



**R&D Technical Summary W5A-062/TS**

**Temporary and Demountable Flood Protection**  
**Interim Guidance on Use**

**Background to R&D project**

The flood events of autumn 2000, were a harsh reminder of the difficulties faced by Operating Authorities when trying to protect property and infrastructure against extreme and unusual conditions. One of the lessons learned from these events was that the use of local protection, usually sandbags, could significantly reduce the impact of flooding.

It was evident that there were new innovative systems available, which could both replace the role of sandbags and provide additional benefits beyond their capability. Clearly there had to be a better understanding of these alternative options and how these systems could be incorporated into flood management plans.

The objective of this project was to provide a technical guide on the use of the main types of temporary and demountable flood protection systems that are currently available. These are systems, which are self-supporting or free standing, not products which are fitted to existing structures or buildings. The latter are covered in the publication "Preparing for floods".

**Results of R&D project**

An extensive investigation was carried out to establish the extent of available systems world-wide. All identified existing suppliers and manufacturers were then asked to supply specific further information regarding their products. This enabled a generic categorization to be established on the basis of existing products and those still under development.

As well as providing information on the different generic flood protection systems, the outputs provide information which will help in choosing appropriate types and guidance on where and when to use them.

**R&D Outputs and their Use**

The principal output is the R&D Interim Guidance on Use (below) This provides information on types of flood protection systems available and guidance and considerations regarding their use. The target audience is technically competent persons within organizations such as, Flood Defence Operating Authorities, local government authorities and other organizations involved with flooding and emergency response. Wider access to the R &D output is available through the Floodline website, it should also be recognised that these listings will be updated more frequently than the publication. Both the outputs R &D Publication 130 and the floodline website should be with reference to the legal notes on the Status of Temporary Flood Protection.

-----

This R&D Technical Summary relates to R&D Project W5A-062 and the following output:

- R&D Publication 130 – Temporary and Demountable Flood Protection - Interim Guidance on Use.  
*Published June 2002*
- [www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/flood](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/flood)
- Notes on the Status of Temporary Flood Protection

Publication Internal Status: Released Internally

External Status: Released to Public Domain

Project Manager: Roy Stokes, Environment Agency (Midlands Region)

Research Contractor: Posford Haskoning Ltd, Rightwell House, Bretton, Peterborough, PE3 8DW

The above outputs are available on the Environment Agency (EA) website ([www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/flood](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/flood)). Copies are held by all EA Regional Information Centres and can be purchased from the EA's R&D Dissemination Centre, c/o WRC, Frankland Road, Blagrove, Swindon, Wiltshire SN5 8YF (Tel: (+44) 1793-865012; Fax: (+44) 1793-514562; email: [publications@wreplc.co.uk](mailto:publications@wreplc.co.uk)).

© Environment Agency, Rio House, Waterside Drive, Aztec West, Almondsbury, Bristol, BS32 4UD  
Tel: (+44) 1454 624400 Fax: (+44) 1454 624409