

INTERVIEW WITH

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STRATA INC

OUR ROADS AND HIGHWAY

SECTOR IS PROGRESSING RAPIDLY.

Kindly brief our readers on Strata's history and group's presence in the roads and highways sector?

Strata Inc.(a part of 130 year old Glen RavenGroup) has been operating in US for more than 2 decades in the geosynthetic field and has emerged to be one of the largest selling knitted grid in USA market. During this period, it has earned many accolades for quality of its products, services and technical prowess. The products are exported to many countries across the world.

Strata Geosystems (India) Pvt. Ltd.is a JV company with Strata Inc., U.S.A. and started its Indian operations in 2004. From the modest beginning with construction of one R S wall structure in the year 2005, Strata India has come a long way. Today, it is working on more than 150 structures across the country simultaneously and has achieved numero uno status in R S Wall industry in India. Adherences to impeccable quality standards and timely delivery have been Strata India's USP.

Are we ready to say that India's Roads and Highways sector is progressing and is on its way to meet the international standards?

Not accounting for dampening effect for last few years' slowdown, our Roads and Highway sector is progressing rapidly. Systems are falling in place. Government, Regulatory/Facilitating bodies, Financial Institutions, Consultants, Developers, General Contractors etc. are bringing requisite change in their processes, manpower, machinery, systems etc. While all these changes are taking us to betterment, reaching pure international quality standards will



We are renowned for our quality, durability and cost effectiveness and manufacture conforming to strict international quality standards"

still take some more time.

Which of your product has seen the most demand by to developers?

We have been manufacturing Uniaxial and Biaxial Geogrids in India since 2009 and the product has become largest selling one in last 5 years. In 2012, we introduced Precast Concrete Arch System in Indian market which offers distinct advantages of Saving time, Providing Impeccable Quality and providing unmatched aesthetics. This system has earned approvals from consultants and



NHAI. While 1 structure already stands completed, 4 more are under construction in different NH projects. During the current year, Strata India put up a manufacturing facility for StrataWeb™ (Geocell) which has also garnered excellent acceptance from Indian Geotechnical Fraternity. All in all, every product launched by us has been well accepted and it will be unfair to single out any one of them.

Could you brief our readers on the StrataWeb™ and StrataBlock™ products? Also can you explain in short about the concept of soil reinforcement using StrataGrid™?

You can call StrataWeb™ as 3-Dimensional geogrid. It is a soil confinement system which helps in erosion protection of slopes and is a very good alternative to stone pitching. It also helps in improving bearing capacity of poor soils. Thus, usage of one or two layers of StrataWeb™ can resolve a lot of geotechnical problems as well as can help us conserve precious natural resources.

StrataBlock™ is a Reinforced Soil Wall system where StrataGrid™ acts as soil reinforcement systems and concrete blocks act as fascia. Since grids cover 100% of soil area in this system, this is considered to be the safest system amongst presently available alternatives. Frictional connection between blocks and grids are comprehensively tested in various leading laboratories of the worlds. StrataBlock™Wall System has proved to be a major hit amongst contractors and developers due to safety, speed and ease of working it offers. Strata India holds record of con-

compression, it is weak in tension. Think of a soil heap. If it is poured from top in free flowing condition, it would assume certain slope. Now, if we want the same mass to stand vertical, we need to introduce some amount of reinforcement. Grids play a role of reinforcement in this vertically standing soil mass.

Which are the main application areas which were kept in mind while constructing Strata's BEBO® Precast Arches?

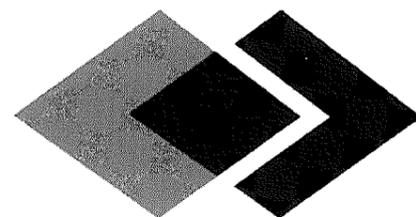
Bebo® Arches have been extremely successful in Canal Crossings, Waterway Crossings, Via Ducts, Oil/Gas Pipe Line overpasses etc. As explained earlier, Speed of Construction, Impeccable quality control of precast and aesthetics provided by arches are the USPs of this system. World over more than 1000 Bebo structures have been serving nations for decades.

Could you brief our readers on few premium projects that Strata have undertaken?

Strata India, while completing its 10 years in Indian Highway industry has been a proud partner on many prestigious National Highway, State Highway, Railways and PWD projects. During this tenure it has been able to work with almost all major highway contractors, developers and consultants. While Strata has always attached equal importance to all projects it has worked on, R S Wall project on NH-8 between Surat and Vapi where it could achieve completion of 105,000 SQM of R S Wall in just 6 months with Block Fascia is worth a mention. Similarly, a project in Bihar where Bebo® Precast Arch Structure has been used on NH 30 for IOCL Gas pipeline Crossing cannot miss an attention.

structing more than 1 Lac SQM of R S walls (16 structures) in just 6 months on NH-8 in Gujarat. It also has to its credit the largest R S Wall workof 2.75 Lac SQM involving 40 structures.

Grid's function in soil reinforcement is similar to the function of steel reinforcement in RCC. While soil can be considered good in



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