Invisible

Structures, Inc.

Paving Choices That Protect and Enhance the Environment

Invisible FAX

Via Fax #:

Date:
To:
From: Bill Bohnhoff
Re: Greenstreak PEC-MAT Evalulation vs Slopetame2

Message: The PEC-MAT product is perhaps the best erosion control product on the market - in my opinion, next to Slopetame2 of course. We never "talk down" our competitors products, but we do point out the differences between products - especially as they relate to specific project requirements.

PEC-MAT Strengths

- It is heavy to keep it in place on a slope (essentially a "hard mulch"), and can hold seed under the fibers from loss by rain, or flowing water,
- Fibers are bonded together for somewhat consistant openings thru mat,
- Mat is flexible to sag down as soil is removed from below by water,
- Mat is "permanent" with good UV inhibitors
- Mat will withstand up to 20 feet per second water velocity (once grasses are very well established) which is very high velocity for vegetation cover.

PEC-MAT Weaknesses

- Product is open to soils below product - This allows the potential for rain drops to impact soil (dislodging soil and seed). Soil "containment" is not possible with open structure.
- Bonded Fibers limit stretch to fill gaps from soils eroding below mat. Water can also gather and collect under the mat to create a continuous channel(s) of erosion under the product. Some soils can erode 10" plus during a single rain storm.
- Mat sits on top of seeded soil (most common) and will not become integrated with root zone until grass creeps over and into the fibers, or the mat becomes filled with soil via air or water, with grass plant growing upwards into mat.
- Flexibility of fibers can allow mat to sag or be pulled down face of slope, away from anchor stakes, etc.

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Slopetame2 Strengths

- ST2 is a true 3-dimensional containment device, protecting soil fill materials within the product, and the soils below the product from removal by water (due to bonded fabric).
- ST2 interlocking structure creates one unified mat across the entire slope surface, with stretching much lower than PEC-MAT, and the diagonal grid spreading forces more quickly over larger areas than vert/horiz patterns.
- ST2 mats can be made in rolls with widths up to 2.5 m (8.2 feet) wide by custom length to meet site conditions, for rapid installation.
- Smaller size rolls can be prefilled with grass sod prior to placement on the slope.
- The rings and grid are already below soil surface and quickly become integrated with vegetation roots as they develop.

Slopetame2 Weaknesses

- When seeded, ST2 must have additional mulch protection layer, or binder, placed over the seed until germination is complete. ST2 is not a heavy or protective mulch type product - it is a soil/slope protection product.
- Weight of the ST2 is greater (empty) than PEC-MAT (3.7 lbs/sy vs 1.8 lbs/sy).

Cost Comparison

I have no data as to the cost of PEC-MAT to do a comparison, but as the design function is slightly different - heavy mulch vs. slope surface containment and erosion protection, a variation between prices should be expected and acceptable by clients.

If any other thoughts come to mind I will pass them on to you, but this should account for the major factors between Slopetame2 and other forms of erosion control/mulch type products. Call if you have any further questions. Thanks.