



The Tensar solution saved 5,000 tonnes of imported aggregate for this 9,000m² piling mat



Roads and Platforms
Nº 469

MSD Carlow - Pharmaceuticals

📍 Carlow, Ireland

CONSTRUCTED IN 2022

Benefits

€58,000 cost savings
to the contractor

5,000 tonnes less
imported aggregate used

35 tonnes CO₂e reduction
in estimated construction
emissions

A technical piling mat solution for a high-tech facility

Expansion of the Carlow pharmaceuticals facility required a new production building. Soft ground determined the need for piled foundations. This called for a 9,000m² piling platform constructed with imported granular fill. The contractor saved €58,000 on the platform with Tensar's solution.

CLIENT'S CHALLENGE

Due to the presence of weak ground on site, comprising of made-up ground overlying glacial deposits, the building foundation was to be piled. The Geotechnical Interpretive Report proposed a 650mm thick granular fill working platform to support the 80 tonne piling rigs. The contractor sought to reduce the cost.

TENSAR SOLUTION

The contractor, Robert Quinn Ltd, contacted Tensar to ask for a value engineered alternative to the suggested working platform design. Tensar was able to provide a full design solution for a working platform that saved 45% of imported granular fill compared to the original design. The solution featured a Tensar Mechanically Stabilised Layer incorporating Tensar stabilisation geogrid to achieve the required bearing capacity with a thinner aggregate layer.