Pipeline Mat laying instructions

1. A risk assessment must be completed which should encompass position of any underground services, height restrictions, suitability of the lifting equipment and lifting accessories required. It may also establish a safe zone for lifting operations. (this list is not exhaustible)
2. Current Health and Safety legislation LOLER requires that all equipment used for lifting purposes must be issued with a declaration of conformity or a report of thorough examination.
3. Pipeline mats are lifted via the tie bar exposed in the cut out each end of the mat, the use of 2leg chain sling is strongly recommended to avoid damaging the mat during lifting operation. Ground suction may result during wet conditions which will increase the mass of each mat. (see below for approx weight of mats)
4. Uneven ground must be first levelled prior to laying the mats, this will not only reduce damage to the mats but also helps distribute the weight applied on each mat.
5. The mats are laid butted next to each other, to form a single roadway either 5metre or 3metre wide.
6. To avoid damage to the mats and reduce the step, it is recommended to form a soil ramp on and off the roadway.
7. The suitability of the roadway and the final decision to use it must be with the driver.
8. Care must be taken when lifting the mats, ground suction may result in the mat breaking if the suction has not been released.

The weights of timber products can vary considerably depending on the density of the timber and the amount of water absorption.

Mat size	Weight of individual mat	Approx weight carried depending on ground conditions and the load being evenly distributed
3mtr x 1mtr x 70mm	250kg	21tonnes
5mtr x 1mtr x 70mm	415kg	35tonnes