

# Temporary Weather Protection - Contarps

## The Problem

Peers were tasked with finding the best possible temporary weather protection solution for a modular project to aid the decommissioning of a fleet of submarines. The modules were to be transported from Peers yard in Bolton to Rosyth where they were to be installed in the dry dock to carry out the work. Once the submarine components were removed and made safe the modules would be removed and stored on a special frame at the dock side. This pattern was to be repeated at least 12 times or more as more other submarines became available to decommission.

## The Risks

The timber panel option was reviewed and it was hard to achieve a solution which was light enough to be removed by hand without the aid of lifting equipment. This posed the problem of possible back injuries and additional costs for lifting equipment.

## The Solution

Peers design team liaised with a specialist tarpaulin company to provide 3 water tight covers which are fire retardant, quick to remove & install and have a life span greater than 5 years (Contarps).



*Assembled Modules*



*Contarp Panel*



*Modules in the Dock*



*A Module in Transit – Contarp to View*



*A Module on the Trailer – Contarp to View*

## The Benefits

1. The panels weigh less than 1kg/m<sup>2</sup> and can be removed in less than 10 minutes.
2. The edges have special Velcro seals which make them water tight and wind proof.
3. Ratchet straps are used to keep the covers taut (similar to a wagon cover)
4. It is a cost effective solution equivalent to approximately 50% of a timber panel solution.
5. The covers come in a range of colours and can have identification numbers printed on them.
6. "Contarps" (Construction Tarpaulins) can be manufactured in just a few weeks.
7. The covers are easy to repair or replace should they get damaged.