

**Project:**

Water Treatment  
Plants, Ballarat



# 500PLUS REIDBAR solves slab-to-wall connection problem



**The White Swan and Lal Lal Water Treatment Plants service up to 85,000 people in the Ballarat region of Victoria.**

During construction, contractor Oak Park utilised OneSteel Reinforcing and Reids Constructions Systems' continuously threaded steel reinforcing bar and coupler system, 500PLUS REIDBAR, to simplify slab-to-wall connections in a number of locations on both projects.

The wall-to-slab connections created a buildability issue, in that the heavily reinforced connections required either pullout bars, or mechanical couplers.

A permanent formwork system had been specified for the slabs. If pullout bars were used, it would have been extremely difficult to lodge the panels under the protruding bars. The restricted area, where site personnel had to work, added further difficulty to the task.

To overcome these problems, OneSteel Reinforcing recommended 500PLUS REIDBAR to provide a full structural

connection between the walls and slabs.

This solution eliminated the need to drill and damage formwork shutters and was considerably easier than using insitu pullout bars. The ability to reuse the forms and the savings gained outweighed the cost of the 500PLUS REIDBAR accessories.

For this particular application 500PLUS REIDBAR was about 25% more cost effective than alternative coupling systems, which require mechanical threads.

There was also no loss of capacity at the connection. Standard mechanical threads reduce the nominal diameter of the reinforcing bar at the connection, which means that full efficiency of the material cannot be obtained. 500PLUS REIDBAR is a continuously threaded bar. This eliminates the process of mechanically threading the bar for the connection.

In total, Oak Park used more than 5000 couplers and over 7000m of 500PLUS REIDBAR for the projects, in 12mm, 16mm and 20mm diameters.

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