



**Temporary Works  
forum**

Promoting best practice in  
the construction industry.

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## **PLASTIC OUTRIGGER MATS/SYSTEMS TWf SAFETY BULLETIN**

The Temporary Works Forum (TWf) is aware of concerns raised by several members regarding the stated capacity of some plastic outrigger mats/systems. A working group is currently looking at this and hopes to provide some guidance in the new year.

In the meantime, it is recommended that members treat the stated capacities of plastic outrigger mats/systems with caution, even where they are supported by seemingly complex testing or analyses.

The assessment of outrigger mats and ground bearing to adequately spread outrigger loads should be undertaken by suitably competent and experienced persons, who may wish to consider:

- the experience and track record of the supplier;
- any assumptions made in respect of the ground conditions, material properties and the method of analysis;
- compatibility with the site investigation and interpretation, e.g. acceptable ground bearing pressure;
- acceptable deflection.

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### **Notes for Editors**

Established in 2009, the intent of TWf is to encourage open discussion of any matter related to temporary works, for the good of the industry overall. The Forum is open to anyone, individual or corporate, working within the industry and sharing this intent. The TWf's objectives are: the advancement of education; the saving of lives; the advancement of science; avoidance of disasters.

TWf welcomes new members, whether clients, main contractors, specialist contractors, temporary works designers, permanent works designers, proprietary equipment suppliers, academia or other interested companies and/or individuals.

For details, please contact the TWf Secretary: [secretary@twforum.org.uk](mailto:secretary@twforum.org.uk)

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