

Compact hydraulic hose

A tough and versatile hydraulic hose 30 percent more compact than conventional types is being used by Aussie-based Hydraulink service specialist Matt Taylor to radically improve the safety and cost-efficient maintenance of widely used lift vehicles and access equipment.

The H-16 two-wire hose easily handles the pressures of up to 466 bar (6500psi) required for a profusion of hydraulic hoses vital to the function of crane trucks and Elevated Working Platforms (EWPs) engaged on tasks such as electrical pole, pylon and equipment maintenance and industrial and infrastructure work.

“A beauty of this latest Hydraulink

innovation is that you can fit more hoses into energy chain structures within the vehicles, where they are far more protected from wear, tear and damage than individually routed hoses,” says Taylor, who is managing director of Hydraulink Coff’s Harbour, Macksville and Kempsey, an area of intense transport, civil engineering, electrical and infrastructure work.

“Instead of having to squeeze heaps of different types of hoses into limited space in the energy chain, we can use the one type



of H-16 hose to more safely cover multiple roles. Because it is typically 30 percent smaller in outside diameter, we can get 10 hoses easily into a space where previously it was a log jam to fit in eight.” 🚧

Plastic manholes save dollars and time

Plastic materials have long been recognised for their durability in wastewater applications, and Fulton Hogan’s recent application of Romold pre-benched plastic manhole chambers in the Hastings Omaha Industrial Bulk Water Services project has proven this innovative technology has further advantages in the efficiency of installation and safety on site.

“Our decision to use Romold chambers for the Omaha project came from the experience we gained from a previous renewal project,” says Joseph Symonds, Fulton Hogan Hastings’ department manager for three waters.

We weighed up the benefits and went for it. They are faster and a lot easier to install. A typical concrete manhole will take our crew two days to set up, and then a further day spent on haunching. With a Romold chambers – half a day to complete the install is generous.”

The business of drainlaying has for a long time been about efficiency, adds Symonds.

“With poly pipes you may pay a little bit more for the materials, but you more than make it back with the time saved.”

After experiencing problems with concrete corrosion in high hydrogen sulphide (H²S) environments the Hastings District Council developed a preference for more durable solutions.

“Long term durability is a key interest for us, and this is where plastic has an advantage over concrete,” says David James, Hastings District Council, Wastewater Engineering manager.

“The ease of installation benefits have not been overlooked, there is a time savings when using this technology and it is significant. This has resulted in contractors requesting to use the technology.”

Stephanie Thompson, Stantec’s civil water team leader, says the main driver for using this technology in Omaha and other Hastings based projects was the product’s resilience against septicity.

“We felt confident in what we saw from the Romold product and knew that this would be a good solution for resistance to H²S corrosion.

“Supporting the interests of the contractor by specifying a material with installation benefits was a further motivation.”

The Omaha project has become a showcase for the Fulton Hogan Hastings three waters team, adds Joseph Symonds.



“We had the Fulton Hogan exec team come through on a site visit and they were blown away with what they saw. I believe that it was the first time they had seen a plastic manhole being installed and certainly it was their first time seeing a manhole being moved by hand. The safety benefits were extremely obvious.

“With any advancement in technology there is an associated learning curve. The installation itself is straightforward, it is common sense and the installation instructions provided are clear and easy to follow.

“Once you’ve done one it is exactly the same for the next chamber.” Romold plastic manhole chamber technology is supplied by Australasia Moulding. 🚧