



SIKA AT WORK

WYNYARD QUARTER, AUCKLAND, NZ

REFURBISHMENT: Icosit® Tram Rail Grouting

BUILDING TRUST



TRAM RAIL GROUTING



SIKA'S ICOSIT RAIL BONDING SYSTEM solved three major challenges for the new tram loop around the Wynyard Quarter on Auckland's waterfront

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

One of the key attractions of the revitalized Wynyard Quarter, on Auckland's waterfront, is the installation of a 1.5km heritage tram loop. And with the exception of the trams running at the Museum of Transport and Technology, we haven't seen this form of transport on Auckland's streets since 1956.

PROJECT REQUIREMENT

Worldwide, electric trams are making a comeback in many cities. They are relatively cheap to operate; they are safe and convenient and they can be installed on existing roads and streets. However, when tram (or railway) tracks are installed into vehicle carriage ways there are some important considerations to remember.

1. Track maintenance needs to be kept to a minimum, to avoid traffic disruption and ongoing repair costs.
2. Noise and vibration from the tram wheels needs to be minimized, particularly in residential areas.
3. Electrical isolation of the tram tracks is needed to eliminate the risk of interference with modern communication systems buried beneath the roads.

SIKA SOLUTION

Taking the above three requirements into consideration it was decided to use Sika's Icosit rail bonding system for the track installation.

SIKA PRODUCTS

Sika's Icosit system includes a two part, flexible polyurethane adhesive that is mixed and poured around the tram rail track, to bond it into its concrete base. This eliminates the need for any mechanical fastenings. And once the product has cured, the system provides a low maintenance and low noise/vibration track that is electrically isolated from any surrounding communications equipment.

Although Sika's Icosit system is well proven and has been used extensively in major cities around the world for the last 30 years, this was its first application here in New Zealand and the successful completion of this project was a credit to everyone involved

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