

#### SPECIALISTS IN THE MANUFACTURE OF CUSTOM MADE PRE-CAST CONCRETE AND CAST STONE PRODUCTS

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# Guide for the installation of Bespoke Concrete Products furniture

Whilst we are happy to provide the following information we must emphasise that we cannot be held responsible for inspection and analysis of individual site conditions. It is the responsibility of the contractor to ensure the installation of the concrete furniture will conform to all health and safety requirements.

It is our considered opinion that you should always ensure that a full site survey is carried out before installation commences.

## To assess if a specialist sub base is required

From the product specification sheet where we have calculated the weight and the footprint your structural engineer will be able to establish if a sub base is required.

We have experience with contractors who will literally set the concrete furniture on to the compacted sub base or tarmacadam surface.

One of the reasons for this is that in certain cases the landscape architects or designers have at later dates wished to move the furniture around the site and therefore ensure that option is available by not securing the seating units in any way.

### General specification for a sub base

We would allow a 200mm compacted dolomite/hardcore sub base which would extend approximately 150 mm around the perimeter of the unit.

Should you wish to grout the unit to the sub base we would allow a 15mm mortar bed 3:1 sand cement ratio.



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### Movement of concrete furniture on site

The movement of our units may be dependent on access arrangements, routes from drop off points to final installation location, available plant and competent operators on site and other site rules. We cannot therefore offer anything other than basic advice on unloading, distribution and placement and this does not relieve the installer of his health and safety responsibilities in this regard.

We suggest that units remain on their pallets for unloading and distribution to their installation point by forklift/tele-handler or similar. Installation is therefore from pallet to adjacent final location to minimise handling. Where we have installed units we have used correctly rated and certified slings, block lifters or vacuum lifters to position the units. Care needs to be taken to ensure the lifting and handling equipment can safely accept the weight and size of units. Most common hire centre equipment is not adequate for these purposes. Size and weights of units will be provided or can be supplied on request.

Where units are being placed directly onto a hardstanding we recommend this is brushed clean of debris including small stones as any debris under the units can result in local compression fractures and the chipping of bottom edges.

Where units are being placed below finished ground level it is sometimes possible to have slots cast in to the base of our units to accept forks or slings. This can make placement easier however this needs to be discussed before manufacture.

Where units are being placed next to each other we draw to your attention that precast concrete is heavy and unforgiving. If 2 units hit each other or apply pressure on each other there is likely to be chipping of edges and faces. Great care should be taken in the installation of units butting up to each other. We recommend there are jointing gaps which can be used to include compressible material to assist in preventing damage. Thin jointing can subsequently be filled or pointed in a matching mortar or flexible sealant.

However it is your responsibility to ensure that all required health and safety issues are addressed when movement of the units is taking place.

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