

INNOVATION & BEST PRACTICE

SaveSorb Spill Material



Innovation Champion
Name: Hannah Kelly
Role: Environmental Advisor
Tel: 07594 090 804
E-mail: hkelly@ferrovial.com
Company: Ferrovial Agroman UK
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Context/Need:

Within the construction industry there are various chemicals, oils and fuels used within daily works. The use of these COSHH items could potentially lead to spillages and leaks with the potential to contaminate the local area. In order to reduce the risk and prevent contamination from occurring spill kits are used across the industry. FAUK have recently trialled SaveSorb, a new eco-friendly spill response material on sites at Q6.

Solution: SaveSorb is a totally natural and sustainable product, procured from Veriflora certified Canadian sphagnum peat moss. Using a proprietary method, it is dried, sieved, blended and pH balanced to create an effective absorbent of hydrocarbons and chemicals.

Ferrovial have decided to switch from the traditional spill granules and spill catcher to SaveSorb due to the following benefits:

- **Non-leaching & hydrophobic** - SaveSorb is an absorbent of hydrocarbons and chemicals. This means it soaks up and holds contaminants within its molecular structure and will not release them back into the environment, even under pressure. Most conventional spill products, like granules, are absorbents, which means contaminants stick to the surface of the granules and will leach back out into the environment.
- **Environmental protection** - The product is versatile and used equally effectively on land or in water.
- **Financial savings** - Up to 20x less loose SaveSorb is needed to clear spills compared with conventional products like granules. Once used, it weighs up to 3x less. So Ferrovial can save money on disposal costs.
- **Clean & easy disposal** - The spill mat inserts stay dry to touch after use, so can simply be rolled up and disposed of without mess.
- **Safe product** - The loose product absorbs some fumes and has fewer small particles, useful for clearing up small spills of flammable liquids and reducing dust.
- **Avoid confusion**—SaveSorb can be used on any spill, chemical or oil based substance therefore avoiding confusion with regards to the correct spill material to be used.



Application in other contexts: construction sites where spill response material is required

Realising the Benefit:

HEALTH & SAFETY	TIME	COST	QUALITY	SUSTAINABILITY
Soaks up and holds contaminants Absorbs fumes Reduces dust	Easier to use	Reduction in spill response material consumption, delivery and waste costs	N/A	Sustainable source Peat accumulates >50 times rate it is harvested