

PILETECH

TEXT: MICHAEL BROWN PHOTOGRAPHY: ANDY STEVENS

→ **PILETECH IS AN AUSTRALIAN PRIVATELY** owned company with a long and successful history of delivering quality engineered solution packages using screw-in ground anchor technologies and its locally developed systems of light sheet piling.

Piletech are proud to have provided their services to Abigroup for the Pacific Square project at Maroubra. Piletech were responsible for retaining the site and constructing a wall for two basement levels. Liaising with Abigroup, Christie Excavation, electricians, plumbers and other contractors. Piletech installed a sacrificial sheet pile wall by vibrating steel sheets to a depth of up to 9 meters along a perimeter of more than 480 metres.

This formed the retention for the site. During the excavation of the site the sheet piles were progressively secured using screw-in ground anchors. For most of the site two rows of anchors were sufficient. Three rows of anchors were used to support the wall adjacent to the existing shopping centre, which kept operating throughout the work. Up to five rows of anchors were used along the Boyce Road boundary, where they had to be installed among a collection of electricity, gas, water, sewage and storm-water services.

Anchors were not permitted below an existing substation. The walls adjacent to this building were supported by steel bracing and steel screw piles installed at a rake of 45 degrees.

Using the sheet piles as the back formwork, the basement walls were constructed by Piletech's subcontractor, The Rix Group, using shotcrete methods.

'We design sheet piles specifically for each site on each job we undertake' said Mr Peter Andrews, Piletech's Manager for Pacific Square. 'This was the first major job where we used sheet piles with a new interlocking clutch system and it met our expectations. Lateral movements around the boundary were about 15 to 20mm. There was almost no movement of the substation or shopping centre and no disruption to services during our work.'

Since its establishment in 1992, Piletech's philosophy has been to use the best possible people to ensure projects are completed on time, within budget and to the highest standards of workmanship.

Piletech offer a full design and construction service for foundation piling, slope stabilisation and excavation support. Through extensive testing, Piletech has developed its own in house design software called SPAS, a program unique to the screw pile design. This software helps the designer optimise pile designs to suit the clients needs. Piletech uses modern European software to design their lightweight sheet pile retention system.

Piletech is involved in design, manufacturing, installation and certification of engineered solutions to foundation piling, sheet piling and soil anchoring projects. Piletech is Australia's and New Zealand's largest piling company involved in screw-in piles and anchors, and is unique in that it carries out the work using its own resources. It prides itself on the level of research and development undertaken to ensure the most professional and up to date solution in these fields. Piletech performs static load tests in accordance with AS2159-Piling Code and has one of the largest screw pile testing information banks in the world.

This together with development of complementary systems and products keeps Piletech at the forefront of new piling technology. Piletech have an unsurpassed reputation for quality and performance, providing solution to customer's needs that comply and exceed the statutory standards and building codes. The commitment to quality has seen Piletech achieve industry awards and numerous return customers.

Piletech employs over 40 skilled and experienced full time staff. It has offices in Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, and associates in Auckland and Christchurch, and manufactures its own screw piles and anchors in its factory in Melbourne.

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