

APPENDIX B3. NET REGULATIONS

34. Commercial Otter Trawl Net (prawns)

- (1) It is lawful to use an otter trawl net for taking prawns in the waters specified in the Table to this clause if the net complies with the description as set out in relation to those waters in that Table and the following conditions are complied with:
 - (a) The net is used only by the method of trawling
 - (b) Not more than two nets are used at any one time in the Hawkesbury River (downstream from a line drawn between Juno Point and Eleanor Bluff), Clarence River, Botany Bay, Port Jackson, Jervis Bay or Coffs Harbour
 - (c) Not more than one net is used at any one time in the Hunter River or in the Hawkesbury River upstream from a line drawn between Juno Point and Eleanor Bluff to the ferry crossing at Lower Portland
 - (d) No string, rope, wire, cord, netting or other material is fixed to any meshes that are within 25 meshes of the draw or closing string of the cod-end of the net.
- (2) Despite Sub-Clause (1)(d), an otter trawl net may have attached to it any of the following:
 - (a) a draw or closing string at the end of the cod-end
 - (b) a frill of netting material, if the frill is not attached more than five meshes from the last row of meshes of the cod-end
 - (c) a chafing piece, in accordance with Clause 55(2).
- (3) It is lawful to use an otter trawl net to take other fish when it is being lawfully used for taking prawns if:
 - (a) the fish are not a prohibited size class of fish and are not of a species the taking of which is prohibited or
 - (b) the fish are a prohibited size class of fish (other than abalone or crustaceans), are not of a prohibited size and are taken in waters north of a line drawn due east from the lighthouse situated at Smoky Cape (excluding inland waters, the Clarence River and Lake Woollooweyah) or
 - (c) the fish are a prohibited size class of fish (being crustaceans other than rock lobster) and are not of a prohibited size.
- (4) For the purposes of this Regulation or any other instrument under the *FM Act*, a net described in this clause may be referred to as an otter trawl net (prawns).

Otter trawl net (prawns).

- 1 (a) Waters - All waters (other than inland waters, the Clarence River and Lake Wooloweyah).
 - (b) Description of net. Total length not exceeding 11 metres (except in respect of a net used in ocean waters, in which case the total length of the net is not to exceed 33 metres or, if a maximum length for otter trawl nets (prawns) is specified in the boat licence for the boat from which the net is used, the length so specified); mesh of cod-end (or portion of the net capable of being used as a cod-end) not less than 40 mm nor more than 50 mm; mesh of net (other than cod-end or the portion of the net capable of being used as a cod-end) not less than 40 mm nor more than 60 mm; length of sweep attached to net (being the distance between the point of attachment to the otter boards and the net) not exceeding five metres or the distance from the trawl gallows to the stern of the boat (whichever is the greater); sweep to be secured to the net and the otter board so that it cannot exceed five metres in length or the distance from the trawl gallows to the stern of the boat (whichever is the greater).
- 2 (a) Waters-Clarence River and Lake Wooloweyah.
 - (b) Description of net - Total length of net (when towed as single gear) not exceeding 11 metres, total length of either net (when towed as twin gear) not exceeding 7.5 metres; mesh of cod-end (or portion of the net capable of being used as a cod-end) not less than 40 mm nor more than 50 mm; mesh of net (other than cod-end or the portion of the net capable of being used as a cod-end) not less than 40 mm nor more than 60 mm; length of sweep attached to net (being the distance between the point of attachment to the otter boards and the net) not exceeding five metres or the distance from the trawl gallows to the stern of the boat (whichever is the greater); sweep to be secured to the net and the otter board so that it cannot exceed five metres in length or the distance from the trawl gallows to the stern of the boat (whichever is the greater).

48. Hand-hauled prawn net

- (1) It is lawful to use a hand-hauled net for taking prawns in the waters specified in the Table to this clause if the net complies with the description as set out in relation to those waters in that Table and the following conditions are complied with:
 - (a) The net is not staked or set, or joined or placed together with any other net
 - (b) The net is continuously and manually propelled and not used as a stationary net
 - (c) The net is not attached to a hauling line.
- (2) It is also lawful to use a hand-hauled net to take other fish (other than a prohibited size class of fish) that are taken by the net when it is being lawfully used for taking prawns.
- (3) For the purposes of this Regulation or any other instrument under the Act, a net described in this clause may be referred to as a hand-hauled prawn net.

Hand-hauled prawn net.

- (a) Waters - Any waters (other than inland waters).
- (b) Description of net - Total length not exceeding six metres; mesh throughout not less than 30 mm nor more than 36 mm.

49. Push or scissors net (prawns)

- (1) It is lawful to use a push or scissors net for taking prawns in the waters specified in the Table to this clause if the net complies with the description as set out in relation to those waters in that Table and the following conditions are complied with:
 - (a) The net is used only as a hand implement and is not staked or set, or joined or placed together with any other net
 - (b) The net is continuously propelled and not used as a stationary net
 - (c) The net is operated only by 1 person without assistance from any other person
 - (d) Only 1 net is used by a person at any one time.
- (2) It is also lawful to use a push or scissors net to take other fish (other than a prohibited size class of fish) that are taken by the net when it is being lawfully used for taking prawns.
- (3) For the purposes of this Regulation or any other instrument under the Act, a net described in this clause may be referred to as a push or scissors net (prawns).

Push or scissors net (prawns).

- (a) Waters - Any waters (other than inland waters).
- (b) Description of net - Net attached to a scissors-type frame; length of lead or bottom line between the lower extremities of the poles not exceeding 2.75 metres; mesh not less than 30 mm nor more than 36 mm.

50. Dip or scoop net (prawns)

- (1) It is lawful to use a dip or scoop net for taking prawns in the waters specified in the Table to this clause if the net complies with the description as set out in relation to those waters in that Table and the following conditions are complied with:
 - (a) The net is used as a hand implement only and not staked or set, or joined or placed together with any other net
 - (b) Only 1 net is used by a person at any one time.
- (2) It is also lawful to use a dip or scoop net to take other fish that are taken by the net when it is being lawfully used for taking prawns.
- (3) For the purposes of this Regulation or any other instrument under the Act, a net described in this clause may be referred to as a dip or scoop net (prawns).

Dip or scoop net (prawns).

- (a) Waters - Any waters (other than inland waters).
- (b) Description of net - Net attached to a frame, hoop or ring not exceeding 0.6 metre in its greatest diameter, with a handle of not more than 1.2 metres in length, with a total length from the centre of the plane of the frame, hoop or ring to the extremity of the net not exceeding 1.25 metres; mesh not less than 20 mm.

APPENDIX B4

DESCRIPTIONS OF BYCATCH REDUCTION DEVICES

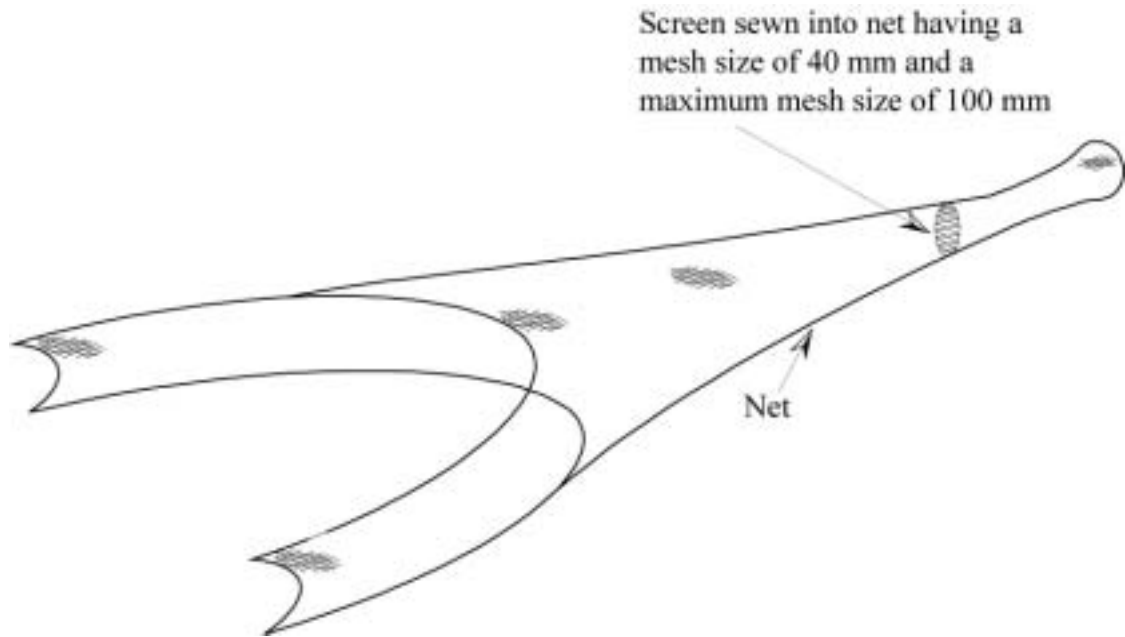


Figure AB1. Port Jackson Screen

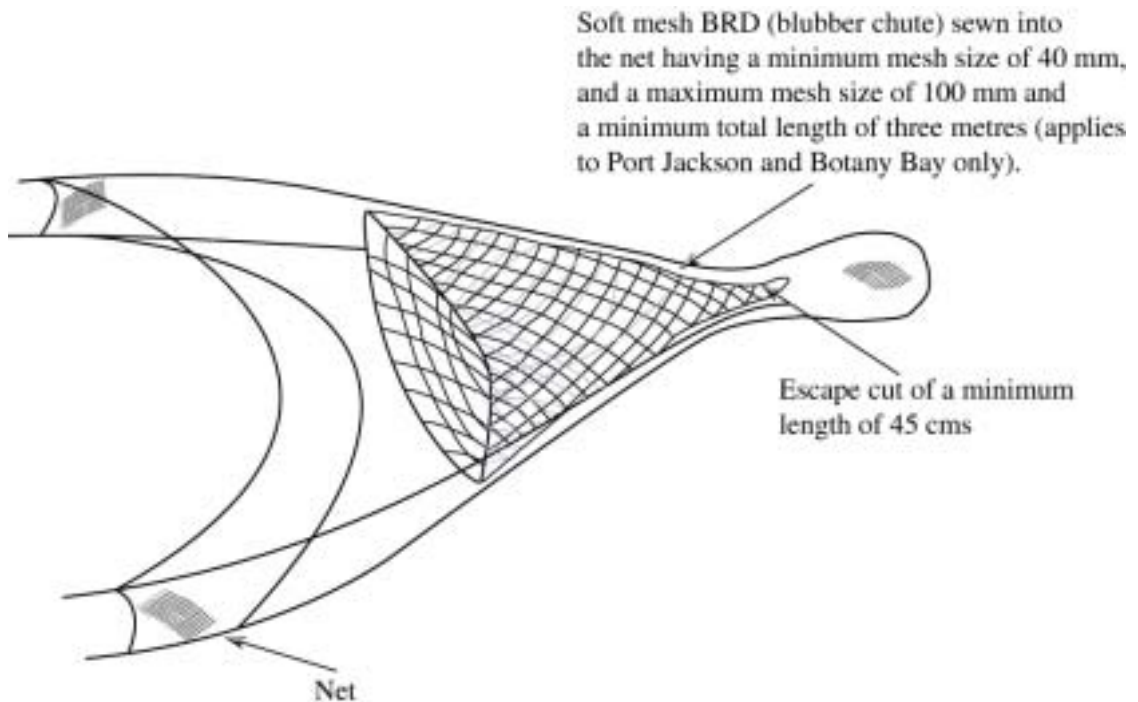


Figure AB2. Softmesh BRD (blubber chute)

Note: Hawkesbury River has a maximum mesh size of 175 mm.)

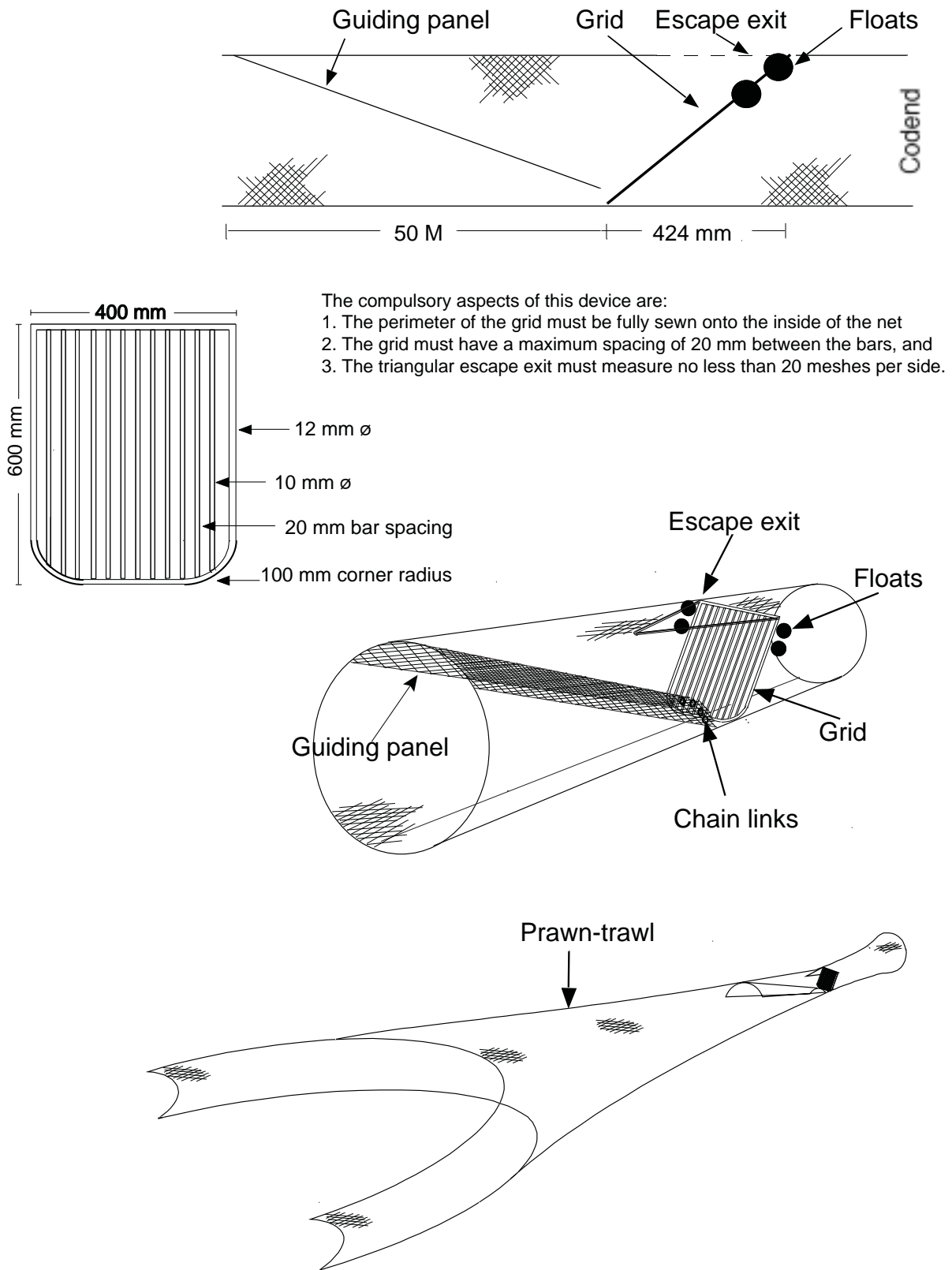
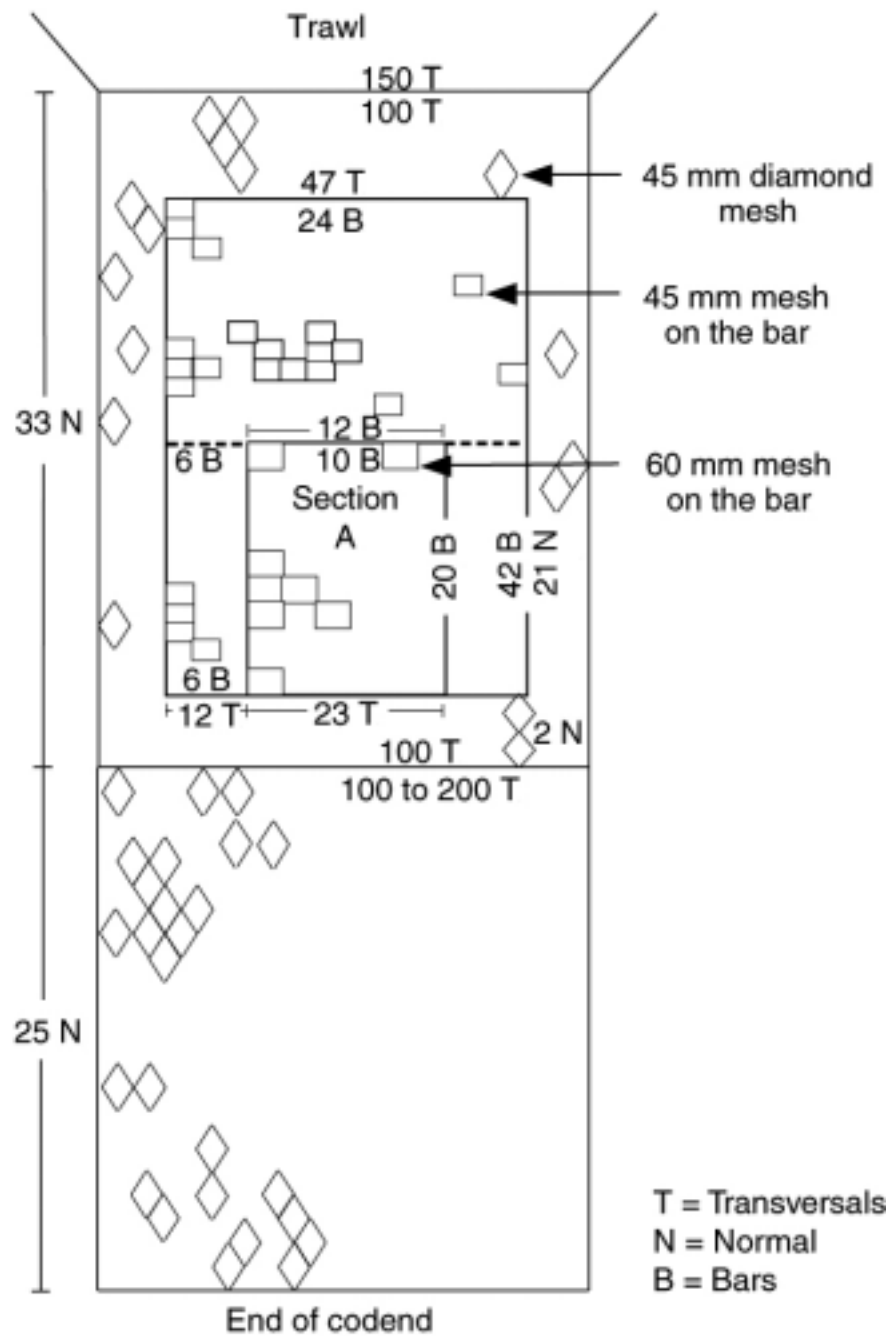


Figure AB3. Nordemore Grid



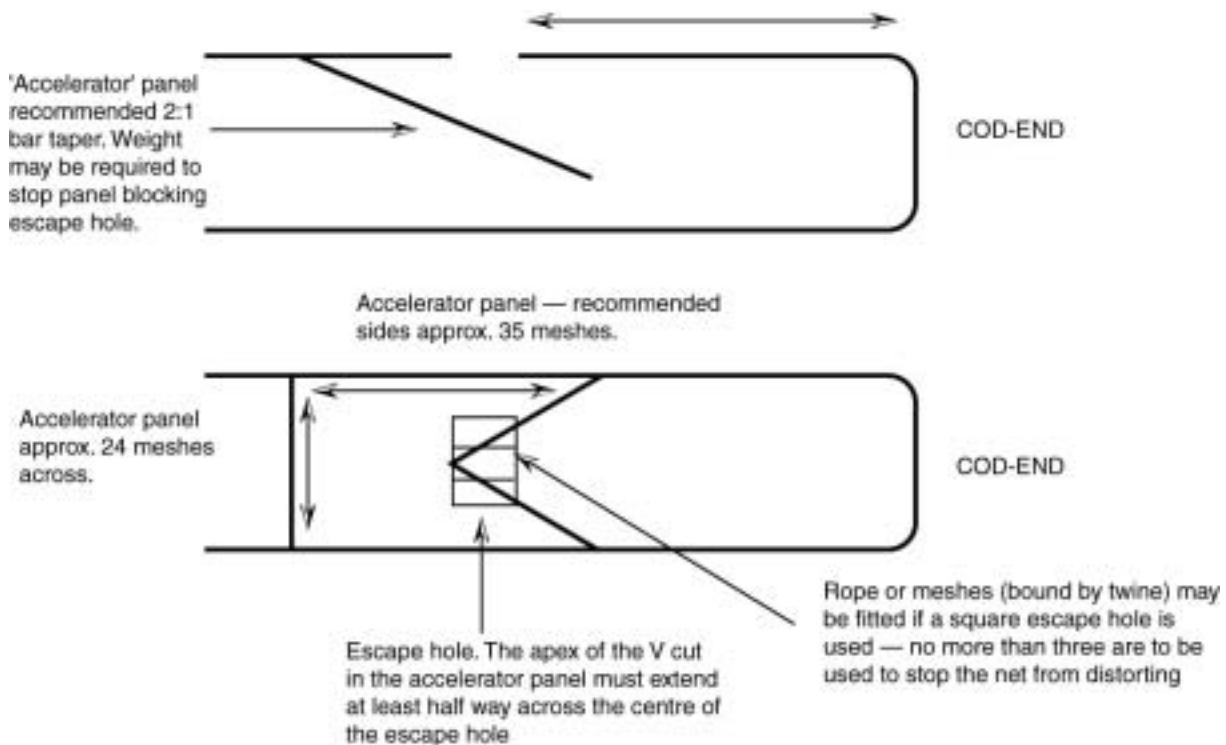
The compulsory aspects of this device are:

1. The panel is sewn into the top of the codend, with its base a maximum length of 1.2 m from the drawstring of 37 meshes
2. The dimensions of the main square mesh panel (section A) must be a minimum of 60 cm by 30 cm wide

Figure AB4. Square Mesh Panel

The 'Quality Clarence Panel' BRD

The base of the escape hole must be within 1.2 m of the cod-end drawstring.



The escape hole may be either a square or a diamond shape.

If using a square escape hole, the hole must be a minimum of 15 meshes across and a minimum of 5 meshes up the net.

If using a diamond shaped escape hole, each side of the diamond must be at least 10 bars long. It is recommended that the diamond is cut out of a separate panel of net (approx. 15 meshes across and 11 meshes long) that is then sewn into the net. It is also recommended that 2 points on the net are sewn to each point on the panel to prevent the escape hole from closing.

A rigid frame may be fitted around the escape hole (i.e. diamond or square).

Figure AB5. Quality Clarence Panel BRD