

## DIRECTIONAL DRILLED SHORE CROSSINGS BY COE DRILLING AUSTRALIA BASS STRAIT 2 FIBRE OPTIC CABLE PROJECT

Horizontal Directional Drilling Specialists, **Coe Drilling Australia Pty Ltd** has recently completed two shore crossings for the 240km long Bass Strait Optical Fibre Submarine Cable No 2 (BS 2) Installation project for Alcatel Submarine Networks S.A..

This project, for Telstra Corporation, included the shore crossing and landing facilities at Inverloch, Victoria and Stanley, Tasmania.

BS 2 was a duplication of the earlier BS 1 cable, ensuring the security of telecommunications services between Tasmania and the mainland. Advantage was taken of significant advances in submarine cable installation with 85% of the BS 2 cable buried deeper than 1.5m below the seabed and greater than 98% buried deeper than 1.2m. The Alcatel cable ship Ile de Batz with its heavy-duty rock plough and jetting attachment achieved this result.

Coe was contracted in late January to design and construct the two crossings, which included the world's longest shore crossing for an optical fibre installation at Inverloch.

The Victorian crossing included the installation of a 5" O.D. steel casing 2035m in length whilst in Tasmania the installed length was 450m. Both crossings were drilled in rock.

At Inverloch the CoeDrill 180 was used whilst at Stanley the Coedrill 90 was used, both crossings were carried out simultaneously.

Coe has recently mobilized the CoeDrill 550 to Kilcunda to commence works on the BassGas Project for Clough Engineering Limited. The works include the installation of a DN 350 API 5L X65 shore crossing pipeline 1477m in length.

Text: R Elliott / E Foley  
Photos: Courtesy of Alcatel Submarine Networks



Below: Cable Line at Stanley, Tas

**SPECIFICATION:**

**Owner:** Telstra Corporation Limited

**Main Contractor:**

Alcatel Submarine Networks

**HDD Shore Crossing Contractor:**

Coe Drilling Australia Pty Ltd

**Pipe String Length:** Inverloch 2035m,  
Stanley 450m

**Pipe Specification:**

5" OD Steel Casing

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