



East Falkland

Rest of the Falkland Islands



CLIENT           Defence Estates  
 CONSULTANTS   Halcrow  
 LOCATION       RAF Mount Pleasant,  
                       Falkland Islands  
 CONTRACTOR    Colas/Mott MacDonald  
 QUANTITY       13,800m<sup>2</sup>  
 PRODUCT        GlasGrid® GG100  
 DATE            2010/2011

## KEY OUTCOMES

- Efficiency**       Refurbishment and resurfacing work completed while maintaining a fully functional airfield
- Logistics**      Organising and completing work 8000 miles from the UK using 2 mobile asphalt plants
- Longevity**      Using patented technology to produce a robust and long lasting result
- Cost**            Reducing the need for reactive maintenance and further closure of the runways
- Reliability**     A runway that could handle the elements and keep people connected
- Collaboration**  Ensuring the right people and tools for the right job

## PRODUCT SPECIFICATION

### GlasGrid® GG100

Tensile strength	115 x 115 +/- 15 kN/m
Melting Point Coating	> 232° C
Melting Point Glass	> 820° C
Grid Size	12.5 x 12.5 mm
Mass per Unit Area	405 g/m <sup>2</sup>
Roll Length	100 m
Roll Width	1.5 m



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## ROUTE PLANNER

### START 2010

The mission - the airfield at RAF Mount Pleasant, Falkland Islands.

### FIRST STEP

Planning the first major refurbishment in 30 years.

### HIT THE ROAD

Resurfacing both runways and surrounding Taxi-ways and links.

### MOVING FORWARD

Using GlasGrid 8501 for a robust long-lasting finish.

### STAYING ON TRACK

Working efficiently to maintain a fully operational airport.

### FINISH

A runway that handled the elements, whilst providing a safe vital link to the outside world.

### FINISH 2011

## START

In 2010, Asphalt Reinforcement Services were called up for service, when Defence Estates awarded Colas' Airfield Division a multi-million pound project to refurbish the airfield at Mount Pleasant Airport in the Falklands Islands. Which happens to be the only joint military and civilian airfield on British soil.

## ROUTE

It was a challenging logistical operation. Asphalt Reinforcement Services were involved in the resurfacing of both of Mount Pleasant's 2.4km runways. Before moving on to the refurbishment of all the asphalt surfaces and specialist surface treatments. These included the runways taxiways, links and loops. Much of the work was carried out at night and under very extreme weather conditions.

Significant resources and logistics were required to complete the project, which is 8,000 miles from the UK, including two mobile asphalt plants. Reinforcements came from Colas' own Warrington plant, which supplied the entire bitumen and bond coat required for the project. Over 12,000 drums of binder were filled and transported.

## FINISH / DESTINATION

The refurbishments and resurfacing work were completed, whilst maintaining a fully functioning airfield and active military operations. The project, which ran from Autumn 2010 to early 2011, was the first major refurbishment of the airfield since it was constructed in 1985 and was planned to coincide with summer in the southern hemisphere and the 25th anniversary events to commemorate the Falklands war.

'It is critical to get main runway open in time every Friday to maintain the Island's key supply lines. The runway had to remain operable for military use all week. A squadron of RAF Typhoons is based here and the phasing of our work has been calculated to allow take off within 15 minutes' notice. Five years later the runway remains crack free.'

Simon Downing  
Airfields Business Manager, Colas

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