

# Advanced Pile Encapsulation

Solutions for the Repair and Protection of Underwater Structures

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•Trestle constructed in 1980

•Precast concrete cylinder piles



Routine

inspection in
1983 (3 years)
after
construction)
revealed severe
marine borer
attack

616 piles

affected



•The owner required that the repair method...

- •Would eradicate the existing borers
- •Would repair the damage done by the borers
- •Would not be susceptible to future borer attack
- •Would stay in place and continue to provide protection for 20+ years without any maintenance



•The 616 piles were encapsulated using the advanced pile encapsulation technique in 1984

## Repairing Marine Structures



#### •Marine Structures

- Submerged Piles
- Submerged Piers
- Seawalls
- Dams / raceways
- Offshore Platform Supports

## The Need for Repair and Protection

### Marine Environment

- Highly Corrosive Environment
- Susceptible to Rot
- Attack from Marine Organisms
- Damage from Scour and Abrasion



## Repairs to Marine Structures

### •Repair Zones

- Atmospheric Zone
- Splash Zone
- Submerged Zone



## Repairs to Marine Structures

### •Splash Zone

- Wetting & Drying Cycles
- Available Oxygen
- Heavy Wear & Abrasion



## Repairs to Marine Structures

### •Repair Challenges

- **Durability** of Materials for Repair / Protection
- Adequate <u>Performance</u> of Materials for Repair / Protection
- Proper <u>Placement</u> of Materials for Repair / Protection

### •Step 1

- Surface preparation
- Remove marine growth
- Clean rust and scale
- Profile substrate

### •Step 1

- Sandblasting
- Pneumatic Rotary Grinder



### •<u>Step 1</u>

- Sandblasting
- Pneumatic Rotary Grinder



### •<u>Step 2</u>

- Fiberglass Jackets Placed Around Structure
- Leaving 3/8" to 1/2" Annulus between Jacket and Structure
- Seams are sealed with epoxy



## Purpose Designed FRP Jackets

### •<u>Step 2</u>

- Appropriately sized FRP Jackets Delivered to Site
- Polymer Stand-offs
- Seam adhesive applied on deck



# Purpose Designed FRP Jackets

### •<u>Step 2</u>

• Jackets set in place around pile





## Encapsulation Purpose Designed FRP Jackets

•<u>Step 3</u>

• Temporary bracing installed





## Epoxy Grout Infill Properly Placed

### •Step 4

- Plural component grout plant
- Part A & Part B mixed with sand in each hopper



## The APE Process

### •<u>Step 5</u>

- Grout plant is attached to injection port in fiberglass jacket
- Dual-umbilical hose w/ static mixer at injection site



# Epoxy Grout Infill Properly Placed

#### •<u>Step 5</u>

• Downstream mixer



# Epoxy Grout Infill Properly Placed

### •<u>Step 5</u>

 Fluid sand-filled epoxy grout is dispensed out of the mixer



### •<u>Step 6</u>

- Epoxy grout is pumped into annulus
- Water in the annulus is displaced and expunged out of the top of the jacket



## Epoxy Grout Infill Properly Placed



Step 6
Grout is pumped into the annulus
Water is displaced above grout
Grout progress is monitored

## Epoxy Grout Infill Properly Placed



### •<u>Step 6</u>

•Water is expunged out of the top of the jacket



### •Encapsulation is complete!

## **Complete Encapsulation**



FRP Jacket
Epoxy Grout Infill
Complete Coverage of Grout
Well Bonded to the Pile

## **Complete Encapsulation**



•Epoxy Grout is pumped under pressure

•Grout penetrates into cracks and voids in the substrate



### •Pile Encapsulation

- Started in 1988 still ongoing
- 26 mile long bridge
- 54" diameter concrete cylinder piles



### •Pile Encapsulation

• Encapsulations soon after completion in 1989



Pile Encapsulation

• Encapsulations in 2002



• Core sample





•Bond testing 13-year old encapsulations





1993
RC Piers Showing Corrosion and Spalling
Encapsulations all Above Water



1993
RC Piers Showing Corrosion and Spalling
Encapsulations all Above Water



Jackets placed over spalled areasNo patching was done



### Completed Encapsulation



### •Badly deteriorated H-Piles



Encapsulate 44 "H" PilesCompleted in 1993



Corroded steel section replaced with new structural steel
Steel channels bolted and spliced onto existing piles



### •Jackets sized to H-Pile Profile



### •Encapsulations in place



### **Deteriorated piers**

Large concrete pier



#### **Pier Encapsulation:**

- Large concrete pier
- Jacket Fabrication



#### **Pier Encapsulation:**

Large concrete pier



## Des Joachims Hydroelectric Dam Deep River, Ontario, Canada

### •Tailrace Structure

- Sits on the Ottawa River between Ontario and Quebec
- 200-km Upstream from Ottawa, ON
- 8 power generation units



# Challenges

### •Tailrace Structure

- Structure built in 1940's
- Damage to tailrace from scour and abrasion



# Challenges

### •Damage to Piers

- Loss of section
- 12" to 18" of section loss in some instances
- Reinforcing steel exposed



# Challenges

### •Repair Procedure

- Restore loss of section
- Protect against future abrasion damage
- Protect the downstream ecosystem
- Minimize dam shutdown time to less than 10-days



## Concept



## Implementation

### •FRP Panels

- Face of peirs encapsulated using FRP panels
- Thicker than usual panels (1/4") were used due to severity of scour and abrasion
- Panels hoisted into place



## Implementation

### •Panels Installed

- Panels are anchored into the face of the wall at appx 12"o.c. EW
- Stiffeners are placed to resist grouting pressure



## Implementation

### •Grouting Operation

- Grout pumped into annular space
- Expunged water and excess grout reclaimed by vacuum pumps installed on upper ports
- Contaminated water disposed of separately to minimize environmental impact



## Des Joachims Hydroelectic Dam Deep River, Ontario, Canada

### •Encapsulation in Place

- Completed without dewatering
- Only 7-days of shutdown time for the generators



# Testing

### •Core Samples

- Excellent bond to backwall
- Good grout consolidation
- No cracking in grout from exotherm



# Conclusion

•Before...



# Conclusion

•...and After



## Des Joachims Hydroelectric Dam Deep River, Ontario, Canada

•...and In Service



# Gandy Bridge Tampa Bay, FL USA



# Gandy Bridge Tampa Bay, FL USA





# Gandy Bridge Tampa Bay, FL USA

#### 2010

- Condition Survey
- First Encapsulated in 1987



32 years later...

The repair and protection via Advanced Pile Encapsulation remains in place and continues to provided protection without any maintenance



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