



MEDIA RELEASE

Australian-made ELCOROCK[®] addresses another shoreline protection problem

Thursday September 4, 2008. The world leading ELCOROCK[®] shoreline protection system from Geofabrics Australasia Pty Ltd (Geofabrics) is being applied to address the coastal foreshore erosion and management project of the Busselton beach in Western Australia.

The foreshore is approximately 3.5 kilometres in length and required a solution that provided community access to the beach area, weed management, re-vegetation and the provision of facilities along the foreshore reserve.

The project is nearing completion and involves the construction of three ELCOROCK[®] sand-filled geotextile container groynes to replace the deteriorated timber groynes that were no longer able to protect the foreshore promenade from storm damage.

Located approximately 200 kilometres south of Perth, the Busselton beach is a popular holiday destination and a premier seaside and coastal playground in an area that includes the Margaret River wine region.

Commenting on the Western Australia project, Geofabrics ELCOROCK Business Development Manager Simon Sheldrick said, "The local community required a multi faceted solution that was cost effective, environmentally compatible, aesthetic in appearance, safe for beach users, durable, stable and long lasting."

"Specifically, ELCOROCK[®] needed to perform the same function as the original timber groynes whilst maintaining, nourishing and stabilising the beach sand and prevent its loss, erosion and damage from coastal storms."

"Geofabrics has extensive international and national experience addressing and successfully providing innovative coastal and foreshore solutions."

The ELCOROCK[®] shoreline protection system was developed in Australia over the past 20-years to answer the growing need for environmentally friendly marine, coastal and estuarine solutions.

The ELCOROCK[®] shoreline protection system comprises extremely robust geotextile containers designed to be filled with sand (or similar material) to form a stable, durable coastal structure.

"The ELCOROCK[®] units are based on ELCOMAX[®], a specifically developed geotextile to enhance performance in coastal applications – including resistance to abrasion and U.V. exposure," said Simon Sheldrick.

“This provides for maximum durability in harsh environments. The sewn seams are uniquely configured to maximize the mechanical characteristics of the geotextile and provide long term durability in a wide range of environments. The use of specially developed vandal-deterrent layers enhance the system further.”

As shown on the website www.elcorock.com, the ELCOROCK® shoreline protection system was developed in Australia over 20-years ago, and has been used extensively in coastal projects around the world, with some of the key projects include –

- Jumairah Beach United Arab Emirates (constructed 2003)
- Maroochydore Beach Groynes (constructed 2001-2003)
- Bournemouth Reef United Kingdom (currently under construction)

As part of the ELCOROCK® shoreline protection system, Geofabrics provided on site training and specialist equipment to install the system neatly, efficiently and to specific requirements and specifications.

“Geofabrics is delighted to provide another Australian community with a cost effective and innovative solution that will successfully address their foreshore management issues and also provide a long lasting benefit for the residents and holidaymakers that enjoy the picturesque area so much,” concluded Simon Sheldrick.

Issued by Geofabrics Australasia Pty Ltd

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Notes to the editor: Geofabrics Australasia Pty Ltd manufactures and supplies specialty products and technical knowledge to the civil infrastructure market, primarily the road construction, mining and waste containment markets. Geofabrics Australasia Pty Ltd also supplies niche solutions for use in coastal protection and golf course construction applications.

Geofabrics Australasia Pty Ltd is an Australian textile manufacturer, with distribution channels for their products through Australasia, South-east Asia, the Middle East and the Indian sub-continent.

For information on the ELCOROCK® shoreline protection system visit the websites – www.geofabrics.com.au or www.elcorock.com.