



GEO-FOUNDATIONS
Contractors Inc.

CPR Morningside Grade Separation

ISM London 2009

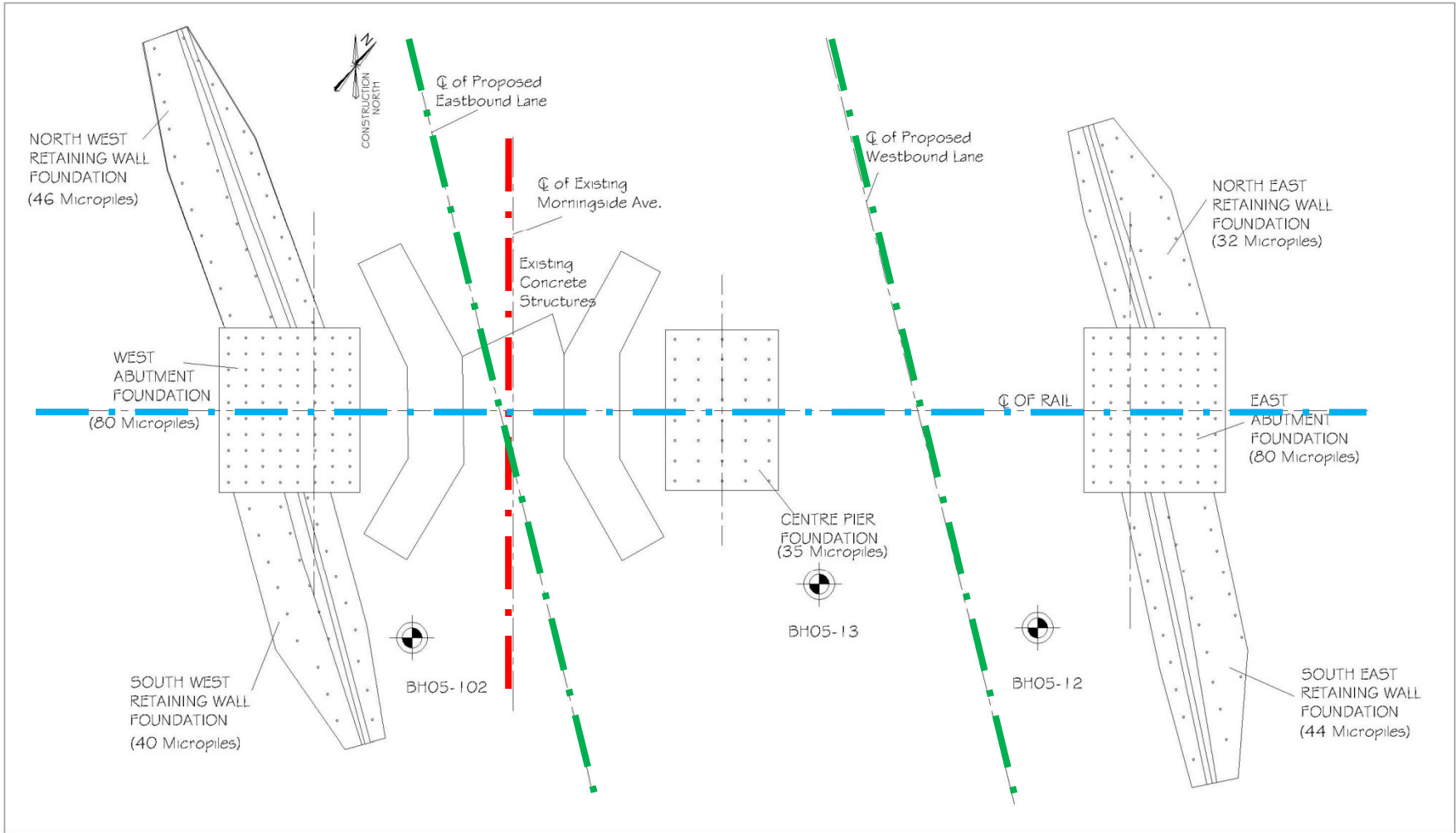
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 Hapag-Lloyd

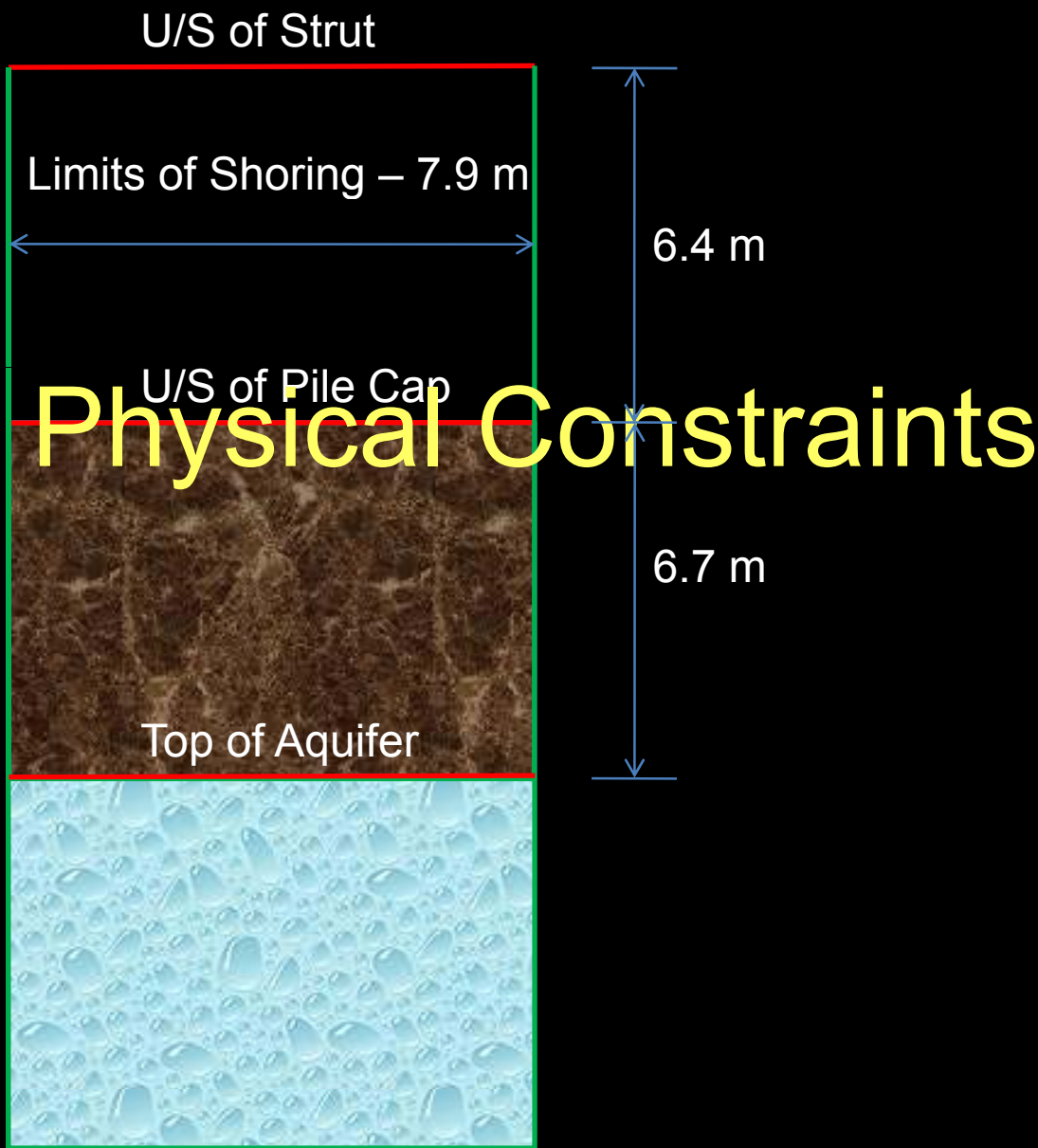


COSCO









Owner's Specified Scheme:

324 Ø driven, closed-ended tube
piles x 4m embedment

223 no. Driven Piles @ 535 kN SLS



Micropile Scheme:

52 Ø hollow bar micropiles x 5.7m
embedment, installed using
continuous grout flush

357 no. micropiles @ 365 kN SLS



The Pitch:

Micropile materials in stock and ready for shipment to site

Contractor to perform 5 load tests, including 2 pre-production

Measurement for payment by lump sum, on a performance basis



Design Approach:

Reduced individual pile loading

Willingness to go closer to aquifer

Load transfer into soil over entire
embedment length

CONTINUOUS GROUT FLUSH



Resulting Design:

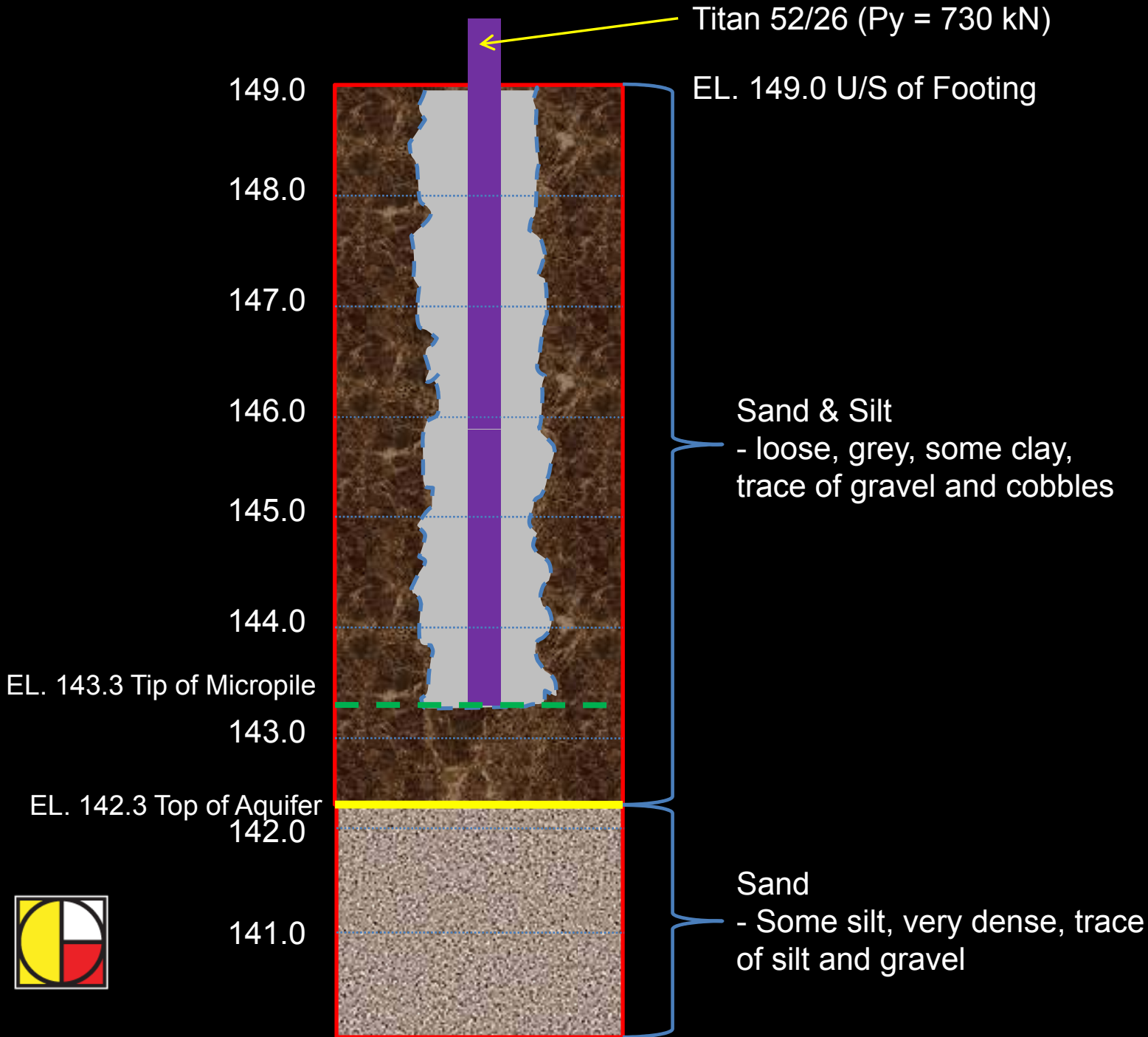
5.7 m embedment (commercially driven)

65 kN/m adhesion (carefully calculated
risk taken by micropile contractor)

365 kN axial service compression per pile

Titan 52 hollow bar with 115 Ø drill bit;
black, uncased







Load Testing:

- Total of 5 load tests – 2 at each abutment, 1 at centre pier
- Typical movements under static compressive loading to 100% : < 3mm
- Pre-production tension test performed to validate results of static compressive test







Benefits of using micropiles at this site:

- Reduced risk to aquifer
- Small equipment able to work comfortably in constricted space
- Off the shelf materials readily available
- Cost certainty from transferring measurement for payment from unit rate to lump sum
- Transfer of risk from owner to contractor via change to performance micropile contract from prescriptive driven pile design



Conclusions:

- Micropiles were a better foundation design for this project than driven piles
- The switch to micropiles resulted in lower total foundation cost, but only because the micropile contractor was the micropile designer



Hypothesis:

Although the use of micropiles at CPR Morningside was of immeasurable benefit to the owner, this project would be tendered no differently today



223 no. Driven Tube Piles @ 535 kN SLS

5.7 m max. embedment @ 65 kN/m

365 kN SLS 357 no. micropiles

5.7 m max. embedment

max. 40 kN/m max. 230 kN per pile

> 500 no. Prescriptive designed piles



Hypothesis Confirmed:

Considering the absence of rock and the strict restriction on embedment depth, the owner could not possibly have gone to tender on micropiles because:

- Few to no local consulting engineers are able or willing to design it,
- Not more than one or two local micropile contractors are able to construct it, and ...
- Procurement via prescriptive design would have diverted the design away from micropiles due to high cost



Thank you

