

Can GrouTech People Dive?

Case History – Training

Comalco contacted GrouTech with a Grouting Problem. Mission Ridge Bridge Weipa is a great place for barramundi fishing. It also carries the train that carries millions of dollars of Bauxite from the mine to processing daily. The problem was, the piles on the Bridge were in serious need of repair.

The piles were constructed of a steel pile, attached to a concrete pile. These were joined underwater by welding a cast in steel extension, on the concrete part, to the driven steel part. The weld zone corroded badly, leaving the piles at risk of failing at these locations. The weld zone needed to be encased to support the corroded area.

The repairs consisted of a system of split sleeves that are bolted around each pile. These forms were sealed top and bottom, and grout was pumped into the annulus. Methods of grouting underwater, exclusively promoted by GrouTech, were employed. The effectiveness of these methods was proven once again in this case.

Comalco arranged for GrouTech to FORMALLY train the divers in the art of grouting as this was easier than training the GrouTech People to dive. Two days of theory and two days of practical. GrouTech prepared all the Computer Training sessions, completed with examinations for each student and assessment reports for each of these men. All students (divers) passed the exams with marks between 85% and 98%. Each of the divers commented afterwards ‘they didn’t realise there was so much to know in the grouting part of the operation’.

The training progressed to the practical part and this was combined with actually doing a real live ‘grout’ by our Trained Supervisor. Recording tools were put in place to keep control of just where the grout was in each pile as we grouted. The quantities were compared with the volumes mixed and pumped. Due to our methods, the entire operation was perfectly predictable.

Comalco staff commented that they were quite ‘chuffed’ about the grouting part of the operation. They were very impressed that the whole operation went so smoothly, and was so much under control.

So it still is a really good place to fish as you can see. Chris, one of our trained Grouting Supervisors, caught this Barra under the Mission River Bridge at the completion of the project. It was caught on a 3kg line!. Being the true professional, and environmentalist he is, he also let it go! Under certain circumstances GrouTech can train your personnel in the art of Grouting.

When you think Grouting think GrouTech ‘Your Professional Grouting Company’.

