

New MSE Retaining Wall Technology for Highway and Bridge Construction – The Grid Strip®

Derek Essery, P. Eng., Technical Director, Engineering Products, Atlantic Industries Limited (AIL), dessery@ail.ca



Figure 1. Completed Abutment, Spring Hill Junction, NS



Figure 2. Completed Abutments, Bowness Park, Calgary, AB

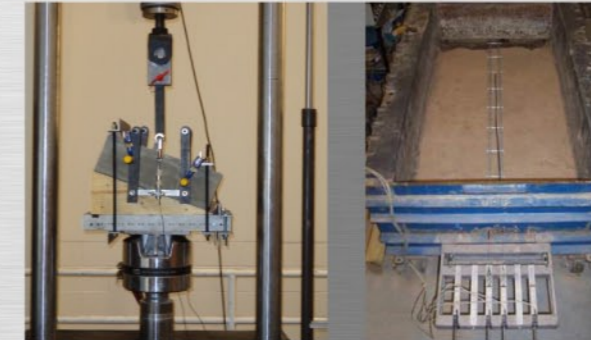


Figure 3. Combination Tensile & Shear Test



Figure 4. Frictional Pull-Out Test

Testing Completed:

- 1) Full Scale Connection Tests
- 2) Combination Tensile & Shear Test
- 3) Frictional Pull-Out Test in Sand and Gravel
- 4) Connection Weld Test

Installation of Spring Hill Junction, NS Abutment



Figure 5. Installing first row of concrete panels on leveling pad



Figure 6. Grid-Strip ladders shown skewed around piles



Figure 7. Another look at Grid-Strip ladders



Figure 8. Adding first lift of soil



Figure 9. Compacting soil



Figure 10. Finished abutment

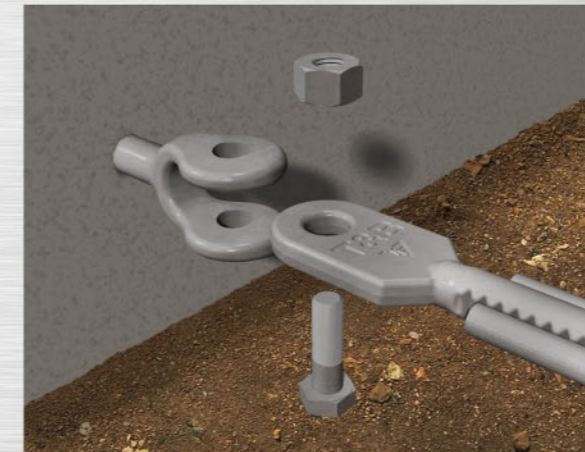


Figure 11. Regular Connector; nuts face up for easy installation/inspection



Figure 12/13. Flip Pin Connector; quick up-turn-and-down insertion speeds up installations



The new Grid-Strip® Soil Reinforcement System simplifies MSE wall installation for the contractor. Without cutting, the standardized Grid-Strips® can be skewed around obstructions or within unique geometries common in bridge abutment and roadway applications.