



J & S Franklin Limited

MEDIA INFORMATION

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For Immediate Release

Subject: Camp Bastion wins British Construction Industry Awards, - Judges' Special Award.

Camp Bastion wins British Construction Industry Awards, 'Judges' Special Award'

The award is "For a building or civil engineering project of any size which the judges consider to be particularly inspirational, in one or more aspects".

Huge engineering, managerial and logistical challenges were overcome by the Royal Engineers to complete this vast military base – the equivalent of a small town – in just 4 months. All in an inhospitable and barren environment, ahead of schedule, under budget and under fire – an astonishing achievement.

As a part of this project 16,000 metres of DefenCell were deployed for the purpose of protecting two highly vulnerable Ammunition Supply Points in two separate locations one in Camp Bastion in Helmand Province and another at Kandahar Airfield.

The ordering and deployment of DefenCell was processed under an 'Urgent Operational Requirement'. From the first phone call to dispatch of the first load was 2 weeks; the order was completed in approximately 6 weeks.

Construction started in February 2006 and was completed after just 6 weeks, and involved unskilled locally recruited labour as well British Forces personnel.

DefenCell was used to build over 1000m of protective berms, 5m wide on the base, 1.5m wide on the top and 4m high.

Local materials were used in construction and its load bearing qualities enabled the use of heavy machinery, to speed up the deployment.

DefenCell's geocell design, along with the latest geotextile construction technology provides strength, versatility and simplicity. A member of the construction team commented, "It was so easy to use, and quick to put in, that we were able to let the local civilians build the wall." Another source said, "DefenCell is really flexible, we were able to cut it to shape, to create corners and even adjust the width of the wall, by winding in the centre cells."

16000 linear meters of walling, weighing 50000 kgs was delivered in only 4 x 40' ISO containers, thereby greatly reducing the logistical footprint compared to other products. A single 40' ISO container will hold over 2.5 kilometres of DefenCell T2 walling, 1.5m high and 1.25m wide.

The DefenCell team are proud to be part of this magnificent achievement and would like to add our congratulations to the men and women of the Royal Engineers who made this happen.





DefenCell is still deployed in Afghanistan and continues to meet the exacting requirements of operational troops and equipment protection in a hostile environment.

About The BCI Awards

The 20th Anniversary BCIA and Prime Ministers' Awards results

The BCI Awards in 2007 once again brought a huge entry representing over 180 of the best projects in the UK, and those abroad for which UK Companies had a significant input. The Awards are rigorously judged, with each of the 30 UK short-listed projects visited by members of the judging panel, and their project teams quizzed on site. Teams representing the International shortlist of six projects were interviewed in London and visits made for the judges to glean further information. It is well known that the BCI Awards are not a design competition - while excellence of architectural or engineering are factors, these Awards are all embracing with the judges considering many aspects from procurement, performance against prediction, quality of design and construction, safety, innovation, sustainability, usability and benefit to the community all factors among many others listed in the Awards application form.

For more details go to: http://www.bciawards.org.uk/awards/awards_2007.asp

About DefenCell

The DefenCell Wall System has been developed to enable force protection walls to be built very rapidly in operational conditions. Successive layers of DefenCell are built to the desired height. Walls of any thickness or length can be produced to suit ballistic and vehicle impact requirements. A wide range of locally available fill materials can be used, including wind blown sand, and easily compacted to give DefenCell™ structural strength and integrity.

DefenCell is made from strong, durable and internationally proven Terram geotextile material; which is lightweight, non-metallic, man portable and compact. The outside of the walls are painted to suit local conditions or treated to meet customer requirements.

DefenCell can be used in a wide variety of roles including walls, berms, sangers, roadways, bunkers, vehicle barriers and flood defences.

High resolution images are available on request.

Editors Notes

J & S Franklin Ltd was founded in 1946, and remains a compact family-run business, with over 20 staff in two locations, offering a wide range of military and civil equipment to the British Ministry of Defence, and many overseas Governments, International Relief Agencies and the United Nations. J & S Franklin offers a complete "turnkey" service, combining rapid response, confidentiality and experience to provide economical and effective solutions, on a global basis.

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