



# 443 MARITIME HELICOPTER SQUADRON FACILITY

9755 WILLINGDON ROAD, NORTH SAANICH, BC

## PROFILE

This stipulated sum project is a brand new maritime helicopter base for Defence Construction Canada located at the Victoria Airport. The post-disaster facility is almost 20,000 square metres in size, built on a suspended concrete slab on 1,200 pilings socketed into bedrock. The facility lands and houses seven helicopters.

Given the building's post-disaster design and the site's poor soil conditions, we carried out a series of ground improvements. We dewatered and consolidated the existing soil by installing wick drains and preloading the site before installing 1,200 piles which supported the building's suspended slab. The suspended slab was high-performance, constructed by our own forces, and used specialized formwork design and installation. In addition to the suspended slab, there were about 10,000 square metres of concrete apron that had extreme flatness requirements. This concrete apron was poured using a slip form style paving machine specifically designed for it.

The building also included specialized mechanical systems such as SCUBA (breathing air), compressed air, a foam fire suppression system in the hangar area, and a water storage reservoir with automated pumps for the remainder of the building. Electrical and instrumentation controls were integral to all these systems.

## KEY TEAM MEMBERS

Matt Haig, Project Manager  
Steve Heyer & Bill McEwen,  
Superintendents

## CONTRACT VALUE

\$117 million

## COMPLETION DATE

June 2014

## BUILDING SIZE

19,688 m<sup>2</sup>

## CONTRACT TYPE

General contractor

## BUILDING TYPE

Industrial