

PENSTOCK REFURBISHMENT PROJECT WITH PHENICS IN SWITZERLAND

**SUCCESS
STORY** with



THE DESCRIPTION

Méga SA, renowned Swiss contractor with more than 40 years of experience in surface preparation and coating works, was awarded for refurbishment of a penstock with a diameter of 1.6m and a length of 200 meters located in Digue du Godey, Conthey Switzerland.

The project consisted of removing the existing coating by abrasive blasting and applying anticorrosive coating system. The surface to be treated was 660 m².

THE CHALLENGES

Situated in a natural reserve area, this refurbishment project required complying with environmental regulations as well as meeting a very tight deadline due to weather (rain or melting snow). Méga had only 5 days to finish abrasive blasting work, cleaning and applying primer. Furthermore access to worksite was very complicated with several tiny tunnels, thus demanding special transportation solutions.

Also abrasive removal technology to be used to meet these challenges had the utmost importance for this work. Mega needed to come up with a solution not only enabling them to very productive, but also minimizing impact on environment.

THE SOLUTION

Having worked with Phenics recycling system in the past, Méga knew at once that Phenics is the most adapted solution for this specific and challenging job. However access to site was very narrow rendering transportation of regular Phenics equipments impossible. Phenics technical team visited worksite with Méga and offered them to use a modular equipment called Phenics Air, specially designed to be transported in 4 modules by helicopter or trucks for jobs with difficult access. The customer thought this could be an ideal solution. Transportation and installation were quite satisfactory and gave occasion to great photos showing how tricky it could be to work in mountain.



THE BENEFITS

Due to tight schedule, the customer needed to be very productive and efficient. Using steel abrasives increased operators' productivity by improving their visibility and blasting quicker than sand with perfect roughness. Precious hours were saved vacuuming already used abrasives while blasting and recycling these abrasives. Finally, combining all Phenics advantages, customer was on time. Concerning environment, Méga also reduced abrasive consumption, drastically decreased waste generation and comply with official authority demanding rules. Easy-to-work equipment, Phenics team' support and site organization helped Méga to save time and money.

MEGA, not only ensured the best quality of penstock refurbishment, but also contributed to natural reserve area preservation by going extra mile to find an ecological solution and choosing recycling over expendable media.

