

Riveria Beach Outlet Re-construction

Date

December 2009 to September 2010

Location

Nepean Highway, Seaford VIC

Project Value

\$3.9 million

Awards

Winner of the 2011 Civil Contractors Earth Awards



Project Details

The Riviera Outlet is an integral part of the flood control infrastructure in the Seaford area and controls storm water discharge along Kananook Creek.

The final 60m from the foreshore reserve into Port Phillip Bay was too dilapidated for restoration. The scope of works consisted of demolishing and removing existing, and replacing with a new beach outlet to ensure continued functionality for the next 100 years.

Risks & Complexities

Utilising expertise from previous marine projects and our partners familiar with particular requirements associated with marine environment projects ensured construction times were kept to a minimum, and did not affect summer time beach users.

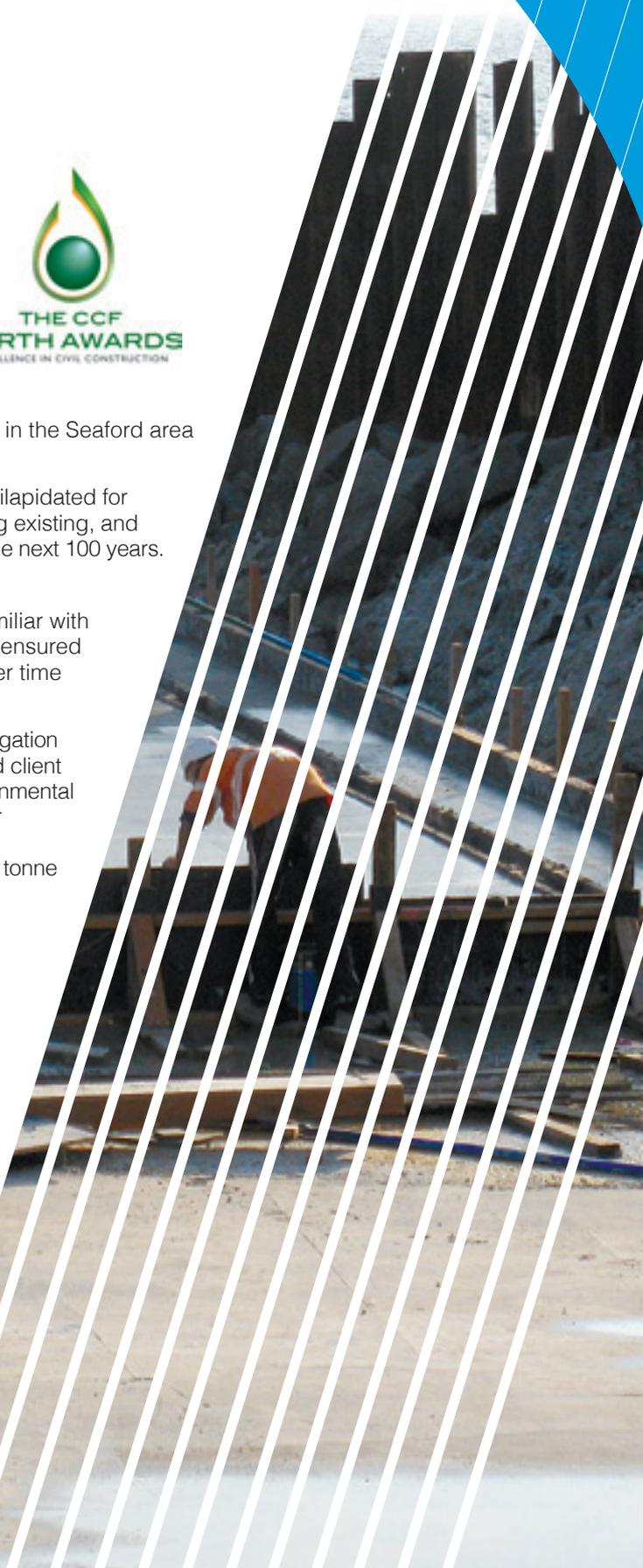
Our Teams early involvement and assistance in design ensured risk mitigation directly lead to efficiencies in construction activities, and in turn reduced client costs. Some items include Construction Techniques to overcome environmental considerations, staging of works to consider tides and potential weather impacts, construction in live drainage maintaining operation at all times, access track configuration to minimise impact while still suitable for 100 tonne cranes and deliveries on semi-trailers, and a construction methodology respecting heritage and the sensitive nature of the marine environment.

Schedule & Project Planning

A lack of consensus between parties saw the timeframe extend and potential for costs to stall the project. The teams early input in discussions, providing construction methodologies and techniques, and how critical it is to identify and initiate discussions on potential issues early in the project cycle, and then reflecting these throughout the construction program, mitigated these potential for delay.

Our involvement in high-level discussions, practical assistance and guidance where necessary in the early stages of design ensured a clear concise understanding of requirements with suppliers and subcontractors involved in the process. This meant that a greater understanding of the method and requirements by all parties, and it turn, this was incorporated into design thereby mitigating potential construction, safety, environmental or design risks and issues during construction.

The teams sort efficiencies by making two fronts or work areas available at all times. This in turn saved time by being less beholden to the elements, allowed for fully productive days, increased productivities across the whole project, and was a continual source of pride for the project team on what a good decision it proved to be.



Flexibility in construction methods meant the project was able to fully exploit the formation of a sand bar at the end of the works (which was not present at the same time the year before). Instead of importing rubble to create a work platform to lift and support sheet-piling rigs out of the seawater, the existing structure was demolished and the rubble was used to raise ground levels enough that the rig could work in low tide. And once complete, sent away for recycling.

The teams commitment to drive the program hard prior to winter and to meet milestones that could be adversely affected by inclement weather early meant that rectification works were not required and when the first operation of the drain occurred for the winter/spring period, the cofferdam had already been removed.

Stakeholder Management

As part of the scope of works, the team was committed to informing users of the immediate beach and foreshore area about purpose of the project, intended works and timeline, safety, and alternative routes/pathways during construction. We assisted in the consultation requirements with neighbouring businesses, residents, and construction personal to provide clear lines of communication up and down the project team, and to respond to any queries in a timely way during the construction period.

Environmental Management

The Team was commended by the client on its staging of works, its containment of work areas, and its ongoing commitment to ensure the area of influence was kept to a minimum.

One of the improvements to working methodology was the development of concrete cutting technique to reduce impacts on surrounding trees and private property, thus reducing both the environmental and community impacts of the works. This allowed a number of significant trees in a public reserve to be saved. The team again was commended following the project as no adverse environmental impacts, spills or incidents occurred during the project.

Earned Value

By us completing the project ahead of schedule, construction activities did not extend into the late spring/summer period when public use increases. In addition, the retention of the sleeper track has enabled easier access for the community (including pram access and ease of transport for kayaks hired from the business adjacent to the access track), and improvements to the aesthetics of the location. Maintaining this sleeper access track was firstly partitioned by local businesses and residents and then allowed by project initiators and DSE Coastal Management. Another example of our commitment to stakeholder satisfaction at all levels.



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