

## Special Mix Resists Impact & Abrasion

5 years ago the Otterburn military training facility called for extensive upgrading of 60km of blacktop roads for strengthened and widened carriageways with passing places and junctions, the construction and upgrading of 20km of stone tracks, 46 hard-standings from which to fire guns and rockets, and 6 stoned hide areas for support vehicles. In addition a new central maintenance facility and large parking area was provided and all this is located within the Northumberland National Park, an area noted for its beauty and ecological diversity.



For this reason, disturbance of the land had to be kept to an absolute minimum and the road-side verges and any unavoidable damage to the ground had to be fully reinstated using the original soils seeded to an approved specification.

The project team, including White Young Green, Mowlem Civil Engineering and Tarmac, started the project in late Spring 2003 with a completion date of Spring 2005.

A site-batched concrete plant was set up for the required 40,000m<sup>3</sup> of concrete. The plant was specially modified with a microsilica weighing pot. Material was supplied via road tankers from the Elkem storage facility in Boston, East Anglia.

The concrete used was Toproc SY. In total some 18,500m<sup>2</sup> of concrete containing microsilica was used. This high strength microsilica concrete has extremely high abrasion and impact. A coloured Toproc mix in Raven Grey reduced the visual impact of the new surface. To date, all the concrete is performing well.

■ For more information:  
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