

Glenelg Tram Overhead Electrification

Duration: 2009

Client: Department of Transport, Energy & Infrastructure (DTEI)

Location: Adelaide, South Australia

Contract value: \$1.0 mill

DESCRIPTION

This Glenelg Tram Overpass project was a major initiative by the South Australian Government to both improve the Glenelg tram service and reduce congestion on the busy South Road corridor.

The development of the overpass required the construction of a parallel temporary running track in July, and the subsequent construction of the new permanent track once the overpass bridge was complete.

As main contractor for the project, McConnell Dowell brought Electrix on board to install the overhead traction power supply and provide associated electrical installations. The strong focus by Electrix on quality and safety were key factors in our appointment.

SCOPE

The construction of the temporary track included a fully electrified system which needed to be connected and commissioned over a single weekend. Following completion of the overpass construction, Electrix returned to install a suspended 600V DC weight tensioned system over the busiest road in South Australia with minimal disruption to traffic and local residents. Again the decommissioning of the old track and the commissioning of the new overpass was completed within a very tight weekend window.

VALUE TO CLIENT

The complexity of the electrification work required extensive planning and meticulous installation procedures to ensure overlaps, inner and outer running spacing, contact wire tensions and mid span anchors were all perfectly placed. The requirement to meet a tight construction program, while working safely in a live rail corridor with 120 tram movements a day and very restrictive access, also presented major challenges.

The project is a testament to Electrix commitment to quality under pressure and the quality of the installation and workmanship was commended by the client's project representatives.

