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### (April 2, 2012)

# **Specific Erection Requirements for Precast Concrete Block Faced Structural Earth Walls**

### **Landmark Retaining Wall**

When placing each course of concrete blocks, the Contractor shall pull the blocks towards the front face of the wall until the male key of the bottom face of the upper block contacts and fits into the female key of the top face of the supporting block below.

A maximum gap of 1/8-inch is allowed between adjacent concrete blocks, except for the base course set of concrete blocks placed on the leveling pad. A maximum gap of 1-inch is allowed between adjacent base course concrete blocks, provided geosynthetic reinforcement for drains is in place over the gap at the back face of the concrete blocks.

Lock bars shall be installed in the female key of the top face of all concrete block courses receiving geogrid reinforcement. Gaps between adjacent lock bars in the key shall not exceed 3-inches. The lock bar shall be installed flat side up, with the angled side to the back of the concrete block, as shown in the shop drawings.

Geogrid reinforcement shall be placed and connected to concrete block courses specified to receive soil reinforcement. The leading edge of the geogrid reinforcement shall be maintained within 1-inch of the front face of the supporting concrete blocks below. Geogrid panels shall be abutted for 100 percent backfill coverage with less than a 4-inch gap between adjacent panels.

Backfill shall be placed and compacted level with the top of each course of concrete blocks, and geogrid reinforcement placed and connected to concrete block courses specified to receive soil reinforcement, before the Contractor may continue placing the next course of concrete blocks.

#### Mesa Wall

For all concrete block courses receiving geogrid reinforcement, the fingers of the block connectors shall engage the geogrid reinforcement apertures, both in the connector slot in the block, and across the block core. For all concrete block courses with intermittent geogrid coverage, a #3 steel reinforcing bar shall be placed, butt end to butt end, in the top block groove, with the butt ends being placed at a center of a concrete block.