



Suppliers of ACO Wildlife products



Amphibian Climate Tunnel KT500 inc. Entrance Unit KP 1000-700



ACO Wildlife Products

The ACO approach to creating products for wildlife mitigation looks at putting wildlife protection at the core of any infrastructure design.

Many of the products from the ACO range can be 'hard-landscaped' into the design at the project outset, or can be retro-fitted to existing infrastructure to provide robust, long-term wildlife protection.

At wildlifefencing.co.uk we believe that the ACO product range builds on our reputation as the leading supplier of wildlife mitigation products and helps us to provide a wider choice of options for sustainable wildlife protection.



Amphibians & roads

Amphibians spend much of their time in sheltered, dry environments but during the spring mating season, seek water in which to spawn.

Where amphibian populations exist near roads, this can lead these creatures to venture out on to the tarmac putting them at risk of being run over by vehicles. Come winter, they may also make the return journey back to dry land putting them at risk once more.

On particularly busy roads, this can have a huge impact on amphibian populations in the area.

ACO Amphibian Climate Tunnel

The ACO Amphibian Climate Tunnel system provides a permanent road crossing tunnel for amphibians such as great crested newts, toads, reptiles or other wildlife. Tunnels need to be located strategically where it is known that amphibians attempt a road crossing to reach spawning grounds.

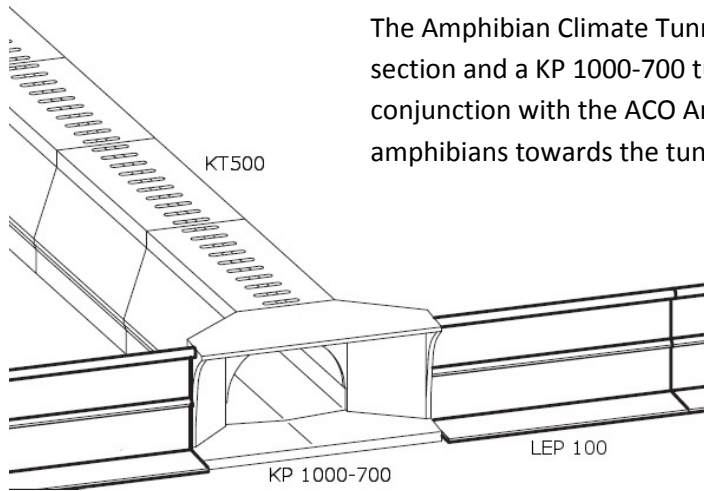
Installation of such tunnels can remove the need to create new wetland habitat on the amphibian side of a road to compensate for a natural amphibian migration route being 'blocked' by a road.



The design of the ACO Amphibian Climate Tunnel is such that it sits flush with the roads surface. This means that less excavation is required for installation than for other tunnel systems. This also means that there is less chance of the tunnel flooding at times of high ground water levels.

The tunnel components are cast from an extremely tough poly concrete material and have been tested to withstand loads of 400kN, and conform to Standard EN 1433.

Modular system

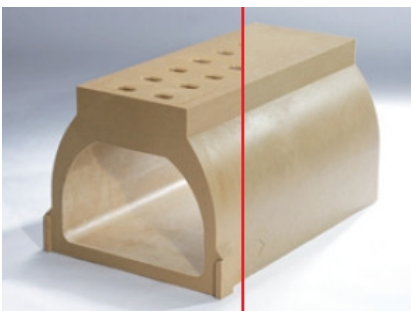


The Amphibian Climate Tunnel comprises of 2 main components, KT500 tunnel section and a KP 1000-700 tunnel entrance unit. This system can be installed in conjunction with the ACO Amphibian Guide Fence LEP 100 which helps to direct amphibians towards the tunnel opening.

Other tunnel components are available to adapt the system to suit a variety of installation situations. Right & left handed tunnel entrance wings can be fitted to create a wider tunnel opening or to accommodate situations where the tunnel line is not perpendicular to the surrounding guide fence or embankment in which the entrance is fitted.

Climate slots

The polymer concrete tunnel sections incorporate 'climate slots' in the top, exposed surface. This helps the atmosphere inside the tunnel to equalise with external climatic conditions. This eliminates the problem of 'drying out', a symptom of other tunnel systems where amphibians can become dehydrated mid-tunnel and die.



Climate Tunnel KT500 with/without climate slots



Climate Opening

In situations such as on main trunk roads where it is necessary to have continuity of the normal road surface, a 'blind' tunnel section is available without the climate slots that can be surfaced over. To allow for the thickness of the road covering, the height of the 'blind' unit is reduced. A connecting 'step down' section is available to make the join between the two types of tunnel section.



Specifications

The Climate Tunnel sections are manufactured from high strength polymer concrete material without the use of cement. No metal components are used, eliminating the possibility of disorientation arising from distortion of magnetic fields.

All units are certified to BS EN 1433:2002 with a D 400 load class.

The material surface is non-absorbent with minimal thermal conductivity. Along with the provision of the climate slots this helps create a suitable habitat within the tunnel for amphibians.

Tunnel sections are available in 2 lengths, 500mm & 1000mm.

