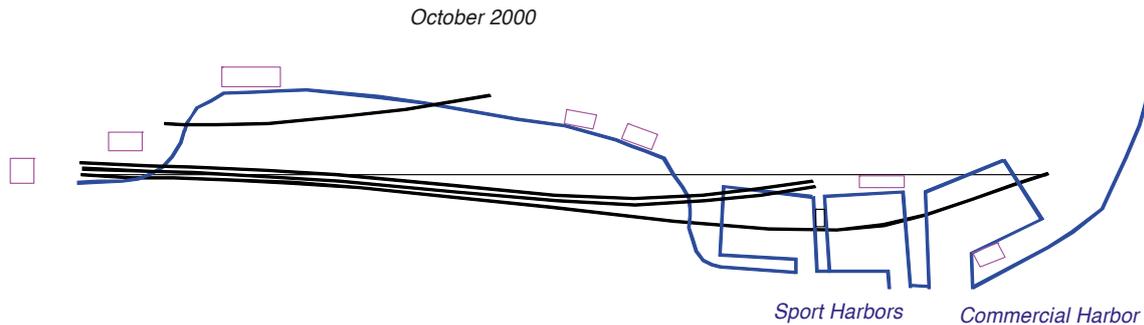




Prime Horizontal



Case History – Yerseke Mussels



Over the centuries, the Dutch have harvested mussels in this area and Yerseke is the center of this commercial endeavor. The industry desperately needed an increased fresh supply of seawater for new EEC standards of seafood preparation and the product lines could not be laid through the town. Hydro Soil Services of Belgium was awarded three parallel crossings to move the water 1500 meters across the town along the seafront. The crossings had to pass under the seawall on entry, across an 800 meter estuary, through the center of two sport marinas and down the center of the commercial harbor.

Drilling the first 1500 meter crossing was difficult from a magnetic standpoint since the elevation of the crossings was 35 meters deep and passed under three harbors where it was impossible to install surface cables accurately. HSS called for ParaTrack 1 due to the ease of setup initially and the ability to guide the following two pilots by ranging against the original hole. The exit cable was installed by divers in the axis of the centerline, but was naturally inhibited by all the steel pilings around the harbor. Additionally, at low tide, the water clearance under the keels of the large offshore fishing boats was only a meter, causing wire movement and sometimes breakage. A lost circulation zone, about 900 meters out, since determined to be the old shoreline in the 18th century, created massive difficulties with hole integrity. The first pilot punched out on target. While reaming, the lost circulation zone at 900M collapsed causing stuck pipe. Since one of the three parallels was planned for electrical cables, it was decided to use this string as the cable conduit and leave it in place. It was gyro surveyed and an electrical cable installed for ParaTrack. The exit point for the following two crossings was changed to a point significantly shorter and drilling commenced. Both pilots were completed and accepted.

Now, ParaTrack Operations gives contractors the confidence, after installing a surface or underground cable All the Way from Entry to Exit, to guide the pilot hole with positive control throughout the crossing thus removing normal positional uncertainty when drilling with azimuth alone.

Call Prime Horizontal for Information about ParaTrack Guidance Services.

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