

Formwork for ventilated monolithic foundations



TRADITIONAL FOUNDATION



***WHAT IS RADON**



The danger of RADON accumulation in a house built on traditional foundations.

Radon is a colourless and extremely volatile gas produced by the decay of uranium U238. Radon gas occurs naturally, and is constantly produced by certain rocks in the Earth's crust. The main source of **Radon** gas is the ground: it seeps through the soil and accumulates into rooms and enclosed places. It is very dangerous as it is carcinogenic: its prolonged inhalation is considered the second cause of lung cancer after cigarette smoke; the risk of cancer development is proportional to the exposure to radioactive gas.

The only protection from Radon are ventilated foundations, which making it harmless dilute the gas into the atmosphere outside the building.

MONOLITHIC VENTILATED FOUNDATION

MODULO SYSTEM CREATES MONOLITHIC VENTILATED FOUNDATIONS IN A SINGLE POUR

Modulo System, the combination of Modulo and Geoblock, makes it possible to pour the foundation and the groundslab in a single operation, creating a monolithic structure that won't crack.

A ventilated and monolithic foundation grants high stability and load-bearing capacity, significantly reducing the risks of damage in the case of earthquakes.



STABILITY

SINGLE POUR



The soil is a heterogeneous blend of solid elements, water and air. Water is the element naturally most subject to fluctuations due to variable rainfall patterns, changes in water table level, evaporation and deep infiltration. Groundwater in direct contact with traditional foundations creates unhealthy conditions in the building: infiltrations, moisture, condensation and moulds and fungi; in extreme cases it can lead to the decay of timber structural elements.

A ventilated foundation is the only solution for ground moisture

VENTILATED FOUNDATIONS IN ROMAN TIMES

Buildings with ventilated foundation are healthy and safe homes. The Romans understood that it was unhealthy to dwell in direct contact with the soil, so they elevated the floor of their homes to stop moisture and used the hollow space thus created to heat the rooms above. A ventilated foundation is an effective barrier to moisture and **Radon**, the dangerous and carcinogenic gas that accumulates inside buildings.

DIFFERENT TYPES OF FOUNDATION

» TRADITIONAL FOUNDATION

When traditional foundations are made the slab and the ground beams are poured in two operations.

The load is not well distributed over the slab, which leads to:





» TRADITIONAL MONOLITHIC FOUNDATION

In a monolithic foundation load is evenly distributed and it remains below the admissible limit. Despite this, the contact between the foundation and the soil causes the rising of:

» MOISTURE » RADONICAS

Even when load is well distributed, stress levels of the steel elements of the foundation are critically high.



» MODULO System: ventilated monolithic foundation

A **VENTILATED MONOLITHIC** foundation is the solution that combines the advantages of a monobloc structure and a ventilated one. The load is distributed uniformly and remains under the breaking limit. The greater distance from the point of force application decreases steel and slab stress.

» NO GRACKS OR STRUCTURAL FAILURES » NO STEEL STRESS » NO MOISTURE RISE

» NO RADON GAS » VENTILATION OK





TECHNICAL DATA

LOAD CHART FOR MODULO 50 x 50

TYPE OF	Overload kg/m ²	Min. slab thickness cm	Lean mix S	Screed	Pressure on the soil kg/cm ²	Rebar	
LOAD			cm	cm		mm	maglia cm
RESIDENTIAL	2,000	4	0		1.753	ø 6	20 x 20
			5		0.601		
			10		0.300		
	5,000	4	5		1.428	ø 6	20 x 20
			10		0.714		
			5	10	0.427		
	15,000	5	10	25	0.345	ø 8	20 x 20
INDUSTRIAL	25,000	10	10	25	0.574	ø 8	20 x 20
	40,000	15	15	30	0.599	ø 8	20 x 20



View from above of the model



View from below of the model



Tension state of the MZZ plate, top view





		MODULO H3	MODULO H6	MODULO H9	
Dimension		50 x 50 cm	50 x 50 cm	58 x 58 cm	
Clear Span	h	2.1 cm	4.5 cm	7 cm	
L		5.5 cm	5.4 cm	14.5 cm	
Max Ø of si	ngle tube	20 mm	40 mm	70 mm	
Max Ø of tw	o tubes	20 mm	20 mm	60 mm	
Concrete con (flush with th	sumption e top of MODULO)	m ³ 0.004 m ²	m ³ 0.009 m ²	m ³ 0.010 m ²	
Pallet size	A x B x H (cm)	120 x 102 x H220	120 x 102 x H220	120 x 120 x H24	
	Pcs. per pallet	720	720	720	
	m ² per pallet	180	180	240	

50 / 58

MODULO SYSTEM: MODULO + GEOBLOCK



GEOBLOCK creates cost savings and assures the safe execution of monolithic ventilated foundations.

MODULO System, the combined use of MODULO, GEOBLOCK and FERMAGETTO, creates savings and provides important technical advantages.







MODULO H13	MODULO H15	MODULO H17	MODULO H20	MODULO H25	MODULO H27	MODULO H30	MODULO H35
71 x 71 cm							
7.5 cm	9 cm	11.5 cm	14 cm	19.5 cm	21 cm	24 cm	29 cm
23.5 cm	22 cm	24.5 cm	21 cm	26 cm	24.5 cm	23.5 cm	26 cm
70 mm	75 mm	110 mm	140 mm	190 mm	210 mm	230 mm	230 mm
60 mm	70 mm	100 mm	100 mm	120 mm	120 mm	120 mm	120 mm
m ³ 0.020 m ²	m ³ 0.027 m ²	m ³ 0.028 m ²	m ³ 0.032 m ²	m ³ 0.033 m ²	m ³ 0.035 m ²	m ³ 0.042 m ²	m ³ 0.045 m ²
151 x 151 x H225	151 x 151 x H225	151 x 151 x H226	151 x 151 x H250	151 x 151 x H235	151 x 151 x H235	151 x 151 x H250	151 x 151 x H240
360	360	360	300	360	360	300	360
180	180	180	150	180	180	150	180

GEOBLOCK: IT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE

MODULO

The formwork for monolithic ventilated foundations MODULO creates a monolithic ventilated foundation. Its shape forms a slab on a matrix of small pillars: this solution provides high structural strenght to the building. The sanitary void protects from moisture and dangerous Radon gas. MODULO is available in different heights (from 3 to 70 cm). MODULO SYSTEM makes it possible to pour the foundation beams and the groundslab in a single operation, considerably reducing forming time. A single pour means extra safety and stability.

• SINGLE POUR OF SLAB AND FOUNDATION BEAMS

MODULO SYSTEM is used to create a monolithic structure with high load-bearing capacity, stability and excellent seismic resistance.

• ELIMINATION OF TRADITIONAL FORMS

VENTILATION

Protects the whole structure from moisture and disperses Radon gas.

• INCREASES THE FOUNDATION LOAD-BEARING CAPACITY

REDUCES THE AMOUNT OF MATERIALS REQUIRED

• THERMAL INSULATION Control of natural convection airflow.

• EASIER MAINTENANCE AND ACCESSIBILITY OF PLUMBING AND ELECTRIC SYSTEMS

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GEOBLOCK is available for every size of **MODULO** from **H13** to **H70**



HOW TO CREATE A VENTILATED FOUNDATION







HOW TO CORRECTLY JOIN THE FORMS

To correctly join Modulo parts simply superpose the female and the male U-lips of the forms. Modulo H55, H60, H65 and H70 cm have additional coupling features on the feet and on the U-lips which add further stability to the forms during the pour.



Make sure that the parts are perfectly joined and form an even surface without openings between the forms. (Modulo H 55-70)



During installation always hold the parts with the arrow imprinted on the top pointing away from vourself.



Vertically connect the feet. (Modulo H 55-70)



The length of Geoblock can be adjusted according to the project requirements.



Always check that the feet of Modulo are correctly joined. (Modulo H 55-70)



For a correct installation of **Modulo** please follow instructions.



The final assembled configuration must loo like the picture all the feet must be firmly on the ground. (Modulo H 55-70)



It is possible to adjust the length of Geobloc liding it underneath Modul

- 1. Prepare a lean concrete base of thickness as required by the load on the foundation. The foundation reinforcement is placed above this lean concrete base;
- **2.** Prepare the perimeter foundation of the pour;
- **3. P**lace the ventilation tubes through the ground beam reinforcement for connection between different sections of the around slab:
- 4. Place all pipes and services as per design (plumbing, cables, etc.);
- 5. Place the Modulo forms, without cutting any of the pieces;
- 6. Use Geoblock to close any gap between Modulo and the foundation beams. Geoblock closes the arches of Modulo avoiding any grout loss, and automatically forms the ground beams.:
- 7. Place the wire mesh directly above Modulo; connect it with the foundation steel. The shape of Modulo and Geoblock ensures the required concrete cover.
- 8. Perform a single pour of the foundation beams and the groundslab; the concrete should be adequately vibrated.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR A CORRECT POUR











HOW TO CREATE A VENTILATED MONOLITHIC FOUNDATION

MODULO IS INSTALLED PLACING THE PARTS IN ROWS FROM RIGHT TO LEFT AND FROM TOP TO BOTTOM. THE ARROWS ON THE FORMS MUST ALWAYS POINT AWAY FROM THE INSTALLER.



- The fully overlaying lip makes MODULO quick and easy to install.
- **MODULO** can be placed over partially prepared surfaces.
- **MODULO** is fully treadable.



NATURAL OR FORCED VENTILATION

To have an effective ventilation of the foundation it is necessary to connect the sanitary void to the outside: this is done creating openings of diameter 80/120 mm in the perimeter beams of the foundation every 3.5 to 4.0 m; the required connection PVC pipes and metallic anti-intrusion grids must be considered.

The ventilation openings must be placed at a higher level on the southern face of the building (warmer side) vs. the northern face (colder side), so that a stack effect is naturally created. Any portions of the sanitary void separated by foundation beams should be connected to each other by openings as described above.

UNDER THE WHOLE SLAB









Natural soil xample of v





- As soon as a few square meters of Modulo have been installed it is possible to walk on the forms, as long as the operators do not tread in the centre of the domes. Once the welded mesh is in place it is possible to walk over the whole surface.
- When a concrete pump is used it is advised to pour from a max. height of 20 cm above the forms. The pillars must be filled with concrete before the slab is poured.
- Do not begin the pour before the welded mesh is in place; make sure that the forms are all correctly placed. During the hot season it is advised to pour during the cool hours of the day, or otherwise to wet the forms before the pour.





Example of aired foundation with reinforced sub-grade



CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT - TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Construct a sanitary void and the reinforced concrete groundslab above it by pouring concrete onto regenerated polypropylene (*) lost formwork type **MODULO**[®], manfactured by Geoplast S.p.A., Italy; each **MODULO**[®] element has a square base of 50x50, 58x58 or 71x71 cm, with the shape of a dome or a series of domes, of height as required by the designer. The top surface of **MODULO**[®] is designed to correctly place the welded mesh and to support the pour of concrete min. resistance class Rck 250; the interconnected forms will create a series of domes and pillars in a bidirectional square matrix.

The sanitary void created is suitable for the passage of services and/or the ventilation of the foundation. The sides will be blocked-off using the extensible elements type **GEOBLOCK**[®] which are designed to allow the single pour of foundation beams and groundslab.

(*) Regenerated Polypropylene (PP): Flexural modulus 1100 N/mm² - Tensile strength 35 N/mm² - Coefficient of thermal expansion 0,15 mm/m/°C.

Execution:

- A) Pour a slab of lean concrete of the thickness specified by the project design.
- B) If required by the Project Management, holes for services shall be made and references shall be traced before the forms are put in place.
- C) Ventilation of the foundation is provided by openings of Ø 80/120 mm every 3.50 / 4.00 m in the perimeter structures, connected to the sanitary void with PVC pipes. The openings shall be protected from pest intrusion by metal grids. To achieve best results the vents shall be placed at a higher level on the southern face of the building (warmer side) than on the norhtern face (colder side). Should groundbeams divide the groundslab in sectors, these should be interconnected by pipes.
- D) Install the elements type MODULO[®] and GEOBLOCK[®] in regenerated polypropylene as required by the project design.
- E) Place the reinforcement (welded mesh) as required by the project design.
- F) Pour concrete of resistance class and performance in the amount required in order to fill the voids created by the forms, creating a series of pillars, and the top slab of the thickness required by the project design, with or without the aid of a concrete pump.
- G) Vibrate the concrete pour.

CERTIFICATION MODULO is a product certified by TEST REPORT 1019X/9/001

issued by TECHNOPROVE - Vicenza

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All ancillary services and structures required for a workmanlike execution must be included.



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