



Divers Use Water Jets to Cut Concrete

A large contractor recently used an NLB waterjetting system to cut through old concrete beams that were located under water. The beams were part of an old pier that was undergoing a major reconstruction so that larger ships could gain access.

The horizontal beams tied into vertical columns that were actually reused in the reconstruction. Alternate methods of removal were considered, but jackhammers could not be used because they could weaken the columns. Diamond blade saws were found to be too slow. UHP water jets allowed the divers to quickly cut through the concrete, exposing the rebar that could then be cut with an electric arc welder.

The contractor used two NLB 40201D UHP waterjetting pumps (6 gpm at 40,000 psi), along with NCG40-250-UW hand lances to cut through the old concrete. The NCG40-250-UW lance is designed with both forward and rear facing jets so that the diver can maintain his or her position and stay in control of the lance.

NLB manufactures a full line of high and ultra-high pressure water jetting pumps, systems and accessories. Please contact your closest branch office, visit our website, or call (248) 624-5555 for more information.



A diver working at low tide performs clean-up after a beam has been removed. One of the columns that was reused can be seen in the foreground.



Once the concrete and steel was removed the beams were lifted away with a crane.

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