

# Presto's helping hand

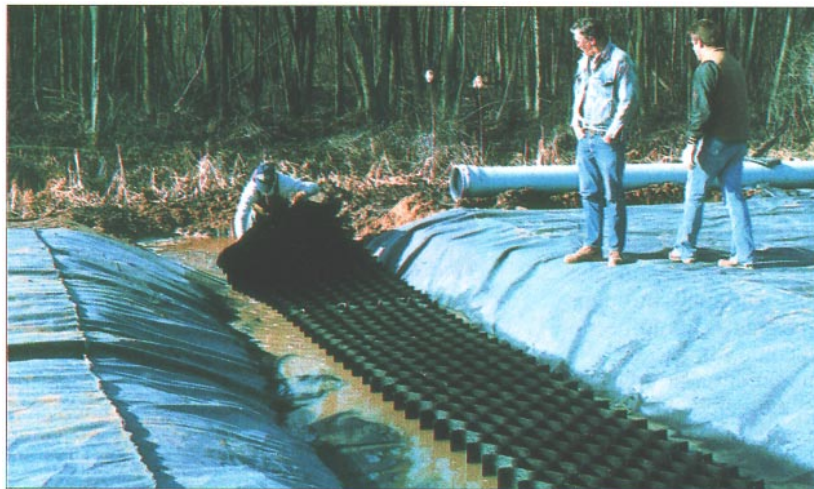
**A** 30M-DEEP organic deposit posed a unique problem during the upgrade of a road in Kent County, Michigan. The 32km gravel-surfaced secondary road required upgrading to 'all seasons' capacity due to increased traffic.

This involved widening the road by about 3m, surfacing with flexible pavement and ensuring that the upgraded road was of a standard to allow it to remain open to traffic all year without weight restrictions.

Presto's Geoweb cellular confinement system was specified for the area over the organic deposit. This is an expandable honeycomb-form structure made from high density polyethylene and is designed to produce a stiff base with high flexural strength.

Under load the system generates powerful lateral confinement forces and high soil to cell wall friction. It provides a bridging action and greatly improves the long-term load deformation performance of granular fill materials.

The installation process began



The Geoweb cellular confinement system is an expandable honeycomb-like structure made of high density polyethylene

with the gravel surface of the road being graded to one side. A thin lift of sand was added on both edges of the old road to provide a working surface, and a non-woven geotextile placed over the entire section. An excavation was made for an equalisation tube to be placed from one side of the road to the other, and the Geoweb was then

placed along the centre line of the excavation and filled with an open graded crushed aggregate.

An expanded slag sub-base was then placed, followed by a layer of non-woven geotextile, topped by a further layer of expanded slag. The road was then surfaced with asphaltic concrete.