



Be ahead

## **DRAINAGE / SOAKAWAY INFORMATION**

Drainage/Soakaway is absolutely imperative when installing any automation from any manufacturer and the automation is below ground surface level, particularly with the climate in the UK.

Further information on recommended groundworks for automatic bollards is in the instruction manual supplied with the product and available on our website.

There is no set size of soakaway as you do not know how much water will make its way into the bollard foundation when it rains. For example, if the bollard was at the bottom of a slope it is more likely it will collect more water than if it was on level or higher ground.

The key is how quickly any water drains away from the foundation pit. The generic specification calls for 40 litres of water to drain away in around 30/40 minutes. This of course will be affected by not just the size of the soakaway but the make up of the surrounding substrata. If it's solid clay then water can sit for a long period of time.

The local area water table is a critical consideration as this could be higher than the soakaway and water may sit inside the foundation pit at certain times of the year (this is where the IP rating of the product is relevant). This being the case then a sump and pumping system would be required. If you need to use a pumping system then it's important to note that the drainage soakaway/connection on any bollard will potentially be below the water drainage pipe level currently in place that serves the property.

If the surrounding substrata allows reasonable drainage and the bollard pit position is not in a low level location where draining water would converge then the soakaway would not need to be too large. For example, the 40 litres of water has a volume of 0.004 of a cubic metre [1000 litres in one cubic metre].

We hope this is of some assistance.

**BFT Automation UK Ltd**

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