

# RoaDrain Geocomposite for Airstrip Serving The Athabasca Oil Sands Project (AOSP)

**PROJECT NAME:** Muskeg Mine - AOSP

**LOCATION:** Alberta, Canada

**PRODUCTS:** Tenax RoaDrain

**DATE:** 2007



The Athabasca Oil Sands Project in Alberta, Canada is a joint venture of Shell, Chevron Texaco, and Western Oil Sands. Currently, one of the largest construction projects on the planet, it is the latest fully integrated oil sands development in 25 years. With so many supplies, resources, and equipment needed to be delivered on a daily bases, the importance of a safe, dependable, and enduring airstrip was a number one concern. To help meet these logistical design challenges, Tenax was called upon the site by the engineer, owner and contractor to provide the airport strip with a subsurface drainage solution. Tenax RoaDrain 770-2 drainage geocomposite was selected because of its engineered triplannar structure, long-term proven

performance, and its capability in solving high watertable and silty sand subgrade conditions. Such as the AOSP - conditions that were prone to frost heave. In addition, the airport strip needed to be able to provide daily landings of the high loads of such aircrafts like Boeing 737 and Airbus A320. Ahead of schedule and below budget, Tenax RoaDrain 770-2 benefits were immediately obvious as it allowed for fast removable of water from the pavement structure provided excellent compressive stiffness to support the 125,000 lbs wheel load from the planes. It provided excellent capillary break; created separation of the subgrade and base material; as well as provided additional strength to the pavement structure .