Project Description

The railroad intermodal facility in Salinas, Mexico desired a less-expensive alternative to the commonly-used concrete structure for building good quality platforms in order to support their heavy container loading/unloading cranes. The GEOWEB® soil confinement system is a proven alternative to concrete pavement.

Design Criteria

The loading for the intermodal facility was called for cranes with wheel loads of 728 kN (160,000 lbs). The design evaluation was based on that loading and a contact pressure of 760 kPA.

- Subgrade CBR strength was factored at 10%.
- Geotextile separation was not required because of the firm subbase.
- A commonly-used crushed limestone with ≤ 20% fines was used for the base and infill material.

The GEOWEB® Solution

A depth of 42 cm (16.5 in) of concrete was originally specified, but the GEOWEB GW30V6 (6-inch) allowed a replacement of the concrete with 8 cm (3.1 in) of compacted aggregate over the GEOWEB system. An asphalt tack coat was placed over the aggregate infill material as a surface stabilizer.