

TRENCH DAMS & ANTI-SEEP COLLARS

Bedding and backfill around a conduit or pipe is a typically permeable material, which can create a preferential pathway for water to flow along the outside of this conduit or pipe (i.e. "piping"). This can erode the bedding material and cause pipe failure, and even sinkholes and surface failures. Trench Dams or Anti-Seep Collars are typically designed for placement around the pipe or conduit to prevent erosive flow, but can often be ineffective without proper compaction, or if the dam or collar cracks and becomes breached. AquaBlok is a Composite Bentonite Aggregate that supports the exterior of a pipe, serving as a bedding aggregate. Once AquaBlok is hydrated, it swells and seals, but never fully hardens like concrete. Instead, it remains flexible, conforming tightly to complex shapes to effectively stop piping, even under seismic conditions.



BENEFITS:

AquaBlok in Geotechnical Applications

- Composed of high-quality Wyoming sodium bentonite coated over an aggregate core.
- Forms a reliable, extremely low permeability seal (10-8 to 10-9 cm/sec).
- Highly durable, withstands freeze-thaw cycles, will rehydrate.
- Provides the structural integrity of a crushed stone aggregate.
- Easy handling & targeted delivery; no mixing required and minimized product loss.
- Can be installed in wet and dry environments, often eliminating the need for dewatering.
- No need for compaction, inter-lift filling or tilling/mixing with parent soil.
- Reduces labor and installation costs while enhancing safe trench construction.

For technical support or questions regarding geotechnical engineering applications, please contact
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