

Project Info



15 / 09 / 18



CC5™ Batched Rolls



28m²



Longitudinal layers



Rotterdam,
The Netherlands



ProTanks Trade BV



CC5™ installed
to provide weed
suppression between
rail tracks in Rotterdam.



Completed CC rail track weed suppression

In September 2018, Concrete Canvas® (CC) GCCM* was used to provide weed suppression between and next to railway tracks at the Rotterdam World Gateway (RWG) site in Rotterdam, The Netherlands.

RWG is one of the largest container terminals in the Netherlands, and the world's most modern and innovative container terminal. All processes are extensively automated at the terminal, including the use of Optical Character Recognition (OCR) cameras. OCR camera technology recognises text characters within an image, transferring and storing the text into editable and searchable data. Each container that passes through the terminal has a unique number which is scanned by the OCR cameras to track the rail traffic.

A solution was required to provide weed suppression around the rail tracks to prevent any obstruction of the trains' unique numbers in order to ensure the OCR system works effectively.

ProTanks Trade BV, who acted as material provider and contractor on the project, worked with the client, Rotterdam World Gateway, to come up with a solution.

*Geosynthetic Cementitious Composite Mat





OCR cameras and track prior to works



Removal of stones and rocks from trackside prior to install



CC easily accommodated track infrastructure



Edge of CC buried in anchor trench and covered with stones and small rocks



Completed installation section



Completed section following hydration



Completed CC installation

The requirement for weed suppression and maintenance works generally require the rail line to be taken out of service for the duration of the works, costing the client time and money. Due to the need to work so closely to the tracks (owned by ProRail), the chosen solution had to be easy to transport on site, easy and fast to install with minimal disruption to train traffic, and must not damage the rail tracks. As a result, solutions such as shotcrete and poured concrete were not implementable. However, by installing Concrete Canvas, future maintenance for weed control would no longer be necessary and the client would see significant cost savings due to the short time required on site for installation.

The CC material was delivered to site in batched rolls, laid longitudinally alongside and between the tracks, and jointed at overlaps and secured at the edges using Clearfix adhesive sealant.

The installation was carried out in one day by just two people, with 4 stretches of 7m of CC5 material installed to provide weed suppression where required.