

ACCROPODE[™]

"The benchmark in single-layer armouring technology"





"Sharing skills and experience to achieve successful projects"

ACCROPODE[™] Single-layer system for breakwater armouring

Background

The ACCROPODE[™] is the first single-layer artificial armour unit developed by Sogreah (ARTELIA). Widely used, this technology has proved to be successful on a great number of breakwater projects worldwide. Technical assistance is systematically provided on all ACCROPODE[™] projects.

Hydraulic stability

Good hydraulic stability shown in extensive physical scale-model testing.

Specified stability coefficients at design stage:

- Hudson's design K_D values:
 - 15 on trunk sections
 - 11.5 on roundheads
- Van der Meer stability number

 $N_{S} = H_{S}/(\Delta D_{n50}) = 2.7$ where $H_{S} = Significant$ wave height $\Delta = Relative mass density$

 $D_{n50} = Nominal diameter$

These coefficients are valid for armour slopes from 3H/2V to 4H/3V. However for breaking waves and a seabed slope greater than 1%, lower values shall apply.

Proven structural robustness

During the development stage, finite-element methods and fullscale drop tests were conducted to check the sturdiness of the unit using ordinary mass concrete.

Experience on many projects has demonstrated the excellent behaviour of the ACCROPODE™.



2D tests



3D tests

Concrete strength specifications for placing the units

| 1 m | Min. compressive strength Fc at 28 days | Min. tensile strength Ft at 28 days |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| Unit volume $\leq 4.0 \text{ m}^3$ | 25 MPa | 2.5 MPa |
| Unit volume > 4.0 m ³ | 30 MPa | 3.0 MPa |

Drop tests conducted at development stage





Form ready for casting





Hauling large units with a low trailor



Plan layout of casting arrangement



Placement in progress

Armouring being completed



Practical formwork

• Quick stripping and assembly of the two shells

Simple casting

- Min. area required to cast one unit of height H: 1.50H²
- Min. compressive concrete strength recommended at stripping: 6 MPa for units \leq 4 m³, 7 MPa for sizes between 5 m³ and 15 m³ and 10 MPa for sizes >15 m³
- Typical daily standard production rate: one unit per mould

Storage and handling

- · Forklifting is effective for handling small to medium size units
- Large units are handled by sling
- ACCROPODE[™] units can be stored one on top of the other
- Min. area required to store 10 units on one level: 8H² where $H = ACCROPODE^{TM}$ unit height
- Min. compressive concrete strength recommended for handling units: 15 MPa for units \leq 4 m³, 20 MPa for sizes between 5 m³ and 15 m³ and 25 MPa for sizes > 15 m^3

Fast placement

Principle: each unit placed in a random attitude to obtain the specified packing density, using GPS.

Proper packing provides adequate coverage on breakwater slope: $\frac{Na}{A} = \emptyset V_{accr}^{2/3}$ where

- Na = Number of armour units A = Unit area of breakwater slope
- \emptyset = Packing density V_{accr} = ACCROPODETM unit volume

Placement rates (using cable cranes)

| | Average placing time per unit |
|---|-------------------------------|
| $0.8 \text{ m}^3 \leq \text{Unit volume} \leq 3.0 \text{ m}^3$ | 5 to 8 mins |
| 4.0 m ³ \leq Unit volume \leq 9.0 m ³ | 9 to 12 mins |
| Unit volume ≥ 12.0 m ³ | 12 to 20 mins |

NB: higher rates can be obtained using hydraulic placing equipment with small size units.





Successful applications completed in 48 countries





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