

Issue Eleven

R

MONTHLY MINI
REVIEW



JONES OF OSWESTRY

SPECIALIST DESIGNERS AND
MANUFACTURERS OF HIGH
QUALITY HIGH DURABILITY
STEEL PRODUCTS FOR THE
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY



1



2



3

Every year since 1947, the city of Oslo has shipped a Christmas tree to the people of London as a mark of gratitude for British support of Norway during World War II.

Taking pride of place in Trafalgar Square, the specially selected 50-60 year old spruce towers some 20m (65ft) high and is decorated in traditional Norwegian style with 500 white lights. An iconic seasonal image that is famed worldwide, the tree is an important focal point for carol singing and yuletide events in one of London's busiest and most prominent squares.

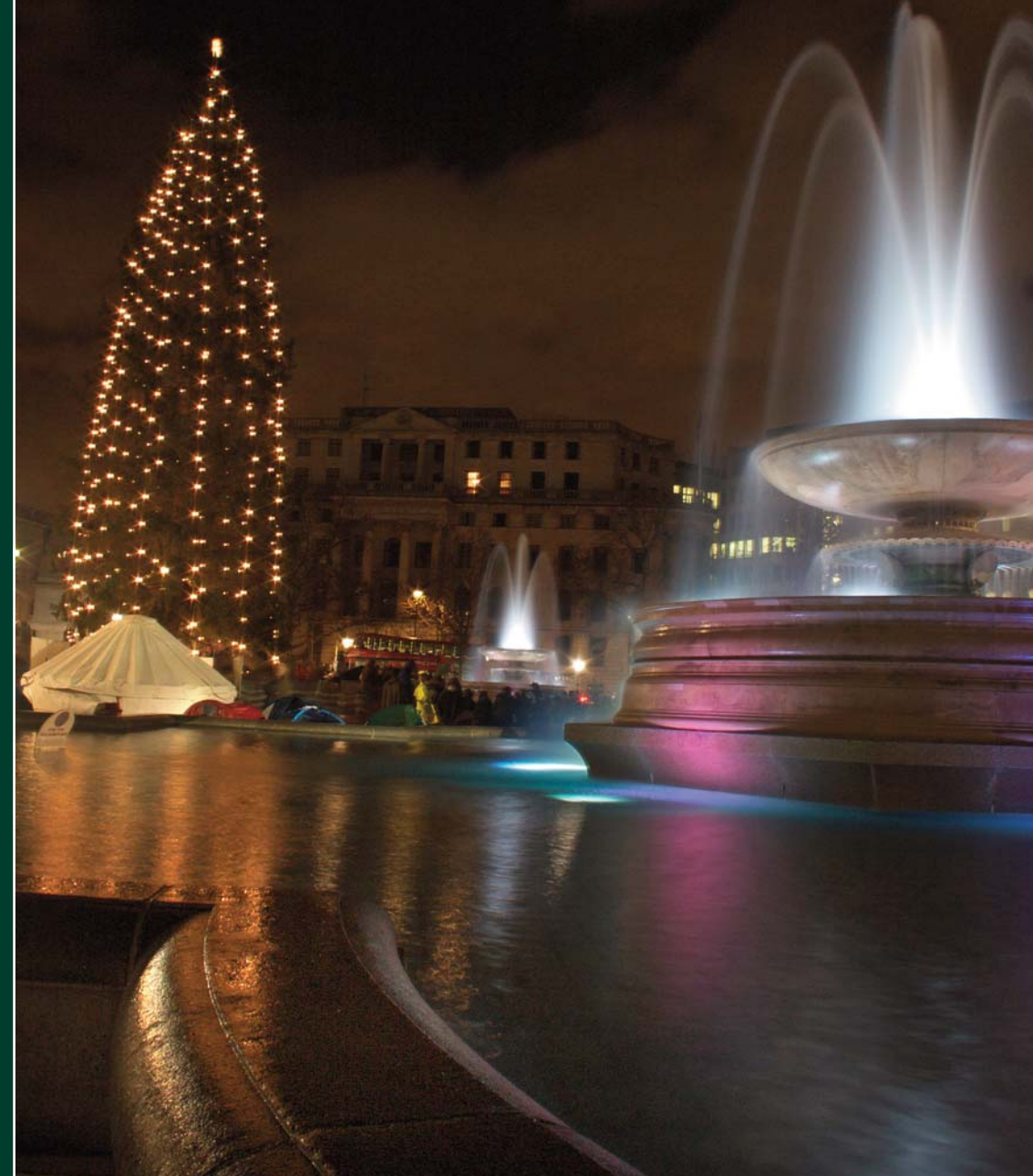
For over 20 years, a specially designed tree pit cover from Jones of Oswestry has played an important role in sustaining this tradition.

In early December, the four granite-infilled Suprabloc covers that normally camouflage access to the tree pit are removed, together with their support beams, to make way for the Square's festive centrepiece. While many of us will be familiar with the challenge of propping up household Christmas trees in tubs, putting up a tree ten times the size is a very different operation.

A 20m Norwegian spruce typically has a trunk diameter in the range of 300mm-500mm, a spread of around 9m and weighs in at about 10 tonnes. Fully laden with lights and with its lofty stature exposed to lashing wind and rain, the Trafalgar Square tree needs to be reliably anchored with failsafe mechanisms.

A spigot shoe is secured to the base and the tree is then lifted by crane into the pit. Inside, the trunk is held between eight substantial clamps and the prepared base locates into a metal collar at the bottom of the pit, all part of the tree support and access solution.

JONES STILL PLAYING A CHRISTMAS SUPPORTING ROLE AFTER 20 YEARS





4

Structural rigidity was clearly a key concern for the consulting engineer, Hurst, Peirce & Malcolm, when they specified the cover system back in 1988 as part of the Square's refurbishment by architects, Donald W. Insall & Associates.

Not only did our high specification steel engineering meet structural criteria, it also came with the extra heavy duty post-galvanised protection which has become Jones's trademark.



5

Applied after fabrication to ensure total protection of the steel, it has provided longstanding defence against atmospheric corrosivity and erosion by de-icing fluids and gritting salts borne in surface water.

Richard Genn of the Greater London Authority is responsible for looking after the fabric of Trafalgar Square. He said: "The tree pit system is a fine piece of engineering which has sustained itself nobly over the 20 years it has been installed and remains in excellent working order."



6

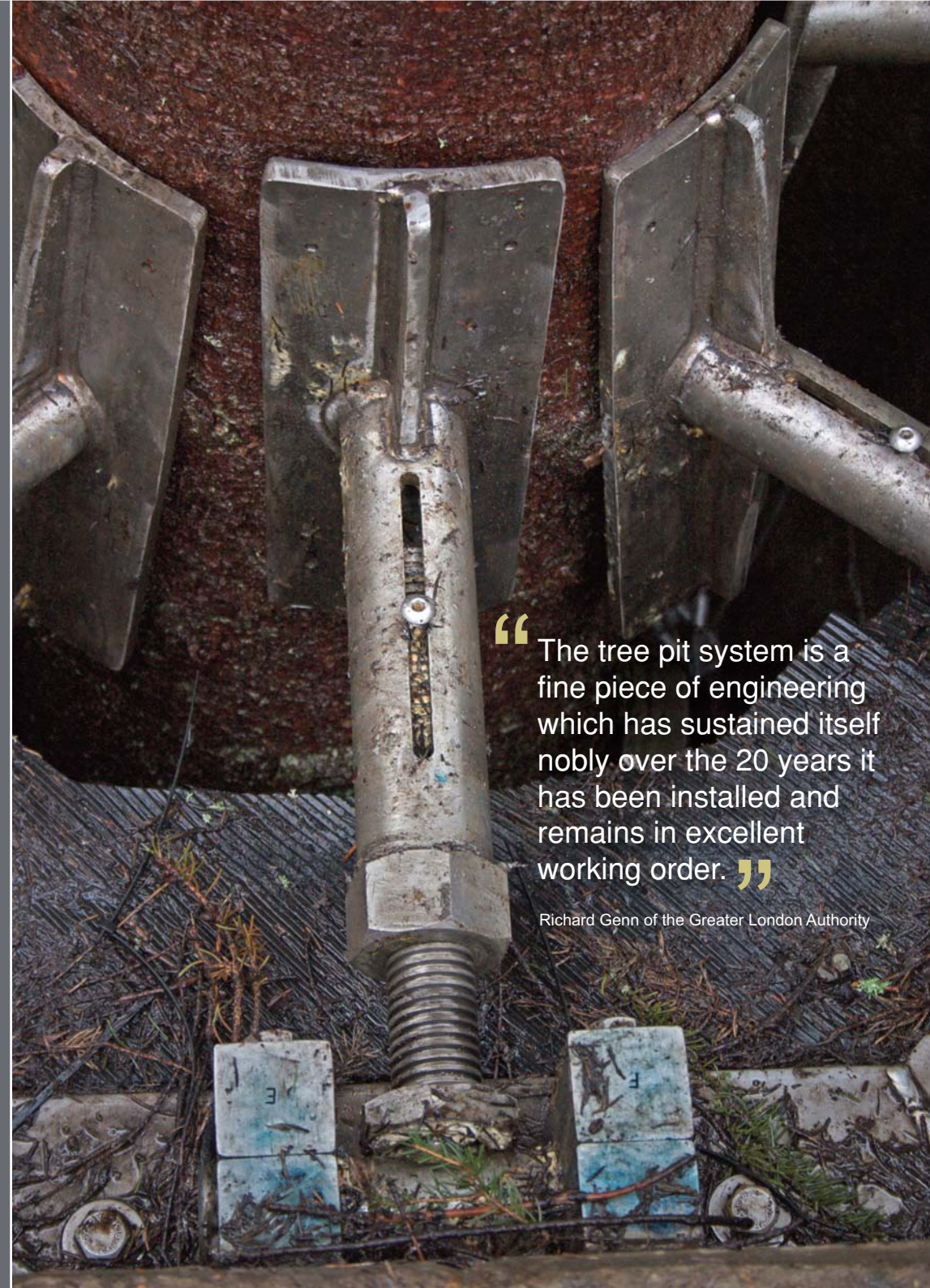
The unit is testament to the longevity of our post-galvanising, and proof of the service life claims we make for our products. Still in prime condition, it will undoubtedly out-perform the 20-25 years design life expected of landscaping metalwork, and represents shrewd use of public funds.

The numbered photographs on these pages illustrate the different stages undertaken to erect this world famous christmas tree.



7

1. The crane hoisting the tree up-right.
2. The spigot shoe is secured to base.
3. Using wedges to hold it in place.
4. The tree pit with clamps.
5. The crane lifting the tree into the pit.
6. The tree is then lowered into position.
7. The clamps are then folded down and tightened.



“The tree pit system is a fine piece of engineering which has sustained itself nobly over the 20 years it has been installed and remains in excellent working order.”

Richard Genn of the Greater London Authority

THE FAMOUS CHRISTMAS TREE TRAFALGAR SQUARE, LONDON

COVERS & SUPPORT FRAME
GALVANISED BY THE
ULTRA-GALV PROCESS

TREE TRUNK DIAMETERS
BETWEEN 350 & 600mm
CAN BE ACCOMMODATED

S.W. & PLY TIMBER TEMPORARY
COVER SECTIONS FITTED
AROUND TREE

CLAMPS SWING ASIDE
FOR INITIAL POSITIONING
OF TREE

102mm THICK GRANITE
PAVING SLABS ON 45mm GROUT

SOFTWOOD TAPERED
PACKS, 16 No.

OCTAGONAL CLAMP MOUNTING
FRAME FROM 10mm THK.
STAINLESS STEEL

SPIGOT-SHOE FROM 12mm
THK. STEEL IS FIXED TO
TREE PRIOR TO POSITIONING

FABRICATED SOCKET
WITH 20mm LEAD IN
THK. GUIDE PLATES

PIT DRAINAGE
SYSTEM

Description: Four leaf single seal Suprabloc framework and covers to carry a 4 tonne wheel load on any 300mm square area over permanent tree foundation pit.

42mm THICK GRANITE PAVING
SLABS BEDDED ON EPOXY MORTAR
WITH PROTECTION FROM THE
"ZERO DEFLECTION" OF THE
SUPRABLOC COVERS

SUPRABLOC COVERS, FROM
6mm STEEL PLATE & WITH
10mm THK. BASE STIFFENERS

CRUCIFORM SUPPORT FRAME
FABRICATED FROM RSJ SECTION
& CARRYING PART OF COVER
SEALING CHANNELS. FRAME
LOCATES IN FOUR STAINLESS
STEEL BEARING SHOES & LIFTS
OUT FOR POSITIONING TREE

8mm THICK
STAINLESS STEEL
BEARING SHOE
BEDDED IN
CONCRETE

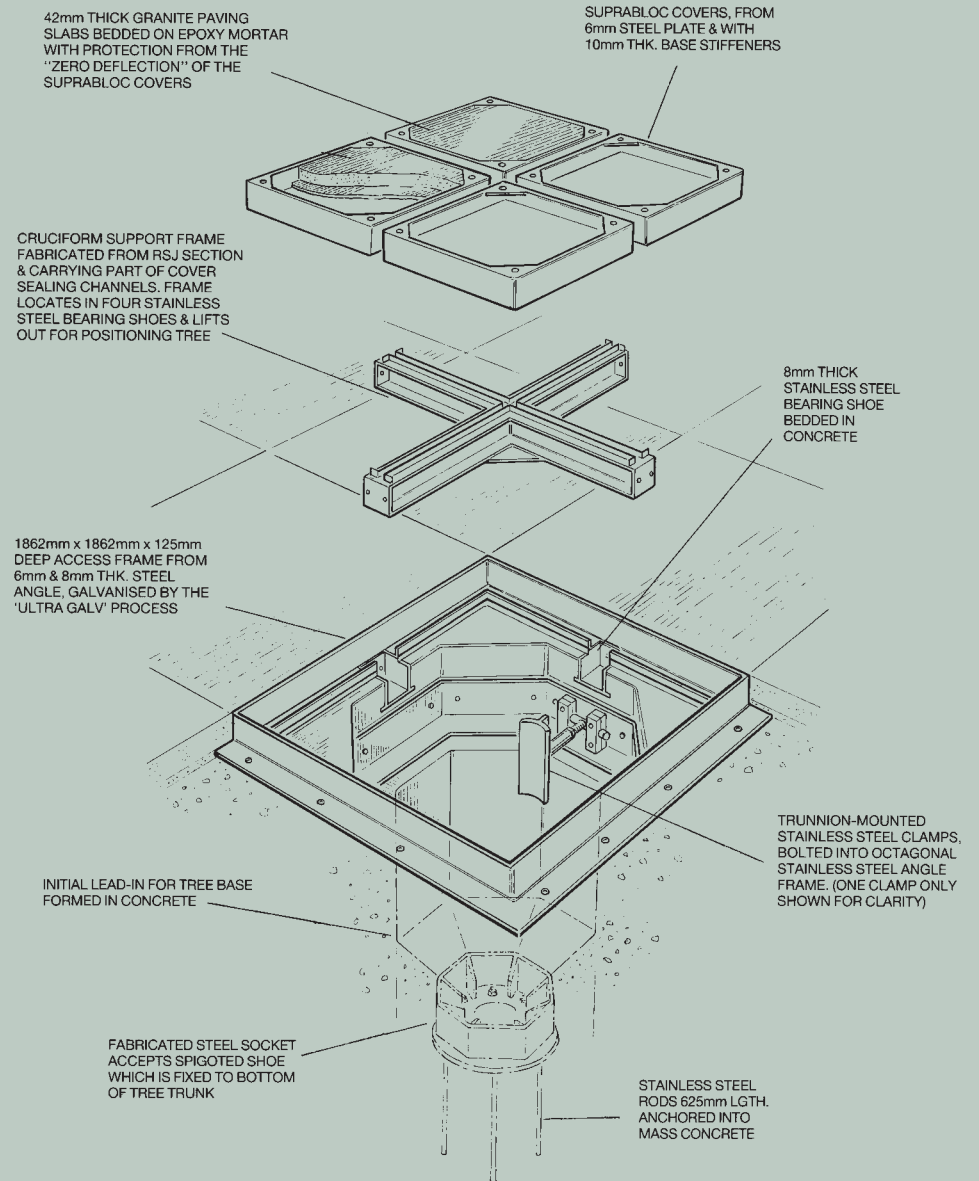
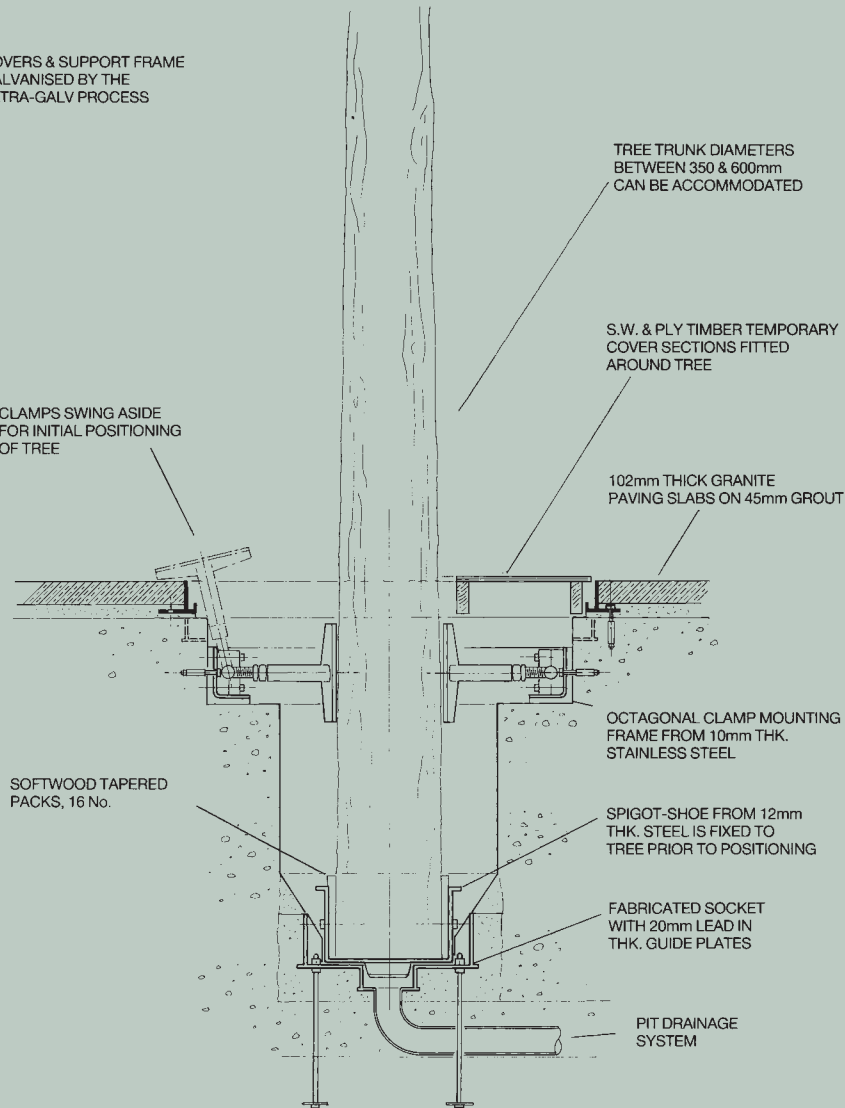
1862mm x 1862mm x 125mm
DEEP ACCESS FRAME FROM
6mm & 8mm THK. STEEL
ANGLE, GALVANISED BY THE
'ULTRA GALV' PROCESS

INITIAL LEAD-IN FOR TREE BASE
FORMED IN CONCRETE

TRUNNION-MOUNTED
STAINLESS STEEL CLAMPS,
BOLTED INTO OCTAGONAL
STAINLESS STEEL ANGLE
FRAME. (ONE CLAMP ONLY
SHOWN FOR CLARITY)

FABRICATED STEEL SOCKET
ACCEPTS SPIGOTED SHOE
WHICH IS FIXED TO BOTTOM
OF TREE TRUNK

STAINLESS STEEL
RODS 625mm LGTH.
ANCHORED INTO
MASS CONCRETE





Tree planting & Longevity

Trees in squares, boulevards and pedestrianised schemes all over the UK continue to benefit from Jones's leading specification for fabricated landscaping steel and, under its modern name, Duragalv post-galvanising.

Our modern tree surrounds - Arborslot recessed units and Ventraflow patterned grilles with optional root boxes and root irrigation systems - retain the signature quality of the Trafalgar Square cover. The designs have evolved in form and function around contemporary aesthetics and specifying issues - DDA - Sustainability - Pavement Performance (The Urban Tree Balance).

And the post-galvanising standard we set back in the 80s has taken on new relevance in this modern era of sustainable design.

For full details of how the Arborslot tree surrounds with integral rootbox meets the requirements of DDA - Sustainability and Pavement performance. Please see Jones of Oswestry **"The Definitive Guide"** to sustainable urban tree planting included with this months review.

JONES
OF OSWESTRY

T: 01938 555511

F: 01938 555527

W: www.jonesofoswestry.com

WHERE IN THE WORLD? COMPETITION



Identify this building to claim £200 worth of architectural books?

Answer:

Send your answer together with your name and contact details by freepost, fax on 01691 658222 or email to competition@jonesofoswestry.com before **Wednesday 13th January**.

Winner will be published in the next issue of the Mini Review and on our website : www.jonesofoswestry.com

Our previous winner was **Jarrold Smith (Senior Planner)** of Mouchel, Manchester.

Who correctly identified the building as:
CATEDRAL DE BRASILIA, BRAZIL.
DESIGNED BY OSCAR NIEMEYER

CPD ARCHITECTURAL SEMINARS



To reserve your free technical seminar please complete this card and return to us by freepost or alternatively email our technical seminar co-ordinator neti.adams@jonesofoswestry.com

SUPERINTEL

Our Superintels are available in any bespoke section and can be manufactured to any shape, arched, stepped, corner or curved on plan profiles. In addition to the A5 size 250 plus page specifying manual an interactive specifying disc is also available.



HARD LANDSCAPING

Our A5 size Hard Landscaping manual has full specifying data on our core ranges of access products for block pavior infill, plus 'SUDS' system to achieve a rapid drain-off of storm water.



HAVE WE GOT YOUR DETAILS CORRECT?

To enable us to keep you fully updated we need to ensure our database is correctly maintained, to this end may we request your assistance in completing this reply card.

YOUR CONTACT DETAILS

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

YOUR COLLEAGUE'S DETAILS

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Business Address: _____

Email: _____

Telephone: _____

GREENER

Would you prefer to receive the Mini Review electronically, if so, please provide your full email address.

Electronic Hard Copy Both

FREE LITERATURE AND CPD SEMINARS AVAILABLE, PLEASE INDICATE YOUR REQUIREMENTS.

CPD TECHNICAL SEMINAR

HARD LANDSCAPING MANUAL

SUPERINTEL MANUAL

50 YEAR HISTORY

TECHNOGROUP

TECHNOGROUP brings together a versatile family of steel fabrication specialists with accredited high quality steel security products for the construction, utility and rail industries.

Leaders in the design and manufacture of steel security products, the TECHNOGROUP of companies has built a reputation for quality, innovation and service which started with Jones of Oswestry in 1952. It's this pedigree alongside continual research and development which make our products the first choice for many architects, designers, specifiers and those involved in high level safety and security.

Through organic growth and careful acquisition we have built a group of companies dedicated to pushing the boundaries, introducing many firsts into the utility and construction marketplace. The same philosophy continues to drive us today and with new threats and challenges to our national security TECHNOGROUP is well placed to meet your requirements as one of the leaders in the security of premises, assets and personnel.



Technocover is dedicated to the development, manufacture, installation and maintenance of high quality security products. Our range includes LPCB certified access covers, enclosures, modular buildings and a range of high security doors including UltraSecure Sentinel security and fire doors. Our experience has made us a highly trusted partner and our products can be found in many important or sensitive applications, including the utility sector and government establishments.



Technorail offers the total high security package for the rail industry including covers, cabinets, staging, doors and ancillary products. With trained and experienced operatives Technorail can guide customers through the entire specification process and beyond, from risk assessment to installation and maintenance.



Jones of Oswestry design and manufacture steel lintels, hard landscaping solutions and ducting for architects and specifiers and has been an innovator in its field for the last fifty years. The company has been responsible for many ground breaking advances in that time and it's this philosophy which continues to drive the business today.



Strataform was founded in 1973 and since then it has developed a range of innovative physical security products, specialising in prison doors. Rigorously tested and approved by leading authorities in the security industry, Strataform products give the best possible protection against the threat of terrorist and criminal attack.



www.technogroup.co.uk