Next Generation Bioretention
High Performance Modular Biofiltration Systems
FocalPoint High Performance Modular Biofiltration Systems (HPMBS) is a scalable biofiltration system which combines the efficiency of high flow rate engineered soils with the durability and modularity of a highly pervious expandable underdrain/storage/infiltration system. The modular FocalPoint HPMBS is a complete, integrated system with a demanding specification that insures functionality, performance and maintainability. With rigorous quality assurance standards and post-construction in-situ performance verification, FocalPoint HPMBS provides guaranteed performance.
Uniquely Specified, Site Built
System Components

High Flow Media
At the heart of every FocalPoint HPMBS is its high performance engineered soil blend. Developed by LID pioneer, Larry Coffman, advanced high flow rate biofiltration media utilizes physical, chemical and biological mechanisms of the soil, plant and microbe complex, to remove pollutants found in stormwater runoff. Infiltration rates at 100” per hour or more, overcome many of the challenges inherent in traditional slow flow rate media and creates design flexibilities that drive lower costs and greater application opportunities.

Separation Layer
A wide aperture mesh layer is utilized to prevent bridging stone from entering the underdrain system. A separation layer which utilizes the concept of ‘bridging’ to separate the biofiltration media from the underdrain without the use of geotextile fabrics.

Open Cell Underdrain
A modular, high infiltration rate underdrain/storage system which is designed to directly infiltrate or exfiltrate water through it’s surface. The modular underdrain overcomes the limited collection capacity of traditional stone and pipe underdrains. A 95% open surface area accepts water significantly faster and can be extended to accommodate any volume needs.

Mulch
Shredded, hardwood mulch acts as a pre-treatment mechanism, capturing silt, sediment and certain other pollutants, and preventing trash from entering the system. Removal and replacement of mulch is typically necessary at 6-12 month intervals and is the most significant maintenance activity required with the FocalPoint HPMBS.

Plants
Native plants are preferred, but a broad palette of plants which thrive in FocalPoint HPMBS systems exist. They are typically characterized by rhizomatous root systems and tolerate both drought and inundation.

Pollutant Removal Efficiency

- **TSS**: ≥ 80%
- **Phosphorus**: ≥ 60%
- **Nitrogen**: ≥ 48%
The FocalPoint’s modular underdrain, unlike a traditional perforated pipe, not only supports the flow rate of the media, but can be expanded beyond the footprint of the media bed to provide unlimited underground detention, infiltration and/or storage for water reuse/infiltration.

**FocalPoint HPMBS**

gives designers

**maximum flexibility**

in meeting both

**water quality and**

**volume requirements**

The system can be used in combination with traditional LID BMPs such as grassy swales and vegetated depressions. It enables implementation of green streets using urban sidewalk planters; which because of the small footprint can support designs with large trees. These systems are also used for downspout planters, replacing underground treatment systems and are an easy retrofit for failed traditional bioretention systems. FocalPoint provides unlimited application opportunities for new construction and redevelopment.
‘Cap & Seal’ Protection
During Ongoing Construction Activity

Protecting the FocalPoint HPMBS during construction is of the utmost importance. The ‘Cap & Seal’ protection ensures a viable system regardless of the construction sequencing by sealing off the media bed until the contributing drainage area is stabilized. Solving this problem solves one of the most problematic issues in bioretention. Due to it’s small scale, FocalPoint HPMBS can be capped and sealed, allowing installation to take place early in the project construction cycle when other site utilities are installed.

Convergent Water Technologies guarantees post-construction performance and we make sure your client gets it.

Performance Guaranteed
Post-Installation Verification

The first year’s maintenance is included in all FocalPoint HPMBS installations to insure that the system is given the best opportunity to succeed, and low cost annual maintenance contracts are available.

The potential of failure for most LID/GI BMP’s is highest within the first year and success and failure is often dependent on whether the system is being properly inspected and maintained. Convergent’s commitment to system success doesn’t stop when the installation is complete.

Maintenance In Mind
Simple & Cost Effective

This hydraulic conductivity test procedure measures the entire media profile under saturated conditions to produce a reliable and accurate result.

To ensure the highest level of effectiveness, Convergent specifies that the FocalPoint HPMBS be tested within 90 days of activation and we recommend the system be tested annually thereafter to provide ongoing quality assurance.
The Economic Case
FocalPoint HPMBS vs Traditional Bioretention Soils

The typical economic case for the FocalPoint HPMBS is demonstrated on both the up front and life cycle cost of a recent project. Both the FocalPoint HPMBS and Traditional Bioretention system were budgeted by a contractor specializing in the installation of Low Impact Development Systems. Although the price per square foot of FocalPoint is many times higher than traditional bioretention, the efficiency of the FocalPoint High Performance Media makes the system more than 30 times smaller, per acre treated, resulting in a 50% cost savings per acre treated.

Due to the efficiency of the FocalPoint Media, scale is in its favor

Due to the size maintenance is a fraction of the cost.
GreenRoads Silver Certified
Bagby Street, Houston, TX
Midtown Redevelopment

The design teams goal for Bagby Street was to provide large street trees within the right of way while also removing pollutants such as heavy metals, floatables, sediment and oil and grease from the roadway stormwater runoff before it outfalls to nearby Buffalo Bayou. With the FocalPoint HPMBS high flow-rate engineered media, the designers didn’t need to fill the entire planter box with a bioretention media and underdrain system. This allowed placing the HPMBS away from the tree roots and allowed the design team to meet their objective of having both street trees and biofiltration. The result was an award winning project.

Multi-Family Development
Queenston Manor Apartment

At Queenston Manor Apartments, all of the drainage areas are also common areas and courtyards so it was imperative that the system drain within 24 hours of a rain event. The FocalPoint HPMBS was placed at the lowest elevation in the four landscaped swale systems on site to provide a reliable drainage, detention and water quality solution. The design team was able to decrease the surface storage volume requirements enough to reclaim the land needed to build two additional apartment buildings. For the developers, the 48 additional apartment units was the difference between success and a canceled project.

Parking Lot Retrofit
Sugarland Conference Center

A complete parking lot retrofit incorporates a combination of bioswales, FocalPoint HPMBS, and an expanded underdrain Rainwater Harvesting System. This Low Impact Development and Green Infrastructure retrofit has increased aesthetic appeal, increased time of concentration and decreased peak flows. The reuse system reduces annual potable water use by over 50% and the FocalPoint HPMBS removes more than 80% of the TSS from the discharge along with hydrocarbons, phosphorus, nitrogen and other pollutants before delivering it to the harvesting system.
The Convergent Value-Added Reseller (VAR) network consists of regional organizations that focus on cost-effective answers to all manner of stormwater problems, utilizing innovative systems that deliver value that’s greater than the sum of their parts.

Convergent provides its VARs with the latest technologies, guidance and innovations, and like Convergent, these VARs are firms whose value-added approach has required them to take a non-traditional path in the stormwater industry; it’s a path that leads to the experience, diverse relationships and solutions orientation that is so rare and critically needed in the stormwater industry.

Convergent’s VARs are locally rooted and deeply connected in the communities they serve. They know the local regulations and act as agents of beneficial change. On average, Convergent VAR firms have been in business for 21 years; old enough to know their markets well and experienced enough to recognize and respond quickly to the LID/Green Infrastructure paradigm that is remaking our industry.

Capitalizing on the power of collaborative effort VAR network firms are able to respond rapidly to changing regulations, access ‘lessons learned’ by network peers and respond to the opportunity to be a driving force for innovation in the stormwater marketplace.

The firms which make up this network serve in exclusive territories, and incorporate both sales and service elements (directly or indirectly) in their operations. Every VAR will provide installation, oversight, verification and maintenance for Convergent Systems. Like Low Impact Development itself, the Convergent VAR network is cumulatively powerful and can deliver more cost-effective solutions than traditional distribution.