tried tested trusted
FOR 30 YEARS

pecafil®
since 1982
Developed in the early 80’s Pecafil was patented by the FRANK Group in 1982 and has been developed into a complete permanent formwork system that primarily speeds up construction, improves build quality and reduces the need for skilled labour on site.

The yellow and green of Pecafil is instantly recognisable and today is a prominent feature on most construction sites as the formwork system preferred by leading groundwork contractors.

- tried and tested for 30 years
- reliable permanent formwork system
- integrated manufacturing process from wire coil to finished sheet
- optimum strength/minimum weight
- easy & quick to install
- sealed edge panels withstand any concrete pressure
- strong, durable, resilient barrier, UV stabilised

Pecafil, invented by the FRANK Group, has been tried and tested on site for 30 years and behind this track record of success is a programme of continuous product development to ensure that Pecafil is easy to use and provides a totally reliable permanent formwork system.

Max Frank do not simply use standard ‘off the shelf’ mesh sheets but specially manufacture the steel mesh in their own world class factory to an exacting specification. This has been subject to continuous product development so that the current mesh wire diameters and centres of Pecafil provide the optimum in core panel strength whilst maintaining an overall panel weight that makes Pecafil easy to handle on site.

Pecafil panels are manufactured in a dedicated modern 550,000ft² factory where a purpose designed in-line manufacturing facility automatically converts coils of steel wire into the specially manufactured mesh and then as a continuous process automatically encapsulates it within two layers of distinctive yellow foil membrane.

The high grade polyethylene foil membrane (a non toxic material made from naturally occurring hydrocarbons) is heat shrunk on to the mesh, creating a sealed panel that can withstand any concrete pressure. The membrane is highly resistant to physical damage and is UV stabilised for 6 months exposure to provide a strong, durable and resilient barrier.
Pecafil is produced in a wide range of sheet and strip sizes, with various wire diameters and mesh centres to suit the specific application. The Pecafil system also comprises a wide range of custom-designed plastic side spacers and triangular fibre concrete bar spacers manufactured for use with Pecafil. These maintain the correct concrete cover and make the installation of Pecafil both quick and easy.

FRANK Pecafil spacers have been carefully developed and are subject to strict quality control. In a recent test of plastic side spacers available in the UK, the FRANK Pecafil spacer was not only easier to use but the only spacer not to split or distort in use during the tests, making cage installation easier and ensuring a good quality foundation. Pecafil triangular fibre concrete bar spacers are unique to Max Frank and withstand 40kN of concrete pressure.

The Max Frank factory in Stoke on Trent provides a further important service - processing and forming Pecafil sheets to create a wide range of standard and bespoke panels to suit specific customer applications. When delivered to site, Pecafil components are already pre-shaped and sized to meet the customer’s needs and may be simply installed with a minimum of basic tools. This process significantly reduces on-site waste and makes installation of Pecafil both fast and easy, saving contractors substantial time and money.

Pecafil is an environmentally friendly product, has no impact on groundwater and is recyclable.

Max Frank provide a next day delivery service to site and to support this a substantial stock of Pecafil sheets and strips are held at their Stoke on Trent factory ready for processing or forming to your site requirements.

Max Frank’s UK factory is centrally located in the Midlands for ease of distribution, with excellent access to both the M6 and M1 motorways for north/south deliveries.

All deliveries are made direct to site with a detailed schedule of the units being delivered and a Pecafil assembly guide for easy installation. All units are clearly marked so they may be quickly identified and used on site.
When you use a product each day it is easy to overlook its inherent benefits and all too easy to forget the breadth of advantages it confers in use.

Pecafil is a proven and reliable complete formwork system comprising a wide range of sheet sizes and specifications designed to give the flexibility that allows the optimum solution to be provided for any project. Pecafil is available factory formed to customised shapes with sealed edges to provide for fast and accurate formwork installation using a comprehensive range of Pecafil plastic side spacers and triangular fibre concrete bar spacers. It is simple to identify, select and install ready formed Pecafil units to form pile caps, bases and beams.

Individual panels are light enough to handle all day without the need for hoists and when using Pecafil to form ground beams, separation panels, box outs, or pile caps and bases, you not only save time and waste less material but also take the hard work out of construction – improving on site productivity.

L-shaped units are ideal for wide, shallow beams or rectangular bases.

Circular formwork can be created to virtually any size with radiussed units.

U-section ground beam units provide a fast and efficient way to construct beams in a clean lined excavation.

U-sections are also suitable to form the perimeter of semi-raft foundations and different side heights are also easily produced. Pecafil is the concrete saving solution for semi raft foundations in less stable ground conditions such as mining areas, flood plains, landfill sites or where peat or clay are present.

Factory cut and bent shapes can be formed to exact concrete outlines making Pecafil ideal to construct pile caps or bases – simply fix the spacers to the reinforcement cage and position the Pecafil units.

Partition units can be used as a durable separation material between the concrete face and steel sheet piles or contiguous concrete piles, reducing concrete usage and eliminating spoil ingress/contamination to the reinforcement cage.
Spacer testing

Pecafil is a complete and reliable permanent formwork system. Integral to the system are the plastic side and triangular fibre concrete bar spacers developed by Max Frank to keep cages and Pecafil formwork in position and to ensure optimum concrete flow.

We recently undertook a series of detailed tests to simulate actual site conditions of the plastic side spacers available in the UK. The results were significant:

- Pecafil side spacers were easier to use, especially with 16mm bar
- Pecafil side spacers were the only type to consistently withstand a 2.5kN test load and after testing return to their original shape without cracking.

Previous tests of concrete bar spacers resulted in the development by Max Frank of triangular bar spacers – these are non-tipping (easier to use and keep cages positioned) and promote concrete flow. The spacers themselves are manufactured from fibre concrete and become an integral part of the foundation.

Only Max Frank manufacture triangular fibre concrete bar spacers, another example of Pecafil’s unique technological advantages.
To provide the ultimate in fast and accurate formwork, Max Frank provide a comprehensive Pecafil detailing service to match the supply of standard and custom manufactured elements to your exact requirements.

Either call us to talk through your requirements or we can arrange a site visit from one of our experienced Max Frank Specialists. We have locally based staff across the UK so they are readily available to visit site and familiar with local conditions.

Based on your site drawings and discussions our technical team will produce a detailed Pecafil design scheme that will provide the optimum formwork solution for your project. This not only saves you money through reducing material waste on site but ensures that formwork is quick and easy to install.

Max Frank will manufacture any shaped components within 24 hours of your order confirmation and supply both standard and shaped components direct to site. All units are individually marked and are supplied along with a fully detailed schedule of the units where necessary to simplify installation.

Pecafil® detailing service – manufacturing for your application

24 hour turnaround

As your dedicated in-house contacts at Max Frank we are here to help you with any queries, ensure your orders are processed efficiently and delivered to meet your on-site timetables.

We are able to agree delivery schedules with you so that you know exactly when materials will be delivered to site. We will also discuss with you issues such as site access and any special off-loading requirements.

For customers using our detailing service (to produce formed components) we will liaise with production to co-ordinate the delivery of your Pecafil order, to meet your on-site needs.

For orders of flat sheets or formed Pecafil and accessories by mid afternoon we can offer a next day delivery but we know that sometimes a situation on site can catch you out and if you have a special problem just give us a call on 01782 598041.

Please email quotation requests and drawings to: pecafil@maxfrank.co.uk
No other permanent formwork system is as versatile or proven as Pecafil®

Every year our climate seems to be different – either evidence of global warming or just good old British weather.

In parts of the UK, extremes of weather – especially the extremes of rainfall, drought or flood, impact significantly on the stability of clay sub soils resulting in ground movement. Even in ‘normal’ seasons ground moisture level can be affected by other factors such as trees and vegetation.

Wherever ground movement is a potential risk consideration must be given to mitigate these effects and reduce the uplift pressure on concrete slabs, rafts and piled foundations.

As the UK’s leading supplier of permanent formwork, Max Frank are pleased to announce as part of our process of continual product development, the introduction of a new member of the FRANK groundworks family – Pecavoid, expanded polystyrene ground movement products.

Pecavoid is designed to crush when ground movement takes place thereby reducing the uplift pressure and avoiding damage to the building and foundations.

With Pecavoid CS the thickness of the top panel is increased by the insertion of an expanded polystyrene panel to ensure compliance with part L design regulations.
Max Frank are the leading supplier of permanent formwork solutions to the industry, providing a wide range of products to suit different site and project requirements:

The FRANK Group also produce a wide range of other specialist construction products ranging from formwork liners and reinforcement technologies to sealing and acoustic products. Ask your Max Frank Specialist for further details or visit the Max Frank website at: www.maxfrank.co.uk

Pecafil® permanent formwork
For fast and precise installation of formwork in foundation applications

Stremaform® jointing formwork
A permanent formwork material designed for construction joints in concrete elements

Box-out Shutters
Ranges of box out forms and accessories for profile and void forming

Pecavoid® ground heave solution
The effective solution to ground movement problems

Spacers
(Fibre concrete to BS 7973 & plastic side spacers)
Triangular fibre concrete and plastic spacers developed to suit real site conditions

Tubbox® column formers
The simple fast and cost effective way to produce concrete columns on site

Pecavoid has been developed at Max Frank’s UK subsidiary and is manufactured in a dedicated facility in Stoke on Trent. The product is manufactured from interlocking sections of expanded polystyrene in a factory certified to ISO 9001:2008 standards and is designed to ‘crush’ in response to ground movement.

The materials in Pecavoid are EN13163:2001 compliant, are CFC-free and do not contain or produce HCFC’s. They can also be recycled.

Pecavoid has been designed for use in reinforced piled slabs and beams and must be specified to suit the application based on the concrete thickness and plasticity index of the sub soil – these factors affect the void and depth of leg required. Pecavoid is not suitable for use in ground bearing design. While Pecavoid can be used with any formwork system, naturally it is designed as part of the Pecafil system. When used with Pecafil triangular fibre concrete bar spacers and Pecafil pre-formed panels, the groundwork contractor is provided with a simple to use, fast, cost-effective permanent formwork and protection against ground movement.

To assist you in choosing the correct grade of Pecavoid, please contact us for assistance.