

CASE STUDY

GODLEY QUAY LYTTTELTON

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INTRODUCTION

Abseil Access was engaged for a rockfall protection project above Godley Quay in Lyttelton Port, Christchurch from January to February 2023. The work was commissioned by the client, with Engeo acting as consultant. The project was required to provide rockfall protection for a pedestrian walkway being installed under the site for the Sail GP Regatta. With a short timeframe, the works needed to be completed promptly to allow sufficient time for the walkway and associated roadworks to be finished before the event.

PROCESS

The works began with de-vegetation and rock scaling of the site, followed by sacrificial test anchors to confirm ground conditions. Abseil Access collaborated with Engeo to design a suitable solution that would provide the required level of protection and lifespan. Using a cliff-face A-frame drill rig, 100mm holes were drilled for the installation of 4m long, 25mm diameter GRP anchors along the top of the mesh. Additional 50mm holes were drilled for 1.5m GRP anchors along the mesh base. Geofabrics double twist coated mesh with top and bottom 16mm cables was installed to provide robust coverage.

Throughout the works, traffic control was coordinated with ongoing construction below the site. Hazard removal was also undertaken, including dismantling a large telegraph pole and relocating a concrete block discovered in unstable positions. Access was established from the bottom of the site, eliminating the need for traffic management on the road above. A HiAb was used to mobilise materials efficiently and remove hazards, minimising downtime.

OUTCOME

The project was successfully delivered within the tight timeframe, ensuring protection for the new pedestrian walkway and allowing roadworks to proceed on schedule. The GRP anchors and Polimac-coated galvanised mesh provided a durable, long-term solution that met all design, safety, and event requirements in preparation for the Sail GP Regatta.

