



Saturated Clay Subgrade with very low bearing capacity

Project: Temporary Work Platform Using CombiGrid 3030 – 109 Ossington Ave

Contractor: Ossington Consortium

Challenge: The contracting consortium building a 3 storey condominium was faced with a very soft, saturated clay subgrade to support their heavy

equipment whilst in the foundation installation phase of the build at the corner of Ossington Avenue and Argyle St., Toronto. The native soil was consistently saturated (being well below the water table of the area), and the wet weather conditions required around-the-clock sump use to de-water the site. A solution was needed to temporarily support the excavators at the foundation depth that would not require

any more (very costly) excavation and removal of native material.

Solution: CombiGrid 3030 was chosen to build a floating aggregate platform at the excavated grade. A 'U'-shaped platform/roadway was required to allow the excavators access to all the foundation sections. The geogrid was hand-placed and aggregate was flung from the



CombiGrid 3030 laid out in U shape platform



Aggregate flung and compacted to ensure interlock and compaction

road grade onto the prepared and overlapped CombiGrid. To ensure optimal interlock and compaction of the aggregate bed, light vibratory plate compactors were used to compact the first two 200mm lifts, with the last 200mm (a 600mm total depth) being compacted with a light roller compactor. This ensured that the strength and confinement offered by the CombiGrid was optimized without heavy compaction equipment rolling or heaving the saturated subgrade. The completed platform performed as expected and was left in place to further reinforce the future concrete forms of the underground parking garage.



Completed work platform supporting heavy equipment at excavated depth