planning.

1.3 Overview of Scheme

1.3.1 General

To secure the long-term sustainability of its UK operations, the Applicant has obtained planning permission for the construction and operation of a new electric arc furnace (EAF) based steel production facility (hereafter ‘the EAF Development’) located inside the existing Port Talbot Steelworks at Margam in South Wales. The location of the Red Line Boundary (hereafter referred to as ‘the Site’) is provided in Figure 1.

The Applicant has secured planning permission for the EAF Development by way of a hybrid EIA development planning application (P2024/0711) to Neath Port Talbot Council (NPTC) under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended). Planning permission has been granted for the following description of the EAF Development:

“Hybrid planning application: full planning permission for the demolition of existing buildings and structures, partial infill of the BOS lagoon, and construction of a new electric arc furnace-based steel production facility (1 no. arc furnace, 2 no. ladle furnaces). The development includes chemical/material storage and transfer infrastructure and pipework and cabling (above and below ground), buildings, fume and dust treatment plant, water treatment facility and material handling systems. Electrical control rooms and power infrastructure. Offices and ancillary facilities together with new and amended roads and rail lines, landscaping and green infrastructure, lighting, hardstanding, CCTV, drainage and associated engineering operations.

Outline planning permission (with all matters reserved except for access and landscaping) for the construction of a scrap metal handling facility and associated scrap yards, scrap processing facility, new substation, underground and overground electrical infrastructure, and new and amended roads and rail lines, landscape and green infrastructure, lighting, hardstanding, CCTV, drainage and associated engineering operations.”

The description of the description of the approved Reserved Matters Application 1: New Substation Compound Works was as follows:

“Application for the approval of reserved matters (appearance, scale and layout) pursuant to planning permission P2024/0711 for the development of preliminary works and a new substation compound. Works to include earthworks, construction of working platforms, surface water management and drainage infrastructure, new electrical infrastructure (including ducting), new and improved internal access roads, 4 no. transformers, 1 no. generator, GIS building, amenity/welfare facility, water tank, storage/workshop buildings, boundary treatments, lighting, CCTV, noise mitigation measures, parking, creation of hardstanding and associated engineering operations.”

The description of the Reserved Matters Application 2: Scrap Metal Handling Facility is as follows:

“Application for the approval of reserved matters (appearance, scale and layout) pursuant to planning permission P2024/0711 for the development of a scrap metal handling facility and associated scrap yards. Works to include earthworks, surface water and drainage management, construction of concrete pads for storage of scrap materials, new and improved internal access roads, rail infrastructure upgrades including single track railway and rail receipt facilities, amenity/welfare facility, workshop building, electrical equipment and infrastructure, boundary treatments, lighting, CCTV, noise mitigation measures, parking and creation of hardstanding and associated engineering works.”

1.4 Supplied Documents

This report was prepared using data collected on site and the following reports and plans:

- TCE.12358A-CV-3005-TR-30011_PR_20211103_UTM (base map)
- MARPT-BHK-02-ZZ-DG-A_130051.dwg (proposal)
- EAF-LAW-00-XX-M3-A-000001_Site Plan Master - Floor Plan - Proposed Site Plan - Outline Phase 2 Copy 1 (proposal)
- EAF-LAW-25-XX-M3-A-000250_UNIT 25 - Floor Plan - UNIT 25 - Scrap Handling Area (proposal)

2 SUMMARY OF TREE REMOVALS AND IMPACTS

2.1 Summary

This document is focused on the requirement of Condition 67, to support part discharge of that condition relating to the scrap facility proposal (reserved matters application 2). For this element of the works no tree features are required to be removed.

This report includes details of:

- Where the Reserved Matters Application 2: Scrap Metal Handling Facility proposals may interact with retained trees and that is what is shown on the tree protection plan (Appendix 1). **No trees are required for removal.**
- Where structures associated with Reserved Matters Application 1: New Substation Compound Works structures may interact with retained trees, as shown on the tree protection plan (Appendix 1). **No trees are required for removal.**
- Where there are tree removals associated with the wider EAF Development, as shown on the tree protection plan (Appendix 1).

2.1.1 Wider EAF development outline application:

- The arboricultural impact assessment report, compiled by RSK Biocensus highlights that six features are likely to be required to be removed or partially removed for the wider EAF Development. These are all category C features.
- These losses are relating to the ditch side groups in the southern fields which comprise predominantly Willow and Hawthorn groups of low value from an arboricultural perspective, many with sections of low level shrubs and reeds with no trees. As well as four groups to the north, close to the existing steel works infrastructure.

Table 2: Tree removals

Tree id	Species	BS5837:2012 Categories	Removal/ Impact
G008	Willow (<i>Salix sp.</i>)	C	Removal required (1465 m ²)
G009	Hawthorn (<i>Crataegus sp.</i>) Willow (<i>Salix sp.</i>)	C	Removal required (2330 m ²)
G010	Willow	C	Removal required (2516 m ²)

Tree id	Species	BS5837:2012 Categories	Removal/ Impact
	(<i>Salix sp.</i>)		
G011	Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>)	C	Removal required (4265 m ²)
G012	Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>) Willow (<i>Salix sp.</i>)	C	Removal required (2190 m ²)
G013	Willow (<i>Salix sp.</i>) Blackthorn (<i>Prunus spinosa</i>)	C	Removal required (2893 m ²)

2.1.2 Retained Trees

Of the retained trees, the majority are located well away from proposed work areas or are within areas where the cable route will pass through, but by means of horizontal directional drilling (HDD) beneath the trees. The entry and exit pits have not been detailed yet, but these must be positioned well outside of all RPA's (where trees are to be retained).

2.1.3 Root Protection Areas (RPA)

If during demolition/construction it comes to light that retained trees have RPAs that may be impacted by proposed construction work, arboricultural supervision will be required in order to assess the impacts and any remedial action required.

Details of proposed drainage, and other underground services have yet to be provided. All these elements must be installed without any damage to retained trees by locating them outside of all RPAs.

2.1.4 Facilitation Pruning

No pruning is expected to be required.

If pruning to facilitate the project comes to light this will be agreed with the project Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) (with input from an Appointed Arboricultural Consultant (AAC) where necessary) during the on-site meeting prior to be completed.

3 PROTECTION OF RETAINED TREES

3.1 Tree Protection Measures

Fencing

Prior to the commencement of any demolition or construction, tree protection fencing (TPF) is to be erected to protect the retained trees as identified on the tree protection plan (Appendix 1). Note that the proposed TPF as shown on Appendix 1 is associated with works for the Reserved Matters Application 1: New Substation Compound Works proposals only.

The position of the TPF has been calculated by taking into account recommendations set out in BS5837:2012, which aim to protect the RPAs of all retained trees.

Where the terrain or other obstacles will not allow the fencing to be placed as shown on Appendix 1, appropriate deviations from the position will be acceptable providing that the RPA is protected adequately. Position of fencing will be checked at the on- site meeting.

The specification of the TPF will consist of the Heras 151 Steadfast System (Appendix 2), with a rear stabilising brace and secured to the ground with ground pins. The fencing should be maintained to ensure it remains rigid and fit for purpose.

All-weather signs are to be attached to the fencing to highlight its designation as a CEZ. The signage to be used has been included in Appendix 3. This will be printed out, laminated and fixed at appropriate intervals, for example every third panel.

The area inside the TPF is known as the Construction Exclusion Zone (CEZ) and is to be regarded as sacrosanct. The importance of the CEZ and restrictions of working within it will be communicated to all staff through the induction and periodical toolbox talks. The following prohibitions will apply within the CEZ:

- no storage of plant, equipment or materials;
- no vehicular or plant access;
- no fire lighting;
- no handling or spillage of any chemical substance;
- no action likely to cause localised water logging; and
- no changing of ground levels (Unless agreed in writing with the LPA).

Once the TPF has been installed the ECoW/AAC, will conduct an onsite inspection before any demolition/construction works begin.

Under no circumstances will it be altered or dismantled without the permission of the AAC.

Any site offices, welfare units, and storage areas must respect the trees and their root protection areas, shown in pink on the supplied plans. These will be sited outside tree root protection areas.

3.2 Supervision

3.2.1 Appointment

An arboricultural consultant will be appointed by the principal contractor well in advance of any site works so that adequate resource can be allocated to the project.

The role of the appointed arboricultural consultant will be to provide advice to the ECoW, when deemed necessary, on tree-related matters and tree protection elements. The project ECoW will undertake supervision prior to and throughout the course of demolition/construction, with advice from the AAC when necessary. The ECoW will be responsible for keeping an auditable record (Appendix 4) of all arboricultural related issues and circulating this record to all relevant parties. However, they will not be responsible for instructing external contractors or managing them in any way.

3.2.2 Initial site meet

A site meeting will take place between the ECoW/AAC, construction/demolition contractor (CC) and local planning authority (LPA) tree officer (as necessary) before any preparation works start on site. This report will inform the agenda of the meeting and all parties will agree that the methods provided, tree removals, works, protection, dates for supervision and inspection intervals are feasible and reasonable.

3.2.3 Supervision

A record will be kept, detailing each element of supervision required and this will need to be kept and circulated by the ECoW.

4 TIMING OF OPERATIONS AND WORKING METHODS AROUND TREES

The timing of operations is essential if trees are to be effectively protected. Site operations are planned in the following order to help ensure this.

These are site wide recommendations that will be adopted as necessary/applicable for each phase of the electrical works planned.

4.1 Pre- Demolition/Construction Phase

- 1) Principal contractor (PC) to appoint arboricultural consultant (AAC) and brief them on the extent of the scheme, timescales and details within this method statement.
- 2) The principal contractor will also appoint an arboricultural contractor to undertake the physical removal of trees. All contractors appointed must hold the appropriate qualifications, accreditations, licences and insurance cover to undertake these works and the PC will assume all responsibility for ensuring compliance to this aspect.
- 3) An initial site meet will be held between the ECoW/AAC, the construction/demolition contractor (CC) and local planning authority (LPA) tree officer as required. Tree removals are to be marked up, pruning agreed, services and build lines set out, tree protection measures and methodology will all be agreed for each phase of development.
- 4) **Install Tree Protection Fencing according to Appendix 1 *Tree Protection Plan (TPP)* for each phase of development, and continued on a phase by phase basis, for the duration of the project.**
- 5) **On no account will any demolition/construction commence until tree protection fencing is in place around the retained trees within each active phase of development.**

4.2 Main Construction Phase

- 6) All staff and subcontractors working on site will attend a site induction and an element regarding tree protection will be included within this induction.
- 7) This report and accompanying plans will be freely available to all on site and those responsible for site management must familiarise themselves with this document.
- 8) The induction will include the simple instruction that trees must not be damaged and materials not discharged nearby them where they may flow towards their roots.
- 9) The following precautions will also be observed and relayed to all operatives working on site during the induction:

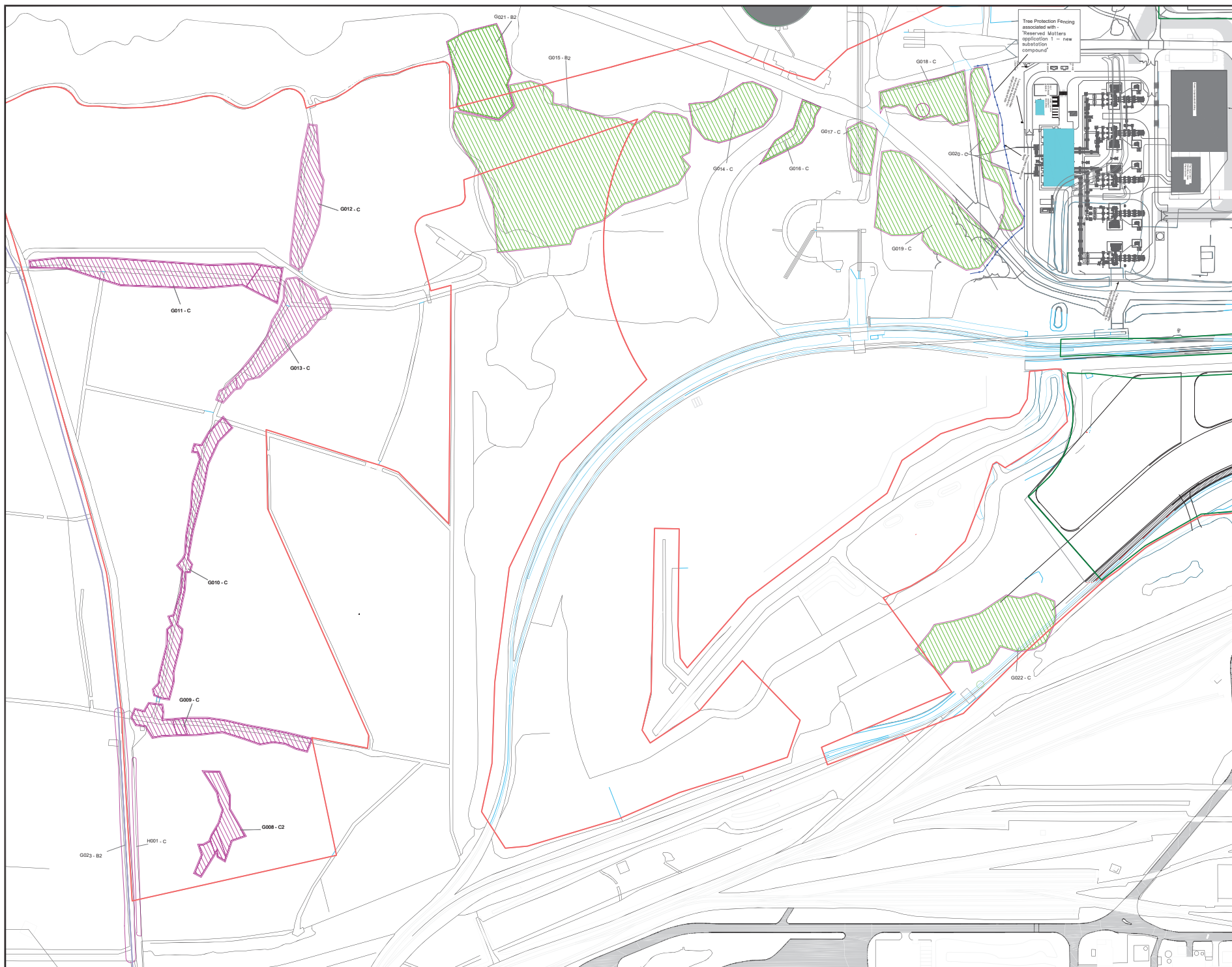
- Any damage to trees their protective elements will be reported to site foreman and re-instated immediately, to ensure that it remains effective in protecting the area around trees.
- No materials, fuel, large volumes of water or chemicals to be discharged or mixed where they are likely to flow toward trees in the event of spillage.
- Wheel wash stations will be self-contained units where they are sited near retained trees or resultant water will be directed well away from areas where they may flow toward tree root areas.
- Any concrete mixing stations will to have protective bunds constructed around them to ensure containment of resulting debris or contaminants.
- Any spillages of potential contaminants (e.g. cement, bitumen, chemicals) near trees must be reported immediately to the project manager or arboricultural consultant and action taken to either flush the soil with large volumes of water or create a bund to avoid contaminants flowing toward tree protection areas.
- No materials or spoil will be stored against fencing.
- No fires to be lit on site.

4.3 Post Construction Check

- 10) A final post works inspection will take place, and recommendations be given for any remedial tree works if required.
- 11) Tree protection fencing can be dismantled and removed from site.

5 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: TREE REMOVAL AND TREE PROTECTION PLAN



- Legend**
- Groups Retained
 - Groups Removed
 - Trees Retained
 - Trees Removed
 - Root Protection Area
 - Tree or tree group number
 - Tree Protection Fencing (TPF)
 - Proposed Scrap RM Boundary
 - Proposed Full Planning Boundary
 - Proposed new buildings Reserved Matters 'Application 1' - new substation compound works
 - Group removals associated with wider EAF development



Rev	Date	Author	Drawn	Check	Rev

RSK
biocensus
EXPERTS IN ECOLOGY

Tata Steel UK Ltd.

EAF

TREE PROTECTION PLAN

Drawn	CHK	140725	Checked	JB	140725	Reviewed	JB	140725
Scale	1:500	Orig Scale	AD	Units	METRES	Project No	2483595	Drawing No

Drawing No: 1
Scale: 1:500
Max: 3

APPENDIX 2: TREE PROTECTION FENCING

heras® 151 and 151steadfast system

round top panel with anti-climb mesh
high visibility orange blocks
steadfast strut
anti-tamper coupler
fully tested and certificated
health and safety compliant (HSG 151)

Having invented the original concept of temporary fencing back in the 80's, Heras is proud of its reputation as a true innovator.

Our latest solution for securing site perimeters and protecting the public has been phenomenally successful since its launch, and offers the ultimate market leading temporary fencing system.

Our safest, most stable and most secure system ever offers you total peace of mind, and unrivalled performance.

You can be sure that by installing the Heras® 151 Steadfast System (patent pending), you are conforming fully to the latest HSE Guidelines on "Protecting the Public" from the dangers of construction sites.

Heras has campaigned widely over recent years against falling product standards, and has consulted closely with senior figures across the construction industry to ensure our products meet and exceed your expectations. This latest innovative system means you should never again need to compromise on:

- Value for money
- Quality
- Performance
- Design
- Ease of installation.

All backed up with unbeatable service from our nationwide branch network – deal direct with Heras – your safety first fencing supplier.

Fully Tested and Certificated

- Extensive independent testing by Sheffield Hallam University has proved the performance of the system, resisting wind speeds well in excess of gale force.
- The HSE has confirmed that the system meets all of the guidelines in the HSG 151 Publication "Protecting the Public - Your next move".
- In turn, therefore, we can offer customers a certificate of compliance when they purchase this system from Heras.
- It is your responsibility to ensure the system is correctly installed and fixed. For help and advice, contact your nearest branch.



151 system

The key components of the Heras 151 system are as listed.

Round Top Panel with Anti-Climb Mesh

- The strongest panel on the market, with 3 sides formed from a continuous length of tube, eliminating the top corner weld, often the weakest point in traditional panel design.

High Visibility Orange Block

- Permanently coloured with a durable UV stabilised "hi-viz" casing and filled with solid high density concrete.
- Effectively highlights any potential trip hazard.
- Beware of cheap imitations – painted coatings will chip and peel.

Heraslock® Anti-Tamper Coupler

- Providing additional security, these couplers can only be removed with the use of the specialist tool.

151 steadfast system

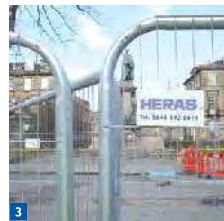
The Heras 151 steadfast system incorporates all the benefits of the 151 system, with the addition of the patented...

Heras® Steadfast Strut

- The unique design of this clever strut dramatically increases the stability of the fence.
- The strut fits neatly within the high visibility block allowing a neat and compact solution, and acts as an integrated anti-lift device.
- 3 additional fixing holes incorporated into the design allow for soil pins and thunderbolts, dependent on ground conditions.

Optional Extras

- Heras® Steadfast Safety Strips with reflective coating can be fitted in minutes to highlight site dangers.
- Front support brackets allow vastly improved performance on softer ground conditions and fit quickly and easily into the high visibility blocks.



ROUND TOP PANELS WITH ANTI-CLIMB MESH



1. Front stabiliser.
2. High visibility footblocks.
3. Round top panel.
4. Steadfast strut.
5. Anti-tamper coupler.
6. Optional steadfast safety strips.
7. Anti-climb round top panel with steadfast struts to increase stability.

Our latest solution for securing site perimeters and protecting the public has been phenomenally successful since its launch, and offers the ultimate market leading temporary fencing system.

APPENDIX 3: SIGNAGE



**PROTECTIVE FENCING. THIS
FENCING MUST BE
MAINTAINED IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE APPROVED PLANS
AND DRAWINGS FOR THIS
DEVELOPMENT.**



**TREE PROTECTION AREA
KEEP OUT !**

(TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990)

**TREES ENCLOSED BY THIS FENCE ARE PROTECTED BY
PLANNING CONDITIONS AND/OR ARE THE SUBJECTS OF A
TREE PRESERVATION ORDER.**

**CONTRAVENTION OF A TREE PRESERVATION ORDER MAY
LEAD TO CRIMINAL PROSECUTION**

**ANY INCURSION INTO THE PROTECTED AREA MUST BE
WITH THE WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE LOCAL
PLANNING AUTHORITY**

APPENDIX 4: ARBORICULTURAL SUPERVISION LOG

Arboricultural Site Monitoring Record

Site Address:
Planning Permission ref. and relevant conditions:
Appointed arb consultant details:
Owner/agent details:
Site foreman details:
Council tree officer details:
Relevant Plan References:
Summary of arb supervision required:

Relevant Plan Clips:

Arboricultural Site Monitoring Record

Date of visit	Details of supervision, fence checks or any other tree issues	Issues to rectify	site foreman informed (Y/N)	Date rectified	Pictures or Pic ref.

APPENDIX 5: 3D CCS SPECIFICATION EXAMPLE

THE GEOWEB® SOLUTION

TREE ROOT PROTECTION (TRP) SYSTEM

Used extensively in civil engineering construction for over 30 years, the GEOWEB® system is a three-dimensional structure that:

- provides strength to confined soils
- distributes loads laterally, not vertically
- reduces point loads
- reduces compaction of the subsoil

Manufactured from high quality, high-strength polyethylene with a textured surface and perforated walls, GEOWEB® cells with selected infill control shearing, lateral and vertical movement, and reduce subbase depth requirements.

The GEOWEB® system is a low impact development (LID) solution with exceptional load-bearing capabilities and environmental benefits. The system has a long history of solving heavy load support problems for roadways, road base support, parking lots, road shoulders, ports, trucking/intermodal terminals and railroads.

COST BENEFITS

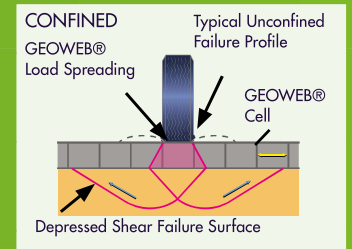
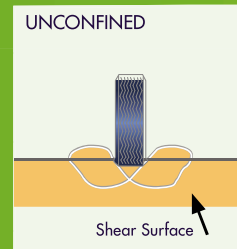
The GEOWEB® TRP system is an economical solution for reducing construction vehicle impact to the tree root zone compared with other methods. Once installed, the system has minimal-to-no visibility.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

With permeable infill (topsoil/vegetation, aggregate, sand), perforated GEOWEB® cell walls offer environmental benefits:

- water infiltration
- lateral movement of air and water
- water and nutrient migration
- promotes root development

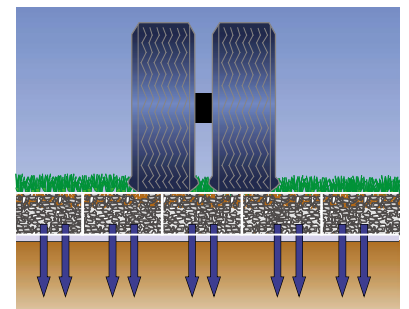
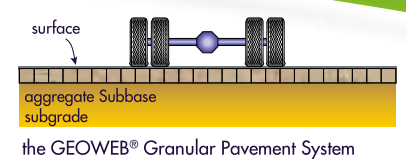
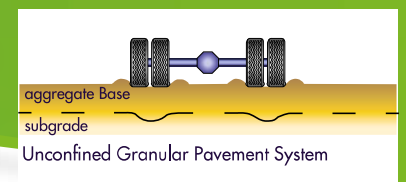
The tree root protection system can be a temporary or permanent solution.



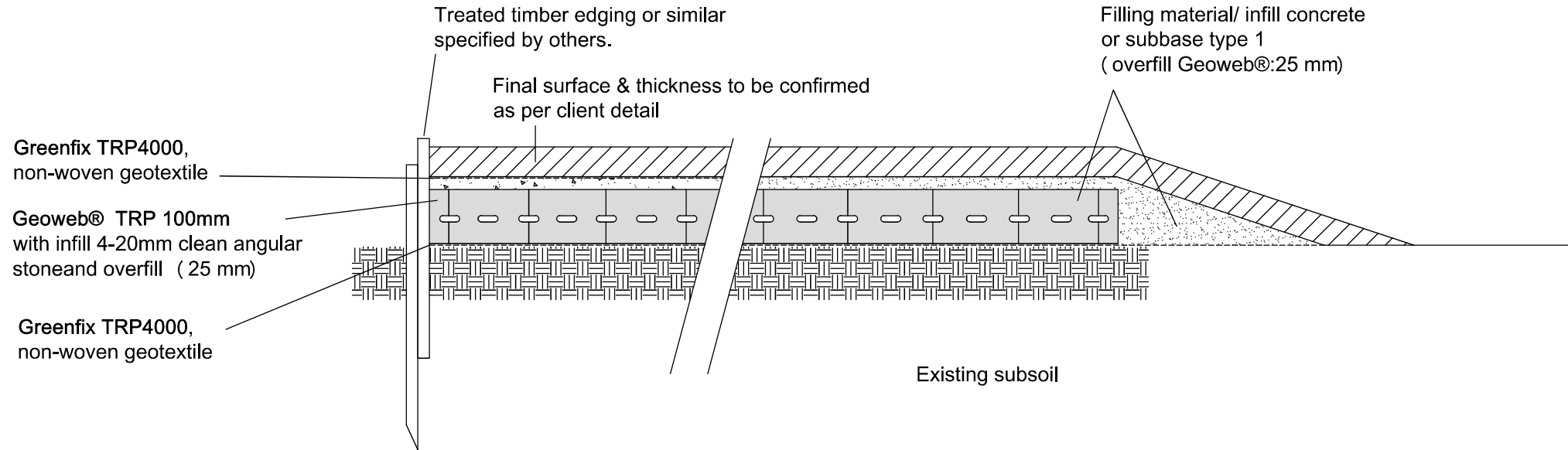
LOAD DISTRIBUTION

By distributing and bridging applied loads, the GEOWEB® TRP system reduces vertical stresses that are typically applied to the underlying soil and root zone.

The GEOWEB® system is ideally suited for tree root protection applications where weak subsoil or no-dig restrictions exist.



**Standard/ Generic detail
transition ramp from existing levels**



Note: 3 or 4 cells filled with concrete or subbase type 1

Adjacent Geoweb units to be joined with Atra-keys.

Project: Geoweb® transition ramp
Distributor: Greenfix soil stabilisation and erosion control
Date: 12.11.2015

Not to scale



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Greenfix Soil Stabilisation and Erosion Control Ltd

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