



In December 2013, Concrete Canvas GCCM* (CC) was specified to line drainage ditches along a 7.8km stretch of the A465, between Brynmawr and Tredegar in South Wales.

The ditches form part of the A465 Dualling Project, which is part of the National Transport Plan, and will contribute to upgrading links to businesses and communities whilst improving safety. Primarily commissioned by the Welsh Government, the scheme is under Highways Agency management with Carillion appointed as main contractor who subcontracted Walters UK to complete the principle earth works and pre-earthworks drainage. ARUP provided the design detail specifying CC.

CC8™ was used to line one main ditch and various smaller ditches on site. The main ditch is approximately 250m in length, 7m in width at the crest, and 3m wide at the base. Bulk rolls were deployed using an excavator and spreader beam before being batched to length using hand tools. Subsequent layers were overlapped by 100mm in the direction of the water flow and screwed in place at 150mm intervals. The CC was installed at a rate of approximately 50m² per day with a 3 man team (two of the crew laying the material and a third fixing it in place), with a total of 4,250m² installed.

Prior to specification of CC, stone pitching with a paving slab invert was considered as a means of lining the ditch, but this would have resulted in a considerably longer install further delayed by weather conditions. In comparison, CC provided a significantly faster and easier installation negating any programme disruption due to the weather.











































