



# Case Study

## Utah Point Access Road Drainage

**Product** StormPRO® Polypropylene Pipe  
**Size** 450mm, 600mm & 750mm  
**Project** Utah Point Access Road Drainage  
**Location** Port Hedland, Western Australia

### Project Requirements

The Utah Point Access Road required drainage that is corrosive resistant and could handle haul trucks and mining traffic carrying 100+ tonnes of Iron Ore. The ground water is aggressive and the landscape is a flood plain, making for tough conditions. There were also strict construction deadlines for this project.

### StormPRO® Benefits

StormPRO® Polypropylene Pipe is a corrosive resistant drainage system with a long life expectancy and no maintenance required. It has easy to install RRJ's, is lightweight (low fuel burn), reduces OH&S risk with simple installation and has low transport costs as it can travel nested. The dual wall extrusion with a white interior allows for clear imagery while the corrugated exterior enables stabilised backfill, improving the exterior load rating of the pipe.



## How did StormPRO® provide a solution?

The north-west of Australia has some of the most aggressive soils in the country. Many traditional products do not stand up to the test of time. Vinidex StormPRO® was identified as the ideal product to withstand this aggressive environment.

Port Hedland is located in the north-west of Western Australia and is accessed from the Great Northern Highway. Utah Point is on Finucane Island and is accessed from the Finucane Island road, which is a private BHPB access road approximately 15km from the Great Northern Highway. The *Utah Point Access Road* extends from the existing FMG access road, to just north of the existing Finucane Island Causeway on West Creek. This is a total distance of approximately 8.5km. Brierty Contractors were successful in securing the tender for the road and drainage upgrade and needed to establish infrastructure capable of handling the increased traffic load for the upgraded port.

The access road is estimated to transfer 14,000 tonnes of quad road trains each year, with each truck hauling approximately 107 tonnes to the port facility. A sophisticated traffic management system handles the truck arrivals.

The environmental conditions prove challenging during the wet season. The volume of water flowing requires effective drainage systems to channel the flow away from all infrastructure. Stormwater wash has the ability to destroy embankments and stop the transfer of quad trains if not managed properly. The stormwater system needed to be reliable & maintenance-free to mitigate down time.

When it comes to reliability, StormPRO® delivers savings across the complete project build and life expectancy.