

Illinois Department of Transportation
Bureau of Bridges and Structures

Prequalified Structural System (PQSS) List
MECHANICALLY STABILIZED EARTH RETAINING WALL SYSTEMS
February 16, 2024

This list supersedes the **October 6, 2023** list.
Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction, Section 522

For information regarding new system submittals, see pages 3 and 4.

<p>Ground Improvement Systems, LLC 114 South Collins Street Arlington, TX 76011 Date Approved: Sept 29, 2011 Contact Name: Thomas Taylor Phone Number: 817-223-0969</p> <p>Systems: "EarthTrac"</p>	<p>County Materials, LLC 6142 South Indianapolis Rd Whitestown, IN 46075 Date Approved: Dec 23, 2010 Contact Name: Preston Moore Phone Number: 618-335-3749</p> <p>Systems: "Sanders MSE Wall"</p>
<p>DBR Earth Systems, LLC 18390 Wings Corporate Dr. Chesterfield, MO 63005 Date Approved: Contact Name: Scott Rozier Phone Number: 636-519-7770</p> <p>Systems: "Strengthened Soil"</p>	<p>Elevate Infrastructure, LLC 2495 W. Bungalow Road Morris, Illinois 60450 Date Approved: Jan. 17, 2023 Contact Name: Matt Austin Phone Number: 636-346-9245</p> <p>Systems: "Elevate MSE Wall"</p>
<p>SSL Construction Products 4740 Scotts Valley Dr, Suite E Scotts Valley, Ca 95066 Date Approved: 2006 Contact Name: Andrew Meckler Phone Number: 831-430-9300</p> <p>Systems: "MSE Plus"</p>	<p>Vist-A-Wall Systems (Contech Engineered Solutions) 650 Justice Lane Mansfield, TX 76063 Date Approved: Contact Name: Michael Gervais Phone Number: 504-655-0696</p> <p>Systems: "Vist-A-Wall"</p>

[Domestic Steel Act Applies:](#)

All iron and steel products, which are to be incorporated into state projects shall be domestically manufactured or produced and fabricated. The Contractor shall obtain from the iron or steel producer and/or fabricator, in addition to the mill analysis, a certification that all iron or steel materials meet these domestic source requirements. The application of all coatings, epoxy, galvanizing, painting, etc., to metal products shall be domestically applied.

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<p>Tensor International Corp 2500 Northwinds pkwy, Suite 500 Alpharetta, GA 30009 Date Approved: 2007 Contact Name: Vicky C-Curtis Phone Number: 770-344-2090</p> <p>Systems: "ARES Wall"</p>	<p>Reinforced Earth Co 1444 North Farnsworth Avenue Suite 505 Aurora, IL 60505 Date Approved: Contact Name: Alex Abraham Phone Number: 630-898-3334</p> <p>Systems: "GeoMega System" "Reinforced Earth" "Retained Earth"</p>
<p>Tricon Precast, LLC 15055 Henry Road Houston, TX 77060 Date Approved: Sept 30, 2013 Contact Name: Bryan Jennings Phone Number: 877-387-4266</p> <p>Systems: "Tricon Retained Soil" "Tri-Web Retained Soil"</p>	

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Submittal Requirements for Evaluation and Pre-Qualification

A. Scope

Before an MSE retaining wall system can be used on a Department project, the system shall be reviewed and pre-qualified for general use, and the manufacturer/supplier shall have a producer/supplier number assigned to their facility (see [approval procedures at https://idot.illinois.gov/doing-business/material-approvals/producer-and-supplier-approval.html](https://idot.illinois.gov/doing-business/material-approvals/producer-and-supplier-approval.html)). The following guidelines are provided to clarify the submittal requirements and expedite the process.

B. Procedure

Companies interested in being considered prequalified to supply an MSE retaining wall system as specified in the Standard Specifications Section 522 for Mechanically Stabilized Earth Retaining Walls shall [provide an electronic copy of a system review package to the Department at DOT.Bridge.ProductEvaluations@Illinois.gov](mailto:DOT.Bridge.ProductEvaluations@Illinois.gov). As a minimum, the system review package should contain the following:

1. Acknowledgement by Company Form [BMPR 101](#) (locate the form [here](#), right-click and "Save link as..." to download a working copy and open in a separate PDF editor). If your company does not already have a product included on an IDOT PQSS, please submit a signed copy of the company acknowledgement form with your product submittal.
2. Wall System name and company name to be listed on the specification and other contact/address information.
3. Any independent evaluation information or other supporting research if available.
4. A list of past projects which used your company wall system, including owner's name and phone number.
5. Typical shop drawings, notes and plan details shall include:
 - a. All panel types and details.
 - b. All soil reinforcement types and details.
 - c. Connection details for soil reinforcement to the temporary facing, CIP facing or concrete panels.
 - d. Select Reinforced Backfill Requirements.
 - e. Any Drainage system requirements.
 - f. Details for typical leveling pads.
 - g. Typical concrete coping details and traffic barrier connection details.
 - h. Typical details of soil reinforcement placement around appurtenances located behind, on top of, or passing through the soil reinforced wall volume.
 - i. Acute corner panel and reinforcement details.
 - j. Details for MSE walls supporting abutments founded on spread footings, piles (integral and stub), and drilled shafts.
6. Design Standards and Computations: All example computations for the wall design and the soil reinforcement embed/facing connections, shall be sealed by an Illinois Licensed Structural Engineer, and shall be according to the latest AASHTO LRFD Bridge Design Specifications and the Standard Specifications for Mechanically Stabilized Earth Retaining Walls. As a minimum, the following should be addressed:
 - a. Corrosion reduction calculations or Geosynthetic reductions.
 - b. Pullout capacity calculations for all soil reinforcement types.
 - c. If a computer program will be provided as calculations, explanation of how each value is determined must be provided with an example computer printout.

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- d. Reinforcement max stress calculations.
 - e. Bearing pressure calculations.
 - f. All material design strength assumptions.
 - g. Any design limitations such as maximum wall height, maximum panel size, etc.
7. Any test data or research to support the computations and use of specific values.
 8. All materials specifications.
 9. A Construction Manual with erection sequence guidance required for proper alignment and wall performance.
 10. Any design manuals, case histories, and brochures should be included to provide insight into the system and applications.
 11. To complete your pre-qualification process, the [material code you propose to utilize at the fabrication plant\(s\) supplying](#) your precast product needs to be approved by the Bureau of Materials and Physical Research. Please click [here](#) for the approval procedure and [here](#) for a list of plants that are currently certified to do this work (H1 designation).

If you have any questions concerning the specification or the requested information, please contact the Policies, Standards and [Final Plan Control](#) Unit at DOT.Bridge.ProductEvaluations@Illinois.gov.

C. Recertification

There is no renewal process or reapplication process to stay on this list; however, the Department reserves the right to remove any system based on past performance. In addition, it is the responsibility of the manufacturer/supplier to inform the Department of any changes in design or component information, contact information, etc. If it is discovered that changes have been made without informing the Department, the Department reserves the right, depending on the severity of the omission, to remove that system from the prequalified structural system list.

Presence on this list does not exempt the manufacturer/supplier from meeting all the job specific submittal requirements and all the material requirements specified including component testing and/or material certifications as applicable.