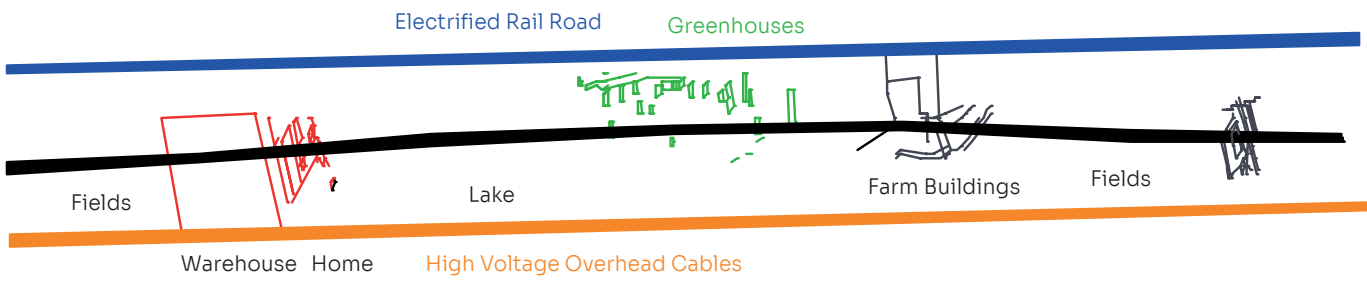


Poldervaart



December 2000

Horizontal Drilling International, using conventional guidance equipment attempted to drill the 1200 meter Poldervaart right of way twice unsuccessfully before calling for the newly introduced ParaTrack 2 service. There existed a requirement for a 1 meter corridor for the first 300 meters of the crossing and a large radius right hand curve over the balance to maintain spacing against the rail road. The pipeline was planned to cross under warehouses and homes.

Although the crossing was in relatively open country, it was located 35 meters on the right of a dual high speed main line electrified rail link and parallel. Train frequency averaged 7 minutes, day and night. To further complicate the guidance problems high voltage overhead transmission cables from a local power station to the city of Rotterdam was parallel and 25 meters to the right. Both previous attempts had failed due to magnetic interference problems using conventional tracking methods. Azimuth swings of up to seven degrees were noted during train passes. The swing would begin up to two minutes prior to the trains passing and end a minute after.

After installing a surface ParaTrack cable all the way from entry to exit, the pilot hole was successfully drilled in nine 12 hour shifts. The crossing position was accepted and reaming begun. Now, ParaTrack 2 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.