

CASE HISTORY

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MITIGATION OF LIQUEFACTION WITH TECHDRAIN FOR MEXICO AIRPORT MEXICO

Ground Improvement Application

Client:	Products used:
	TECHDRAIN PVD
Main contractor:	Quantity supplied:
	2.7 MILLION LM
Manufacturer & Supplier:	Year of construction:
TECHFAB (INDIA) INDUSTRIES LTD.	2016

Editor's Note:

As of the publication of this story, the future of the New Mexico City airport remains in limbo, as President-elect Andrés Manuel López Obrador has announced a halting of construction work due to a recent referendum and rising cost concerns. Still, TFI is sharing of geotechnical case studies from the sites, as substantial engineering works have taken place and set up the challenging site for success. These are stories worth drawing upon in the future, regardless of what happens with the location.

Project brief:

Mexico City's new international airport is being designed to be the biggest in the Americas and the third-largest in the world. The project is being developed by Mexico's long-term transport development plan.

The existing Mexico City airport facilities are no longer sufficient to serve the ever rising passenger traffic. The new airport will initially have double the capacity of the existing airport and will eventually able to handle four times the current volume.



TechDrain PVD Installation in progress

Project Challenges:

The new airport is being constructed on federal lands near the former Lake Texcoco. The structure will be spread over an area of 4,430ha, which is under the purview of the National Water Commission. It's a humid, marshy wetland. Like the Mexico City itself, the site was once an enormous lake drained by Spaniards after they colonized Mexico five centuries ago.



TechDrain PVD Installation in progress

Solution:

To support structures, the site's muddy, unstable soils have needed to be consolidated. The time required for settlement would take years without PVDs; but, with geosynthetic drainage engineering, the consolidation time has been reduced to months. As consolidation has progressed, an elaborate drainage system has also been built in. This dual construction process will enable the main terminal and its runways to handle the severe rainfall and even floods that can occur during Mexico City's wet season.

Conclusion:

TechFab has been supplied to the site since 2016. To date, 2.7 million linear meters of TechDrain PVD have been installed, reduced construction costs, and improved construction timelines.

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