



Smart quay walls & trends in quay-wall engineering

Alfred Roubos

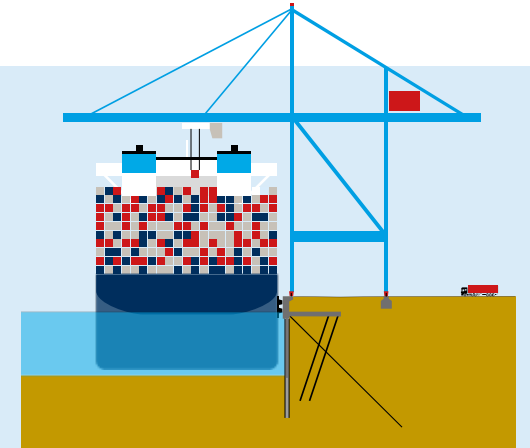
SMART QUAY WALLS PORT OF ROTTERDAM

Stufib Ledenvergadering - Innovaties in kademuren
28 November 2024
Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Introduction: Alfred Roubos

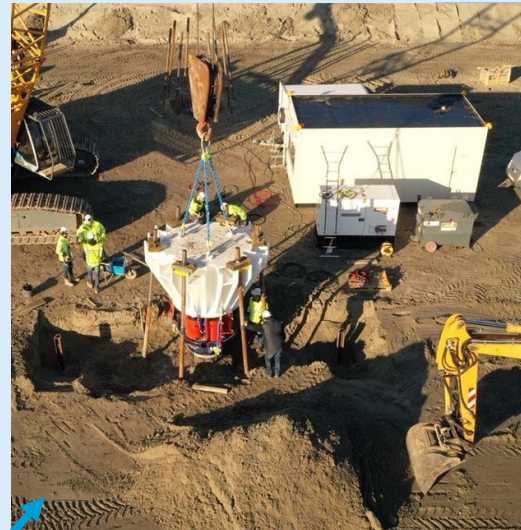
PhD: reliability of quay walls

- Port Engineer (≈ 17.5 years)
- Researcher Delft University of Technology (Doctoral defence 2019)
- Member of national & international committees (Eurocode CEN/NEN, CROW, PIANC, BS)



Main research focus:

- Marine structures (e.g. quay walls, jetties, dolphins)
- Dredging, scour protection
- Innovations & full-scale field tests



Full scale field test
foundation piles

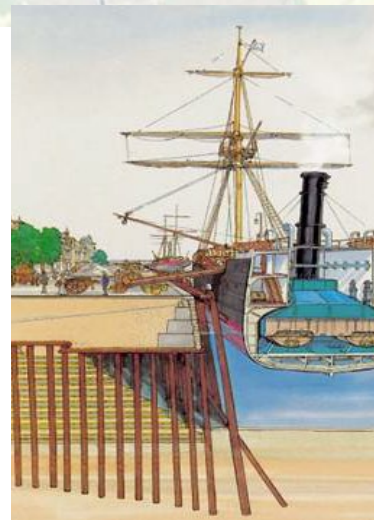
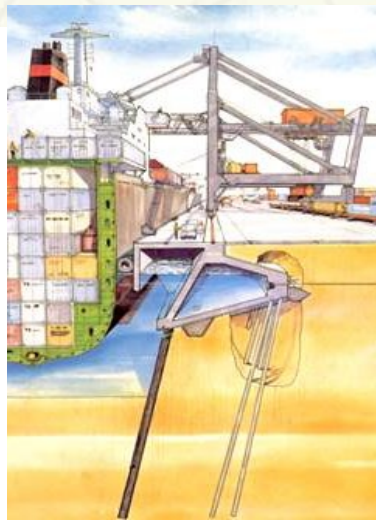
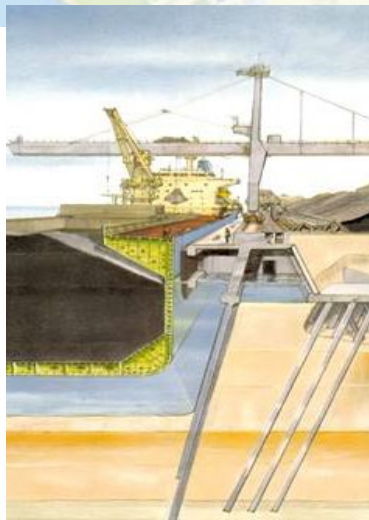
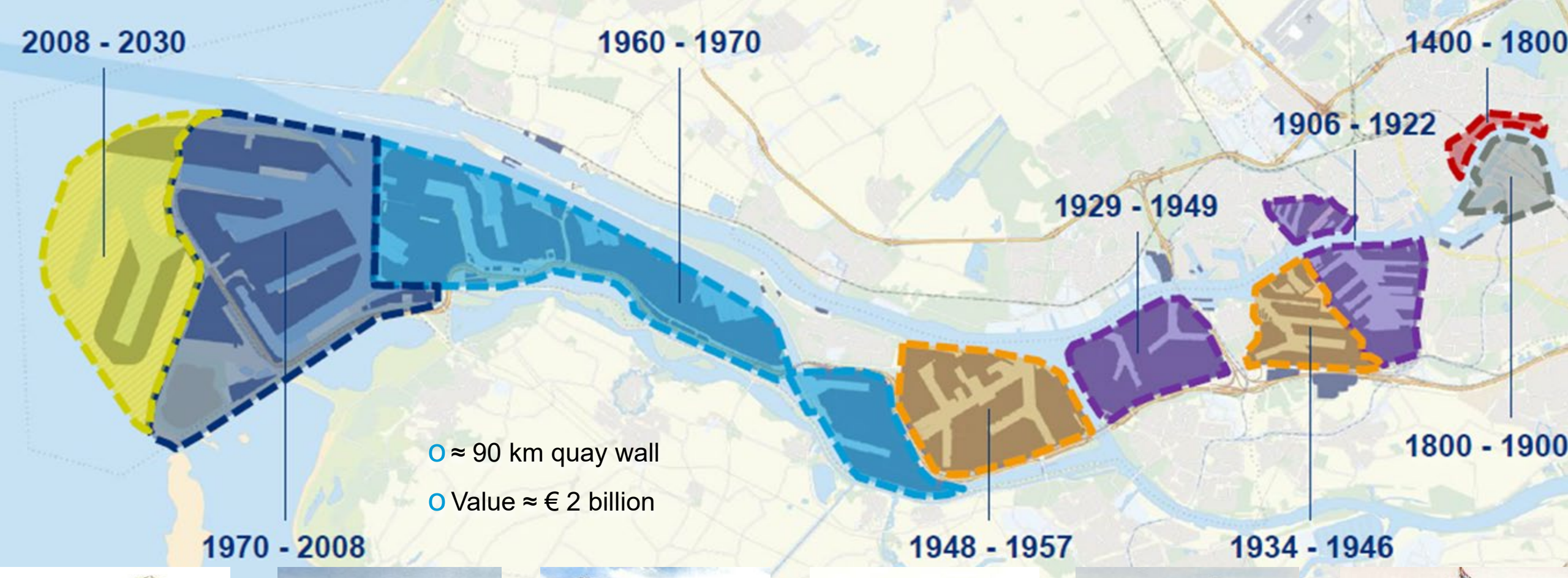


Bow-thruster induced
scour

Content

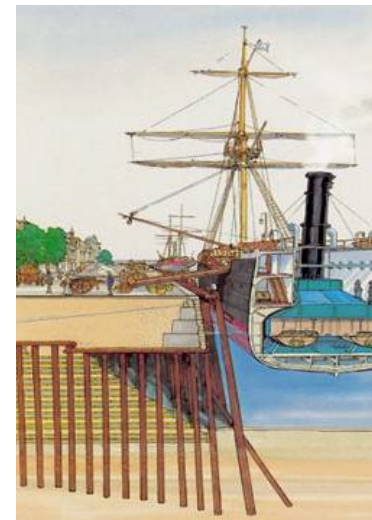
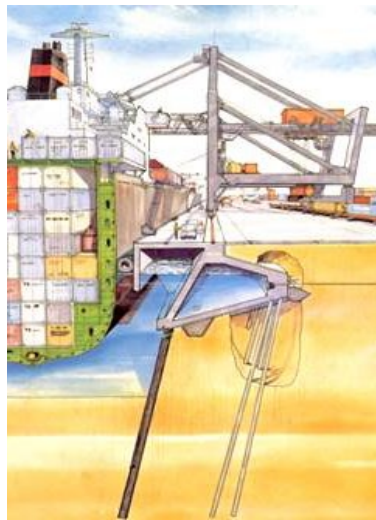
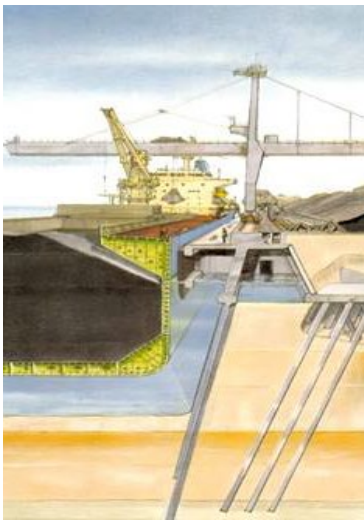
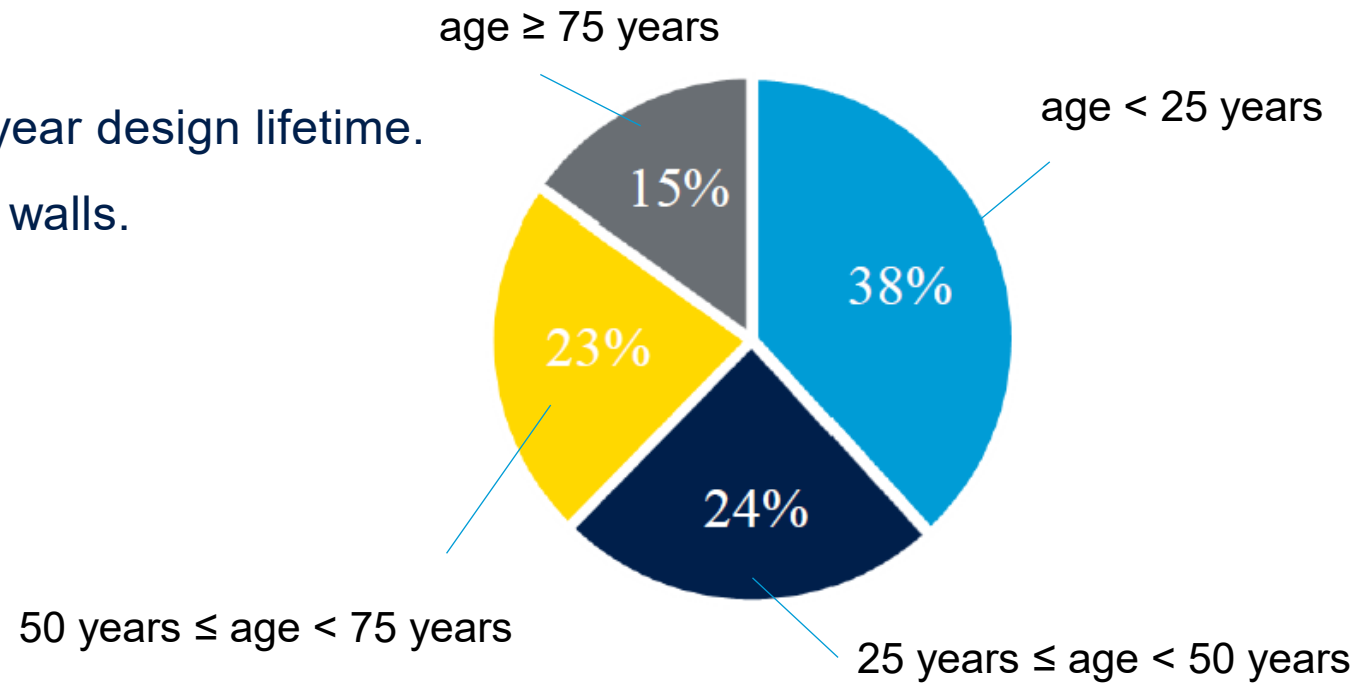
- Introduction
- Trends in quay wall engineering (PoR)



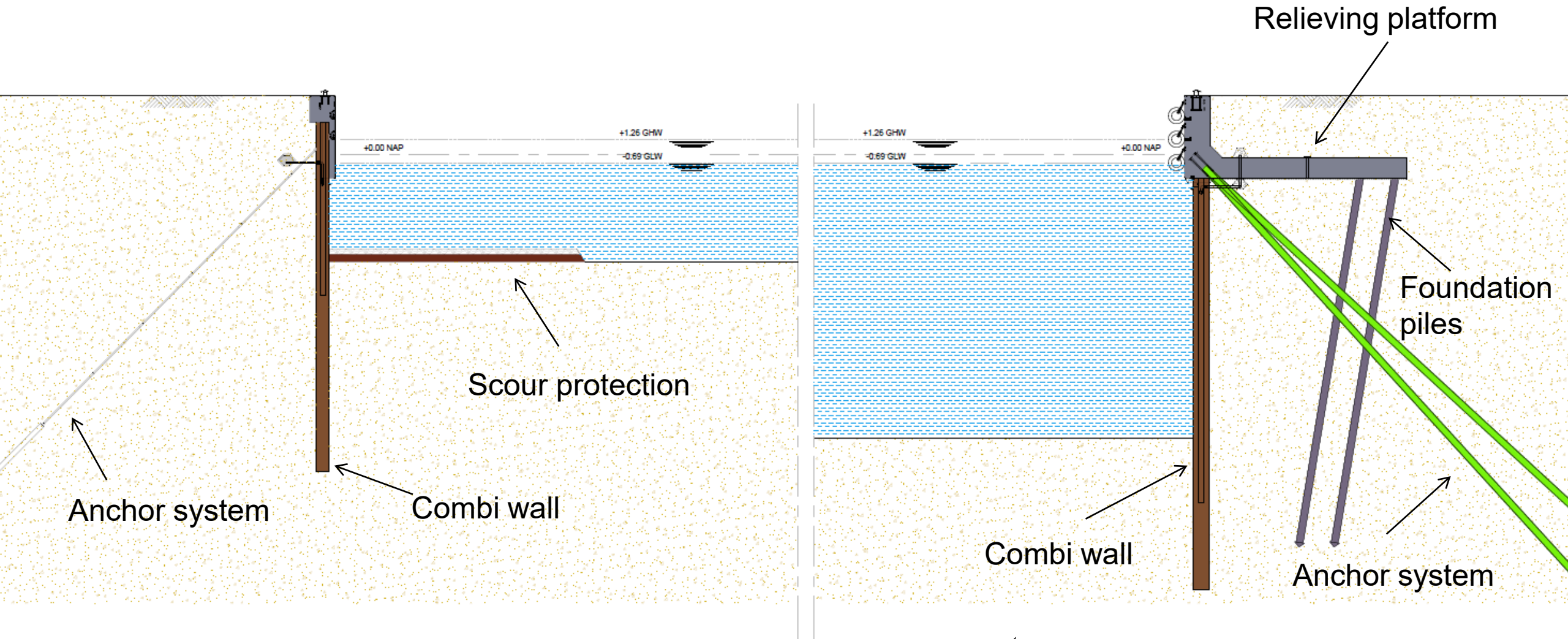


Situation in Rotterdam

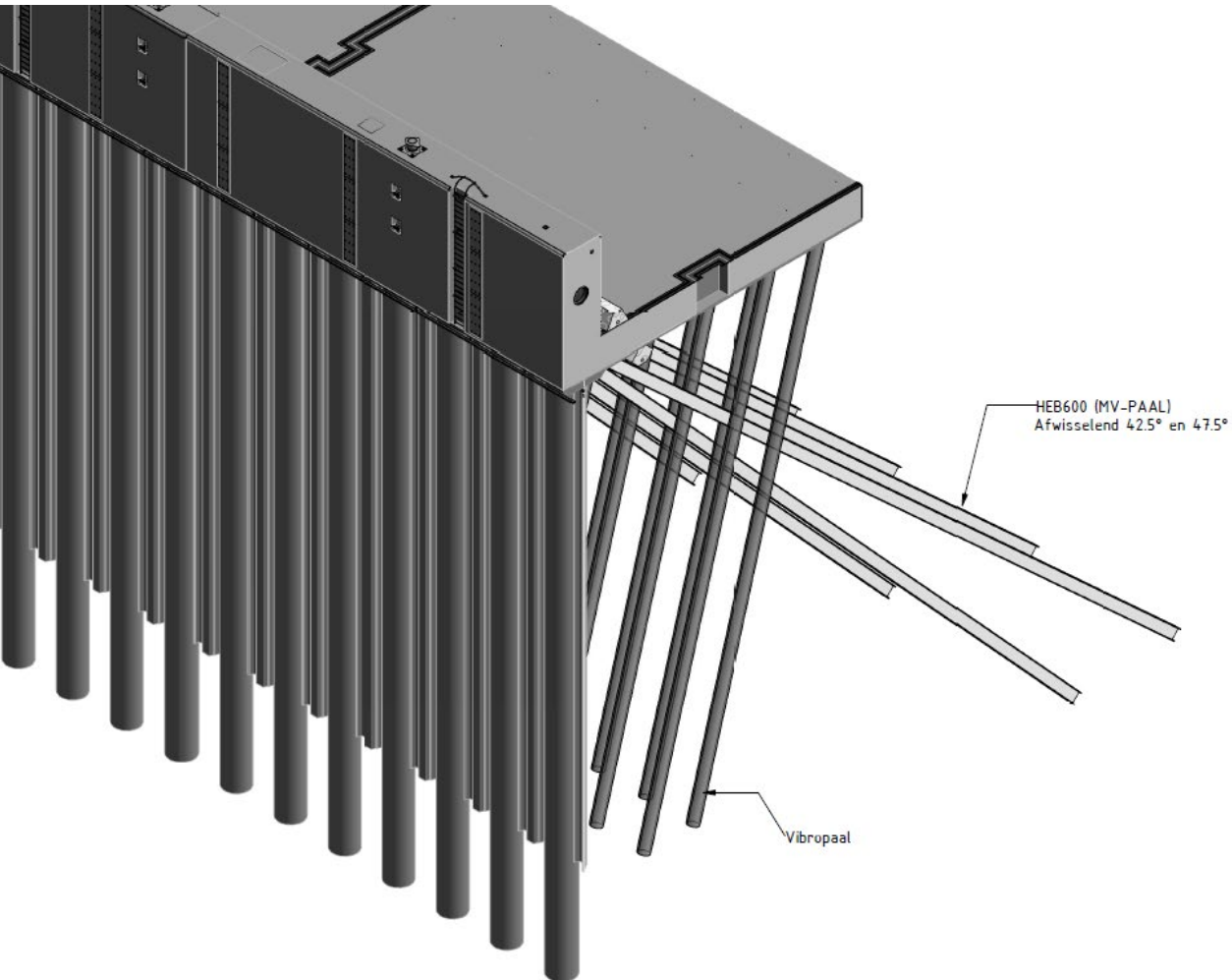
- Many quay walls approach the end of their fifty-year design lifetime.
 - Focus will shift towards assessing existing quay walls.
 - Most quay walls are in good condition.
- ⇒ Not yet the end of their service life!



Standard quay-wall design solutions



Typical combi wall



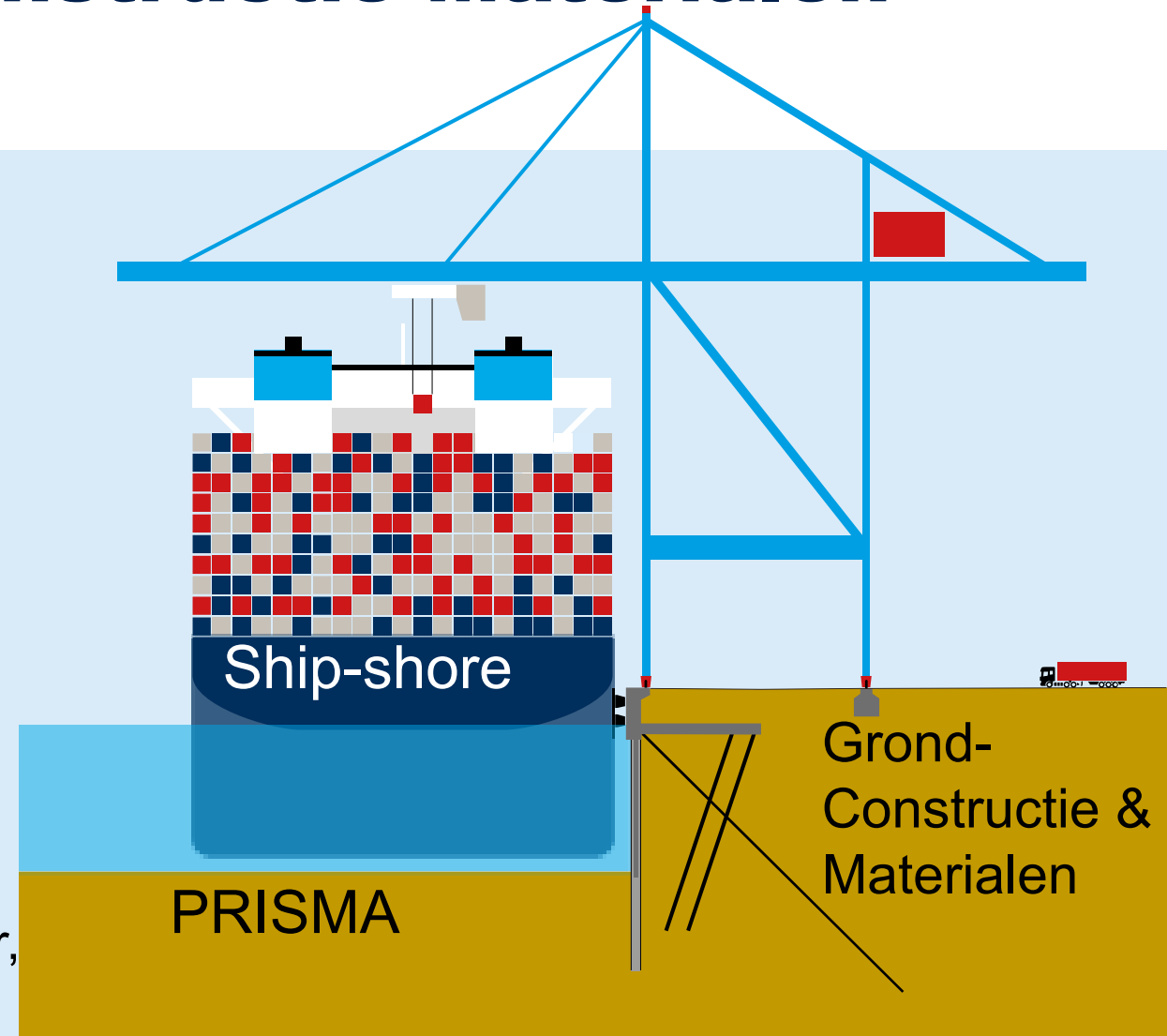
Typical combi wall



Infra Innovation: Grond-Constructie-Materialen

Main aim towards 2030:

- Lifetime extension quay walls (≥ 25 years)
- Optimise performance of existing port infrastructure* by facilitating modern vessels (e.g. larger nautical draft / bigger cranes).
- A significant contribution to CO₂ reduction of using less or carbon friendly materials, without compromising safety/reliability of new port infrastructure*.
- Development of future-proof port infrastructure* (e.g. robust, adaptive, upgradeable, flexible)
- Transition towards climate resilient port infrastructure* (e.g. implementation of circular, modular, nature-inclusive, nature-based design solutions)



*) Quay walls, jetties and Flexible dolphins

**) Reduction of CO₂ emissions during construction is not the main aim of GCM.

GROND – CONSTRUCTIE – MATERIALEN

Impact van innovatie op de haven, 2018-2022

Project: Aanpassen scheurwijdte criterium

Impact: -€2,5 mln, -1,75 kton CO₂

● Gerealiseerd: SIF2

● In voorbereiding/uitvoering: Amaliahaven

● Aangetoond (nog toe te passen): Onderdeel RE

Project: CC klassen

Impact: -€5 mln, -7,5 kton CO₂

▲ Gerealiseerd: HHTT, SIF2,

▲ In voorbereiding/uitvoering: Amaliahaven, Antarcticakade

▲ Aangetoond (nog toe te passen): Agrofood

Project: Paalproef Maasvlakte

Impact: -€15,5 mln, -11 kton CO₂

● Gerealiseerd: SIF2, ECT

● In voorbereiding/uitvoering: Amaliahaven, ECT

● Aangetoond (nog toe te passen): Onderdeel RE

Project: Reverse Engineering (combinatie van I² projecten)

Impact: 20-50% meer belasting, verlengen levensduur EN/OF verdiepen ligplaats met 1 a 2m

■ Gerealiseerd: EECV, ECT, Dordrecht, Rosilcokade EBS, SIF1, SIF2, Vopak

■ In voorbereiding/uitvoering: ECT, Neste steiger, Rozenburgse Sluis

■ Aangetoond (nog toe te passen): HHTT, Rhenus

Project: Onderzoek schroefstraalbelasting

Impact: -€0,5 mln, -0,45 kton CO₂

♥ Gerealiseerd: HHTT

♥ In voorbereiding/uitvoering: Antarcticakade, Shell

♥ Aangetoond (nog toe te passen): Onderdeel RE

Projecten met toegepaste innovaties, 2018-2022

Agrofood

Amaliahaven

Antarcticakade

Calandkanaal (palen)

Dordrecht

ECT

EECV

HHTT

Rhenus

Rosilcokade EBS

Rozenburgse Sluis

SIF1

SIF2

Kade Shell

Steigers Neste (vmlg BLC)

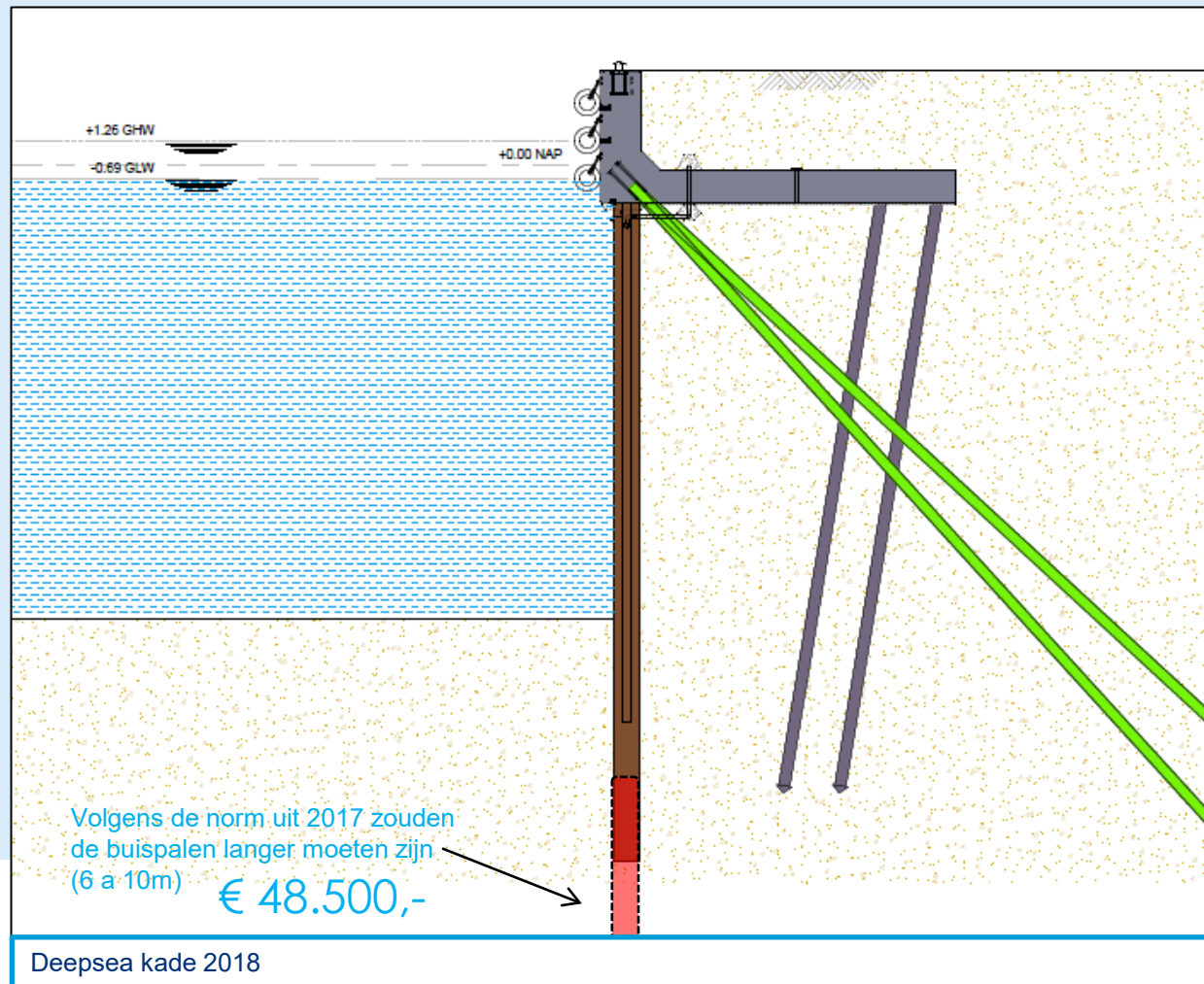
Vopak



GROND – CONSTRUCTIE – MATERIALEN

VERGELIJKING 2018-2023, PER STREKKENDE METER KADEMUUR (OP BASIS VAN DEESEA KADE HHTT)

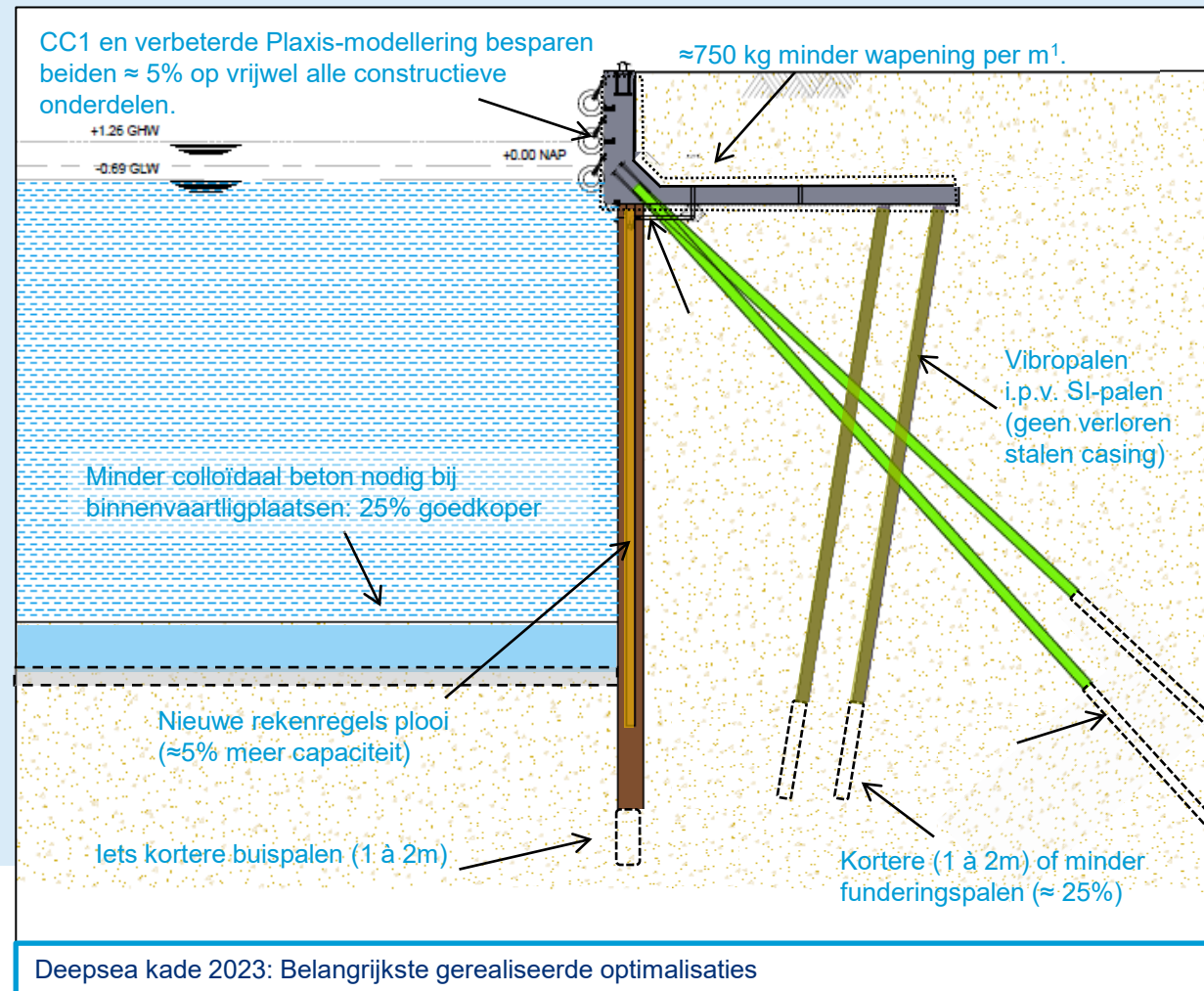
2018) Directe bouwkosten: € 46.250,- / Emissie CO₂: 78 ton**



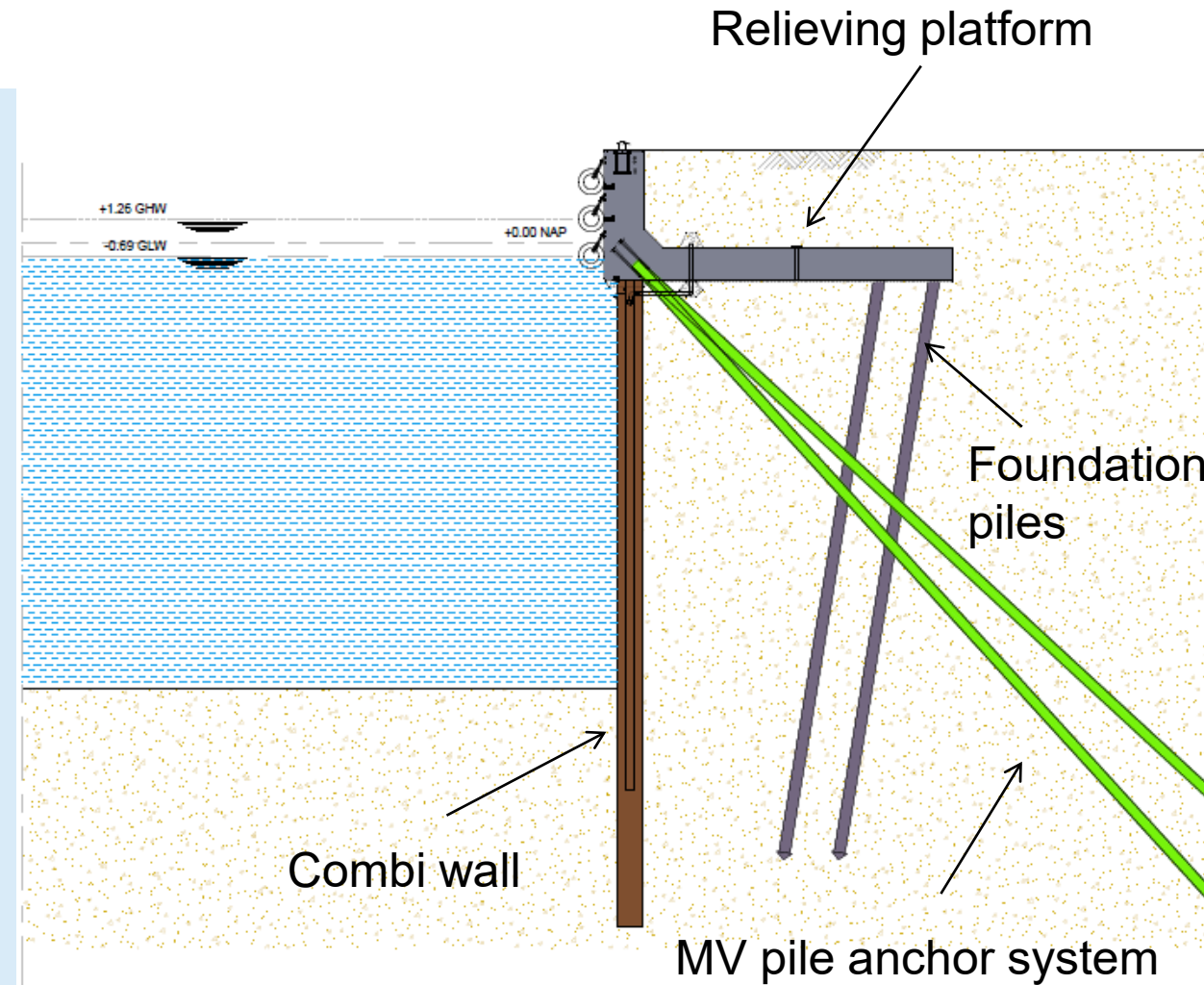
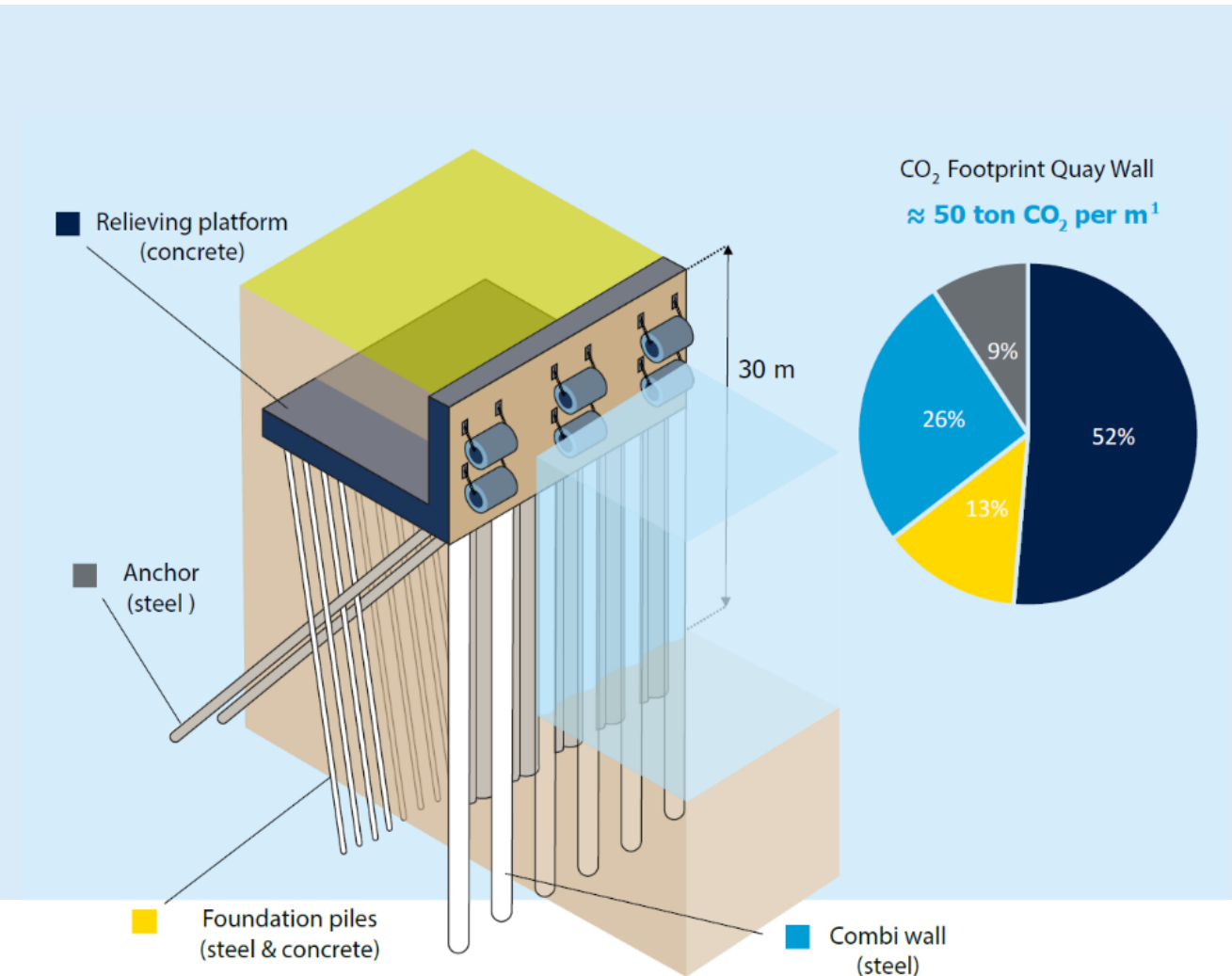
*) Vergelijking is gebaseerd op basis prijspeil 2017

**) Gebaseerd op rekenmethode anno 2023

2023) Bouwkosten : € 39.500,-* / Emissie CO₂: 65 ton**

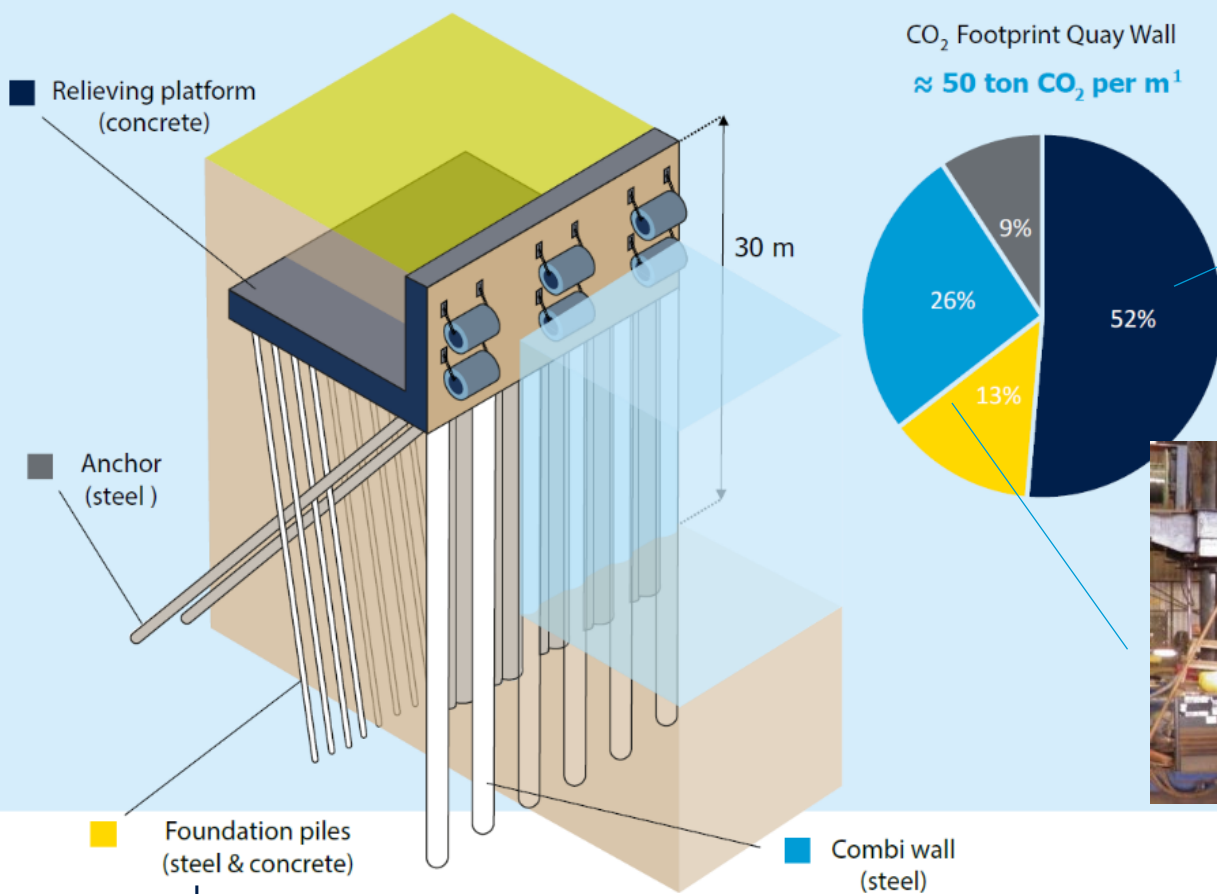


Decarbonisation $\approx 50\%$ before 2030 and 95% before 2050



Decarbonisation ≈50% before 2030 and 95% before 2050

New types of concrete



Optimal use of steel materials



Reuse of sediment

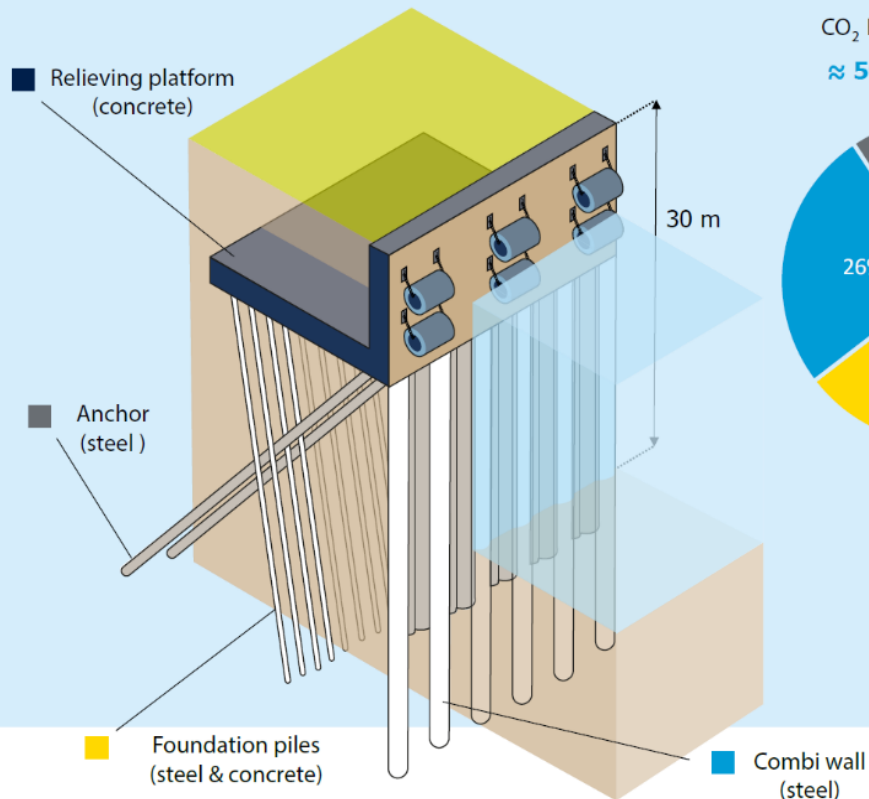
Vision & Ambition

Connecting the world. Building tomorrow's sustainable port.

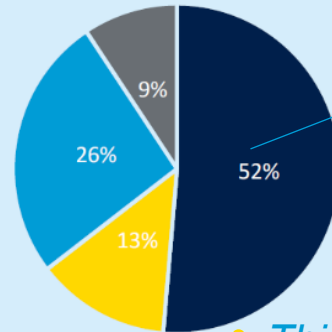
Geopolymer concrete

Existing structures

- Lifetime extension and optimize/maintain functionality.



CO₂ Footprint Quay Wall
≈ 50 ton CO₂ per m¹



- *This results in approximately 50 % CO₂ reduction in quay wall 2e Petreoleumhaven*

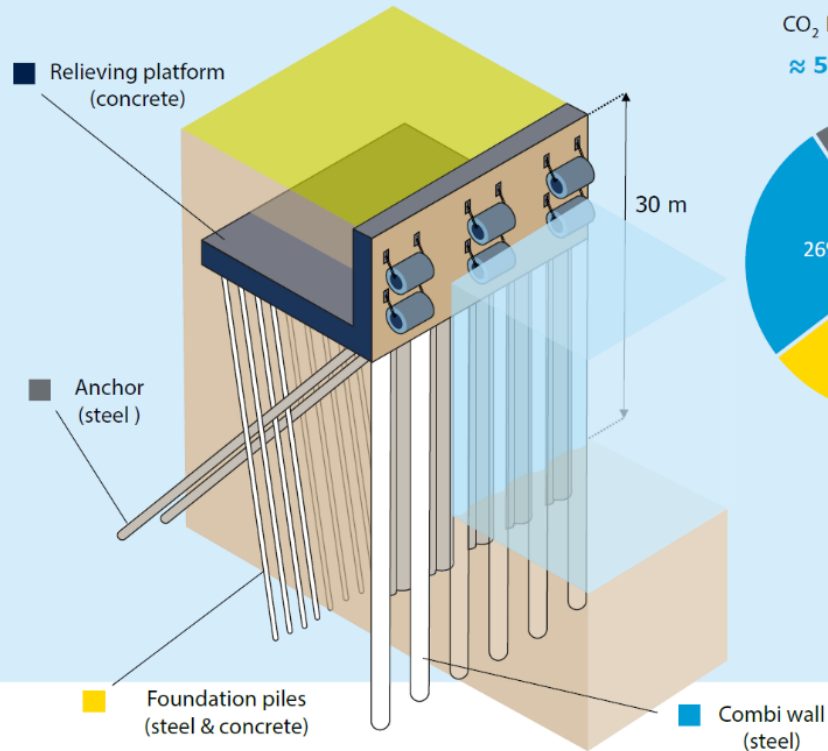


Vision & Ambition

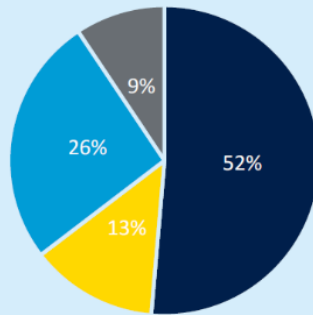
Connecting the world. Building tomorrow's sustainable port.

Existing structures

- Lifetime extension and optimize/maintain functionality.
- > 1500km soil retaining walls (Netherlands)

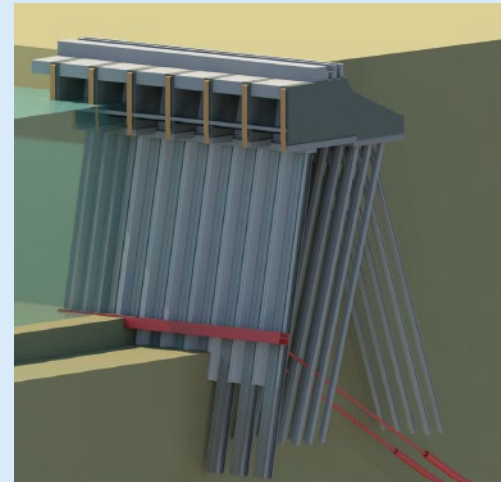


CO₂ Footprint Quay Wall
≈ 50 ton CO₂ per m¹



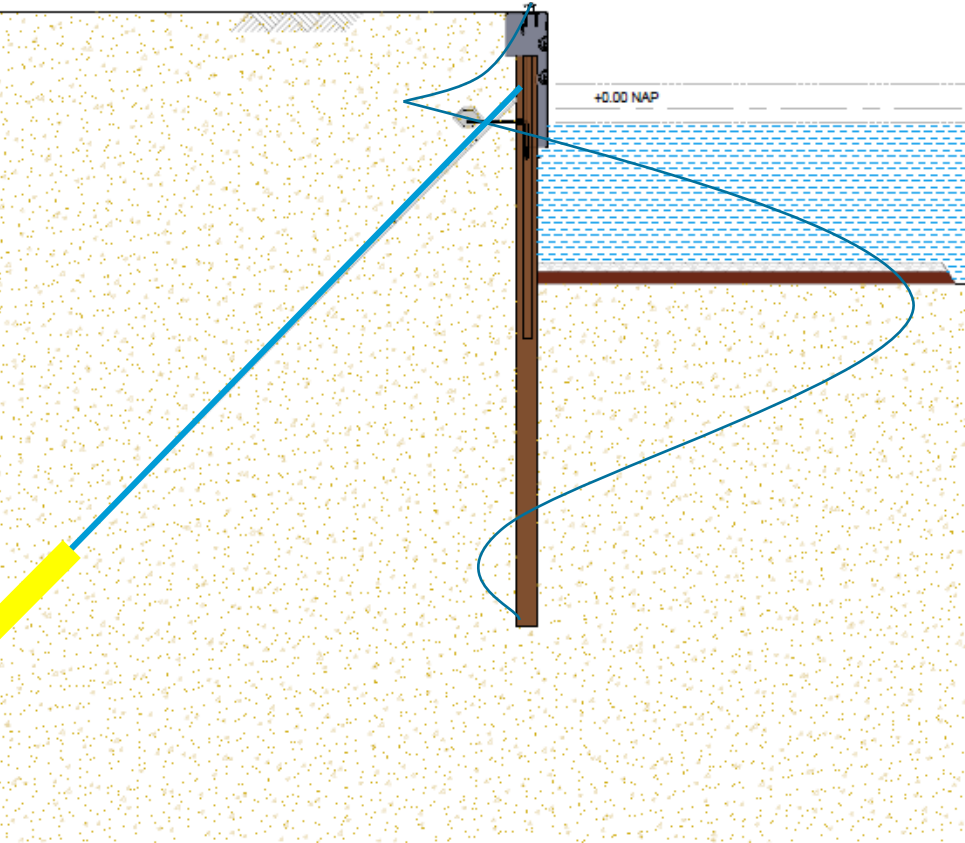
New marine structures

- 2023 - @2035@ => **Upgradeable / adaptive**
- @2035@ - 2050 => **Circular / modular / “green”**



First under water anchors in Rotterdam

Key principle



Lifetime extension existing quay walls

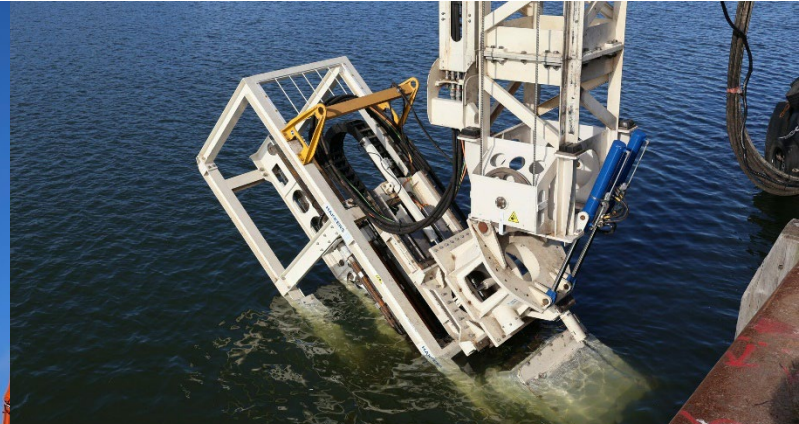
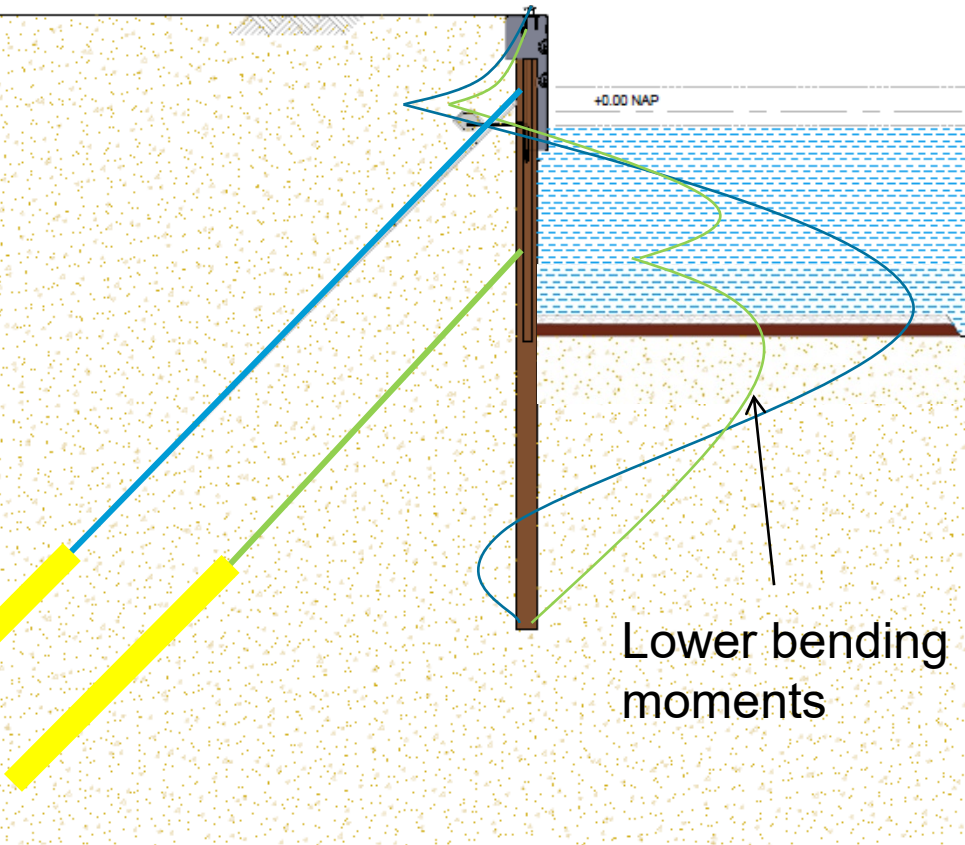
- Compensate effects of corrosion.
- Increase functionality (deepening or higher load)

OR

- Optimise carbon footprint for new quay walls

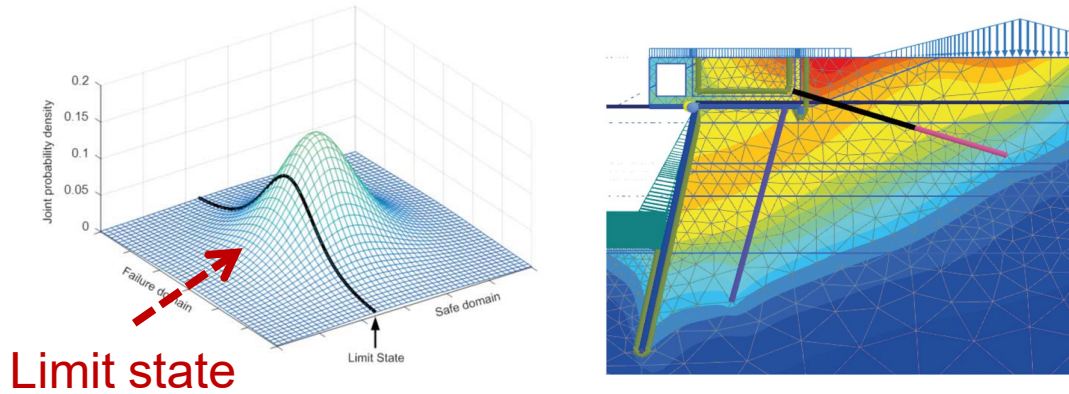
First under water anchors in Rotterdam

Key principle

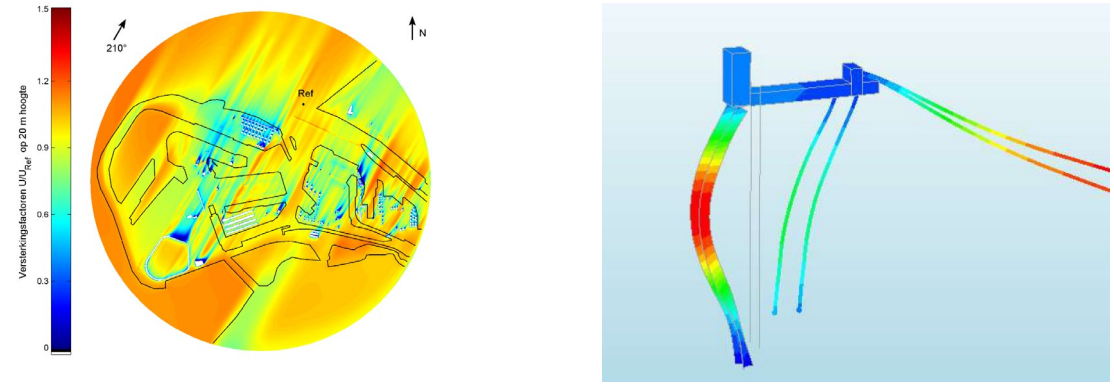


Main trends in quay-wall engineering

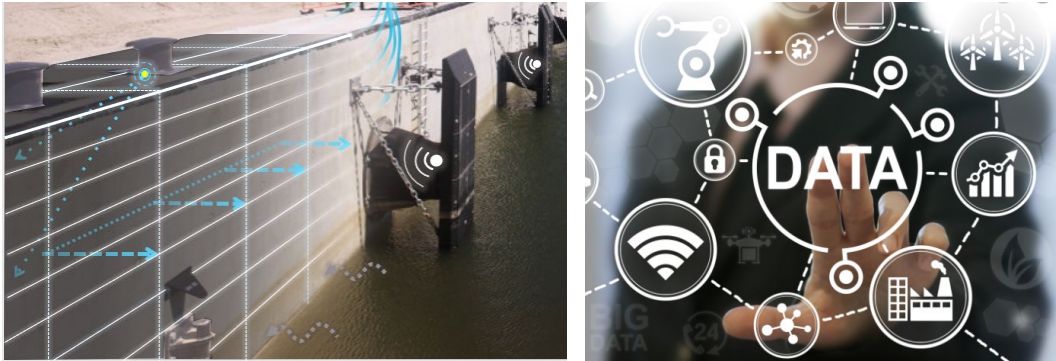
1) Reliability-based assessments



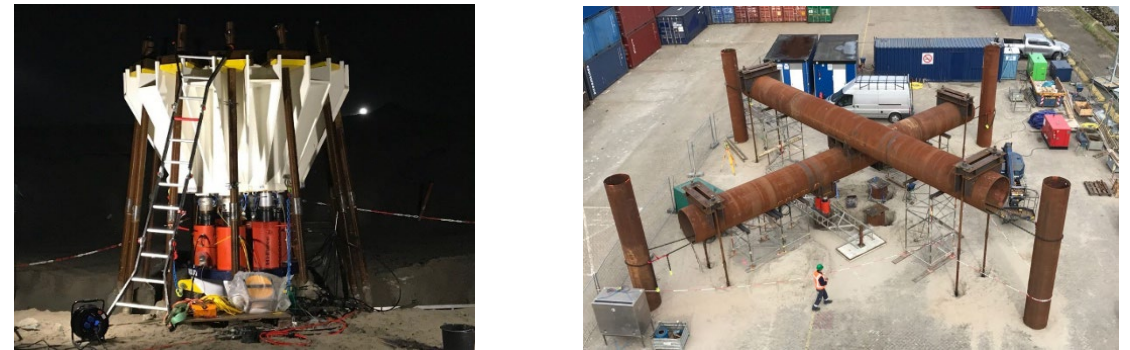
2) Advanced modelling & new methods



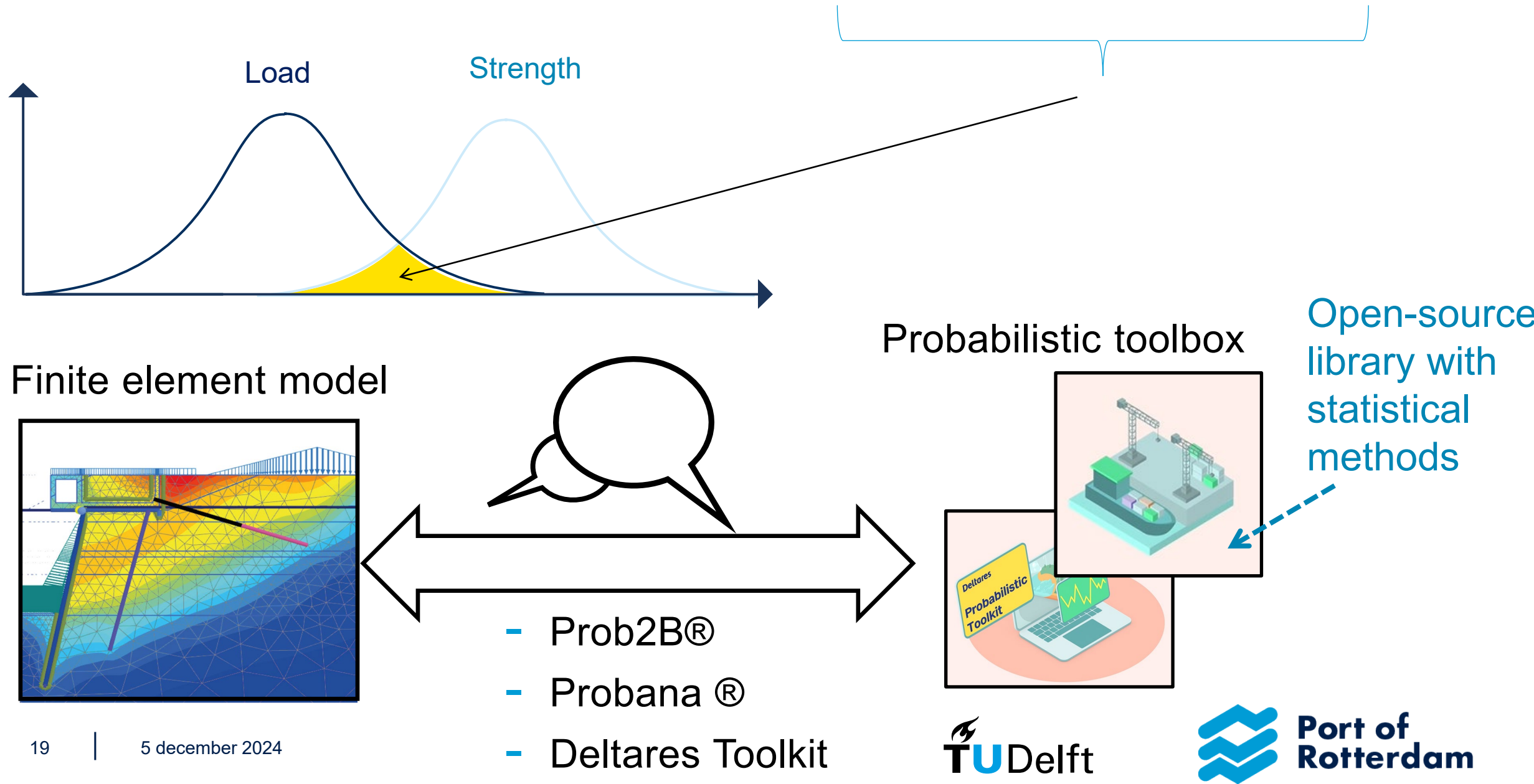
3) Sensoring & digitisation



4) Full scale field tests / stress testing

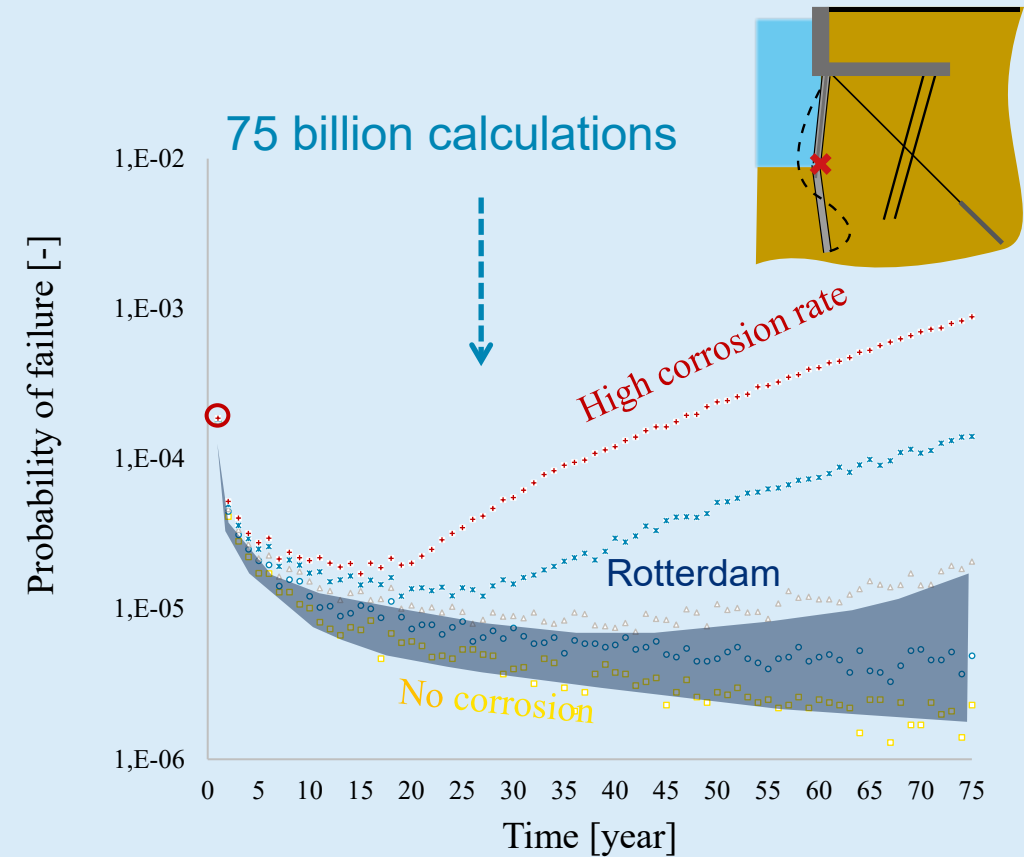


1) Reliability-based assessment: Probability of failure?

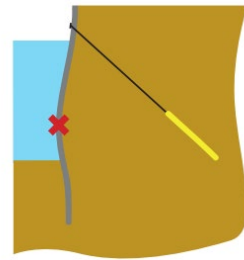


1) Reliability updating & past service performance

- New reliability classes in national annex Eurocode (CC1, CC2 and CC3) for maritime structures.
- Lifetime existing quay walls 35% longer compared to prediction (KMS degradation model PoR).
Approx. 25 years extra service life



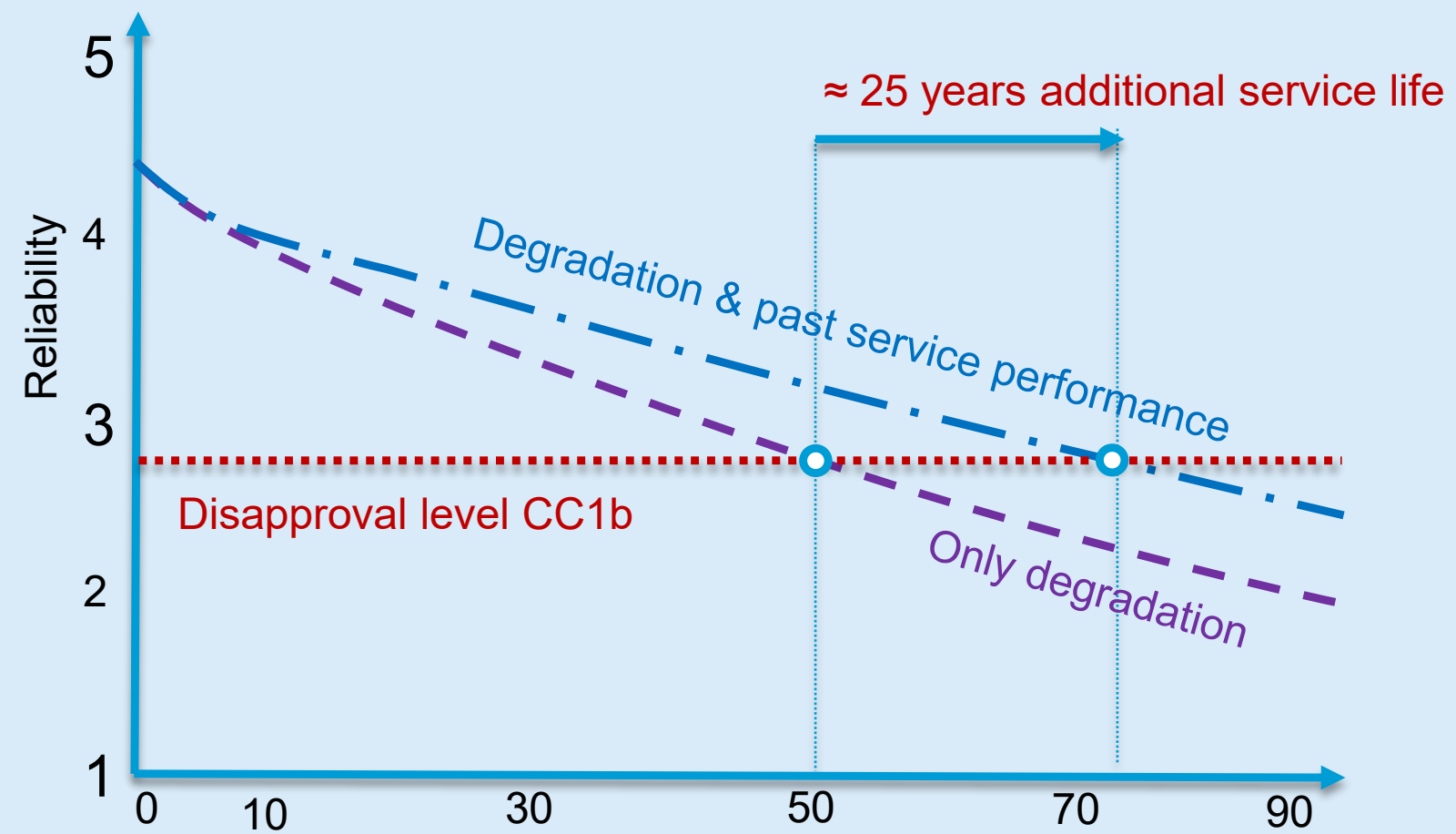
1) NEN Code “past service performance” (2023-2025)



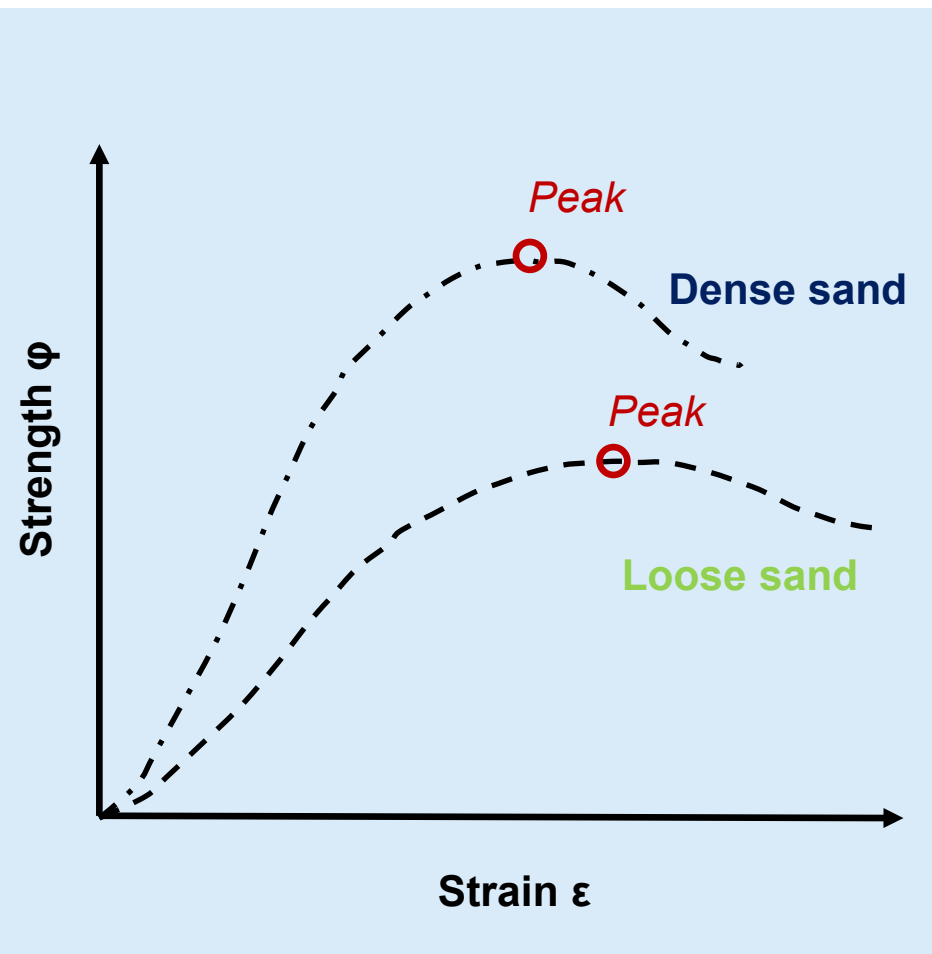
Sheet pile calculation CUR 166:

- Example used to determine safety factors for new sheet pile walls conform CUR 166.
- Despite corrosion lifetime extension of about 10 to 40 years. In this example lifetime extension of about 25 years.
- Annual reliability targets

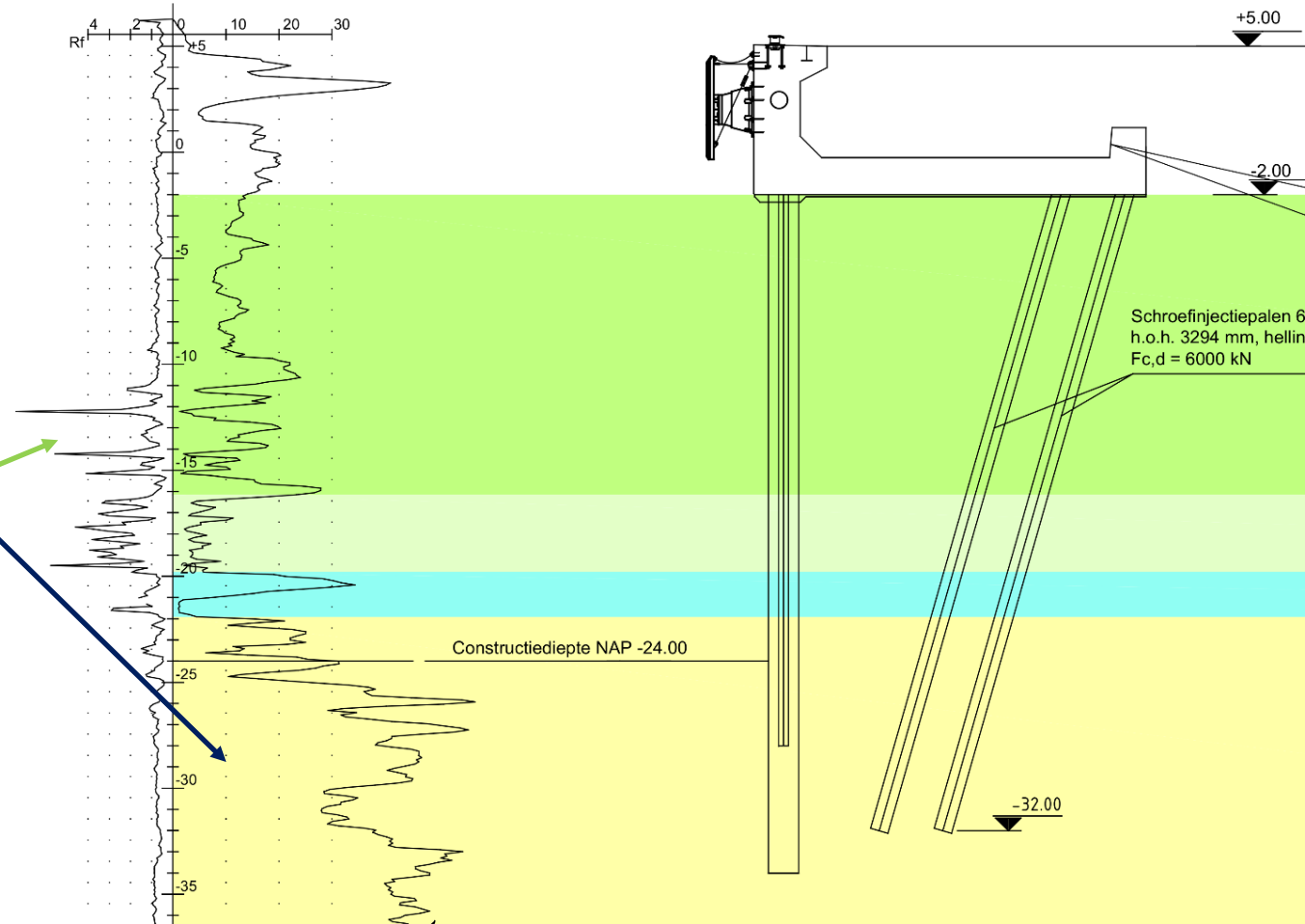
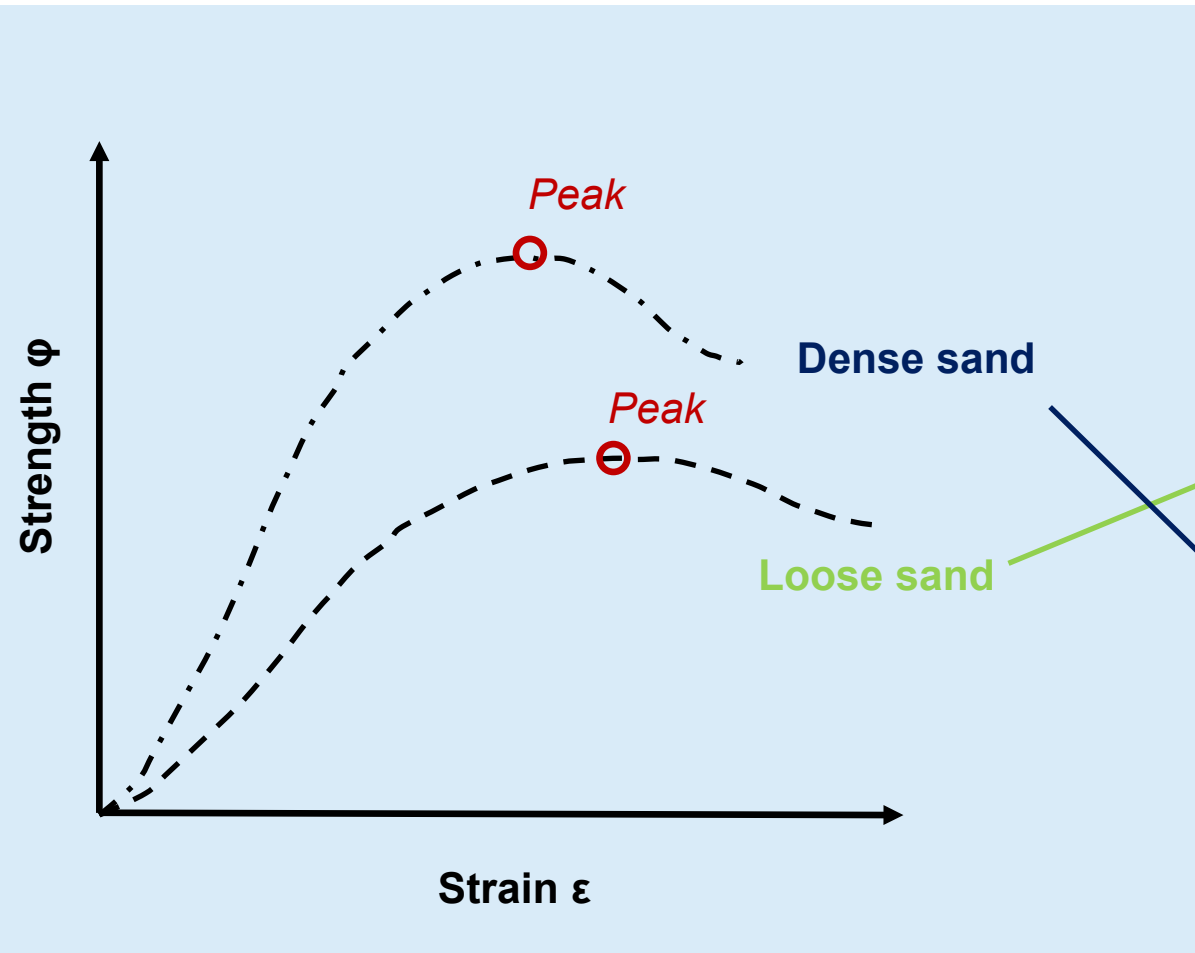
Gevolgklasse	Jaarlijkse betrouwbaarheidsindex		
	Afkeur	Verbouw	Nieuwbouw
CC1a	1,8	3,6	nvt
CC1b	2,8	3,6	4,2 (3,3)
CC2	3,3	4,0	4,7 (3,8)
CC3	4,0	4,4	5,2 (4,3)



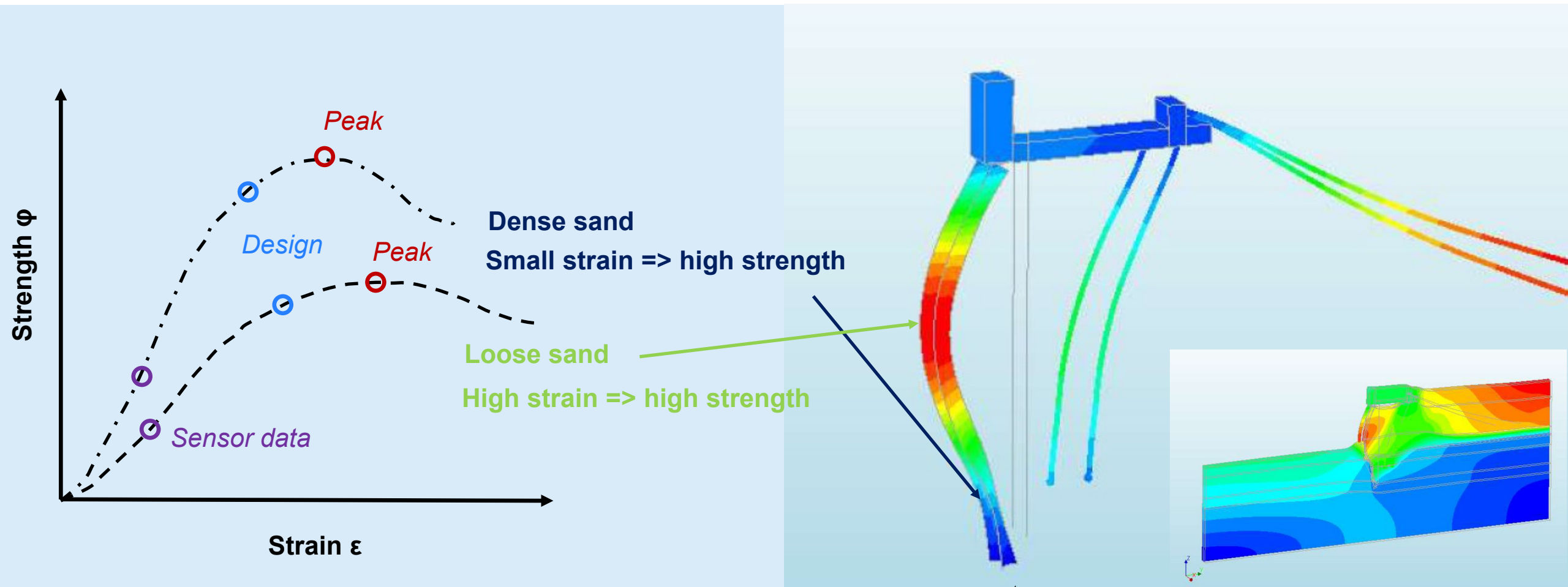
2) Soil strength (plane strain effects)



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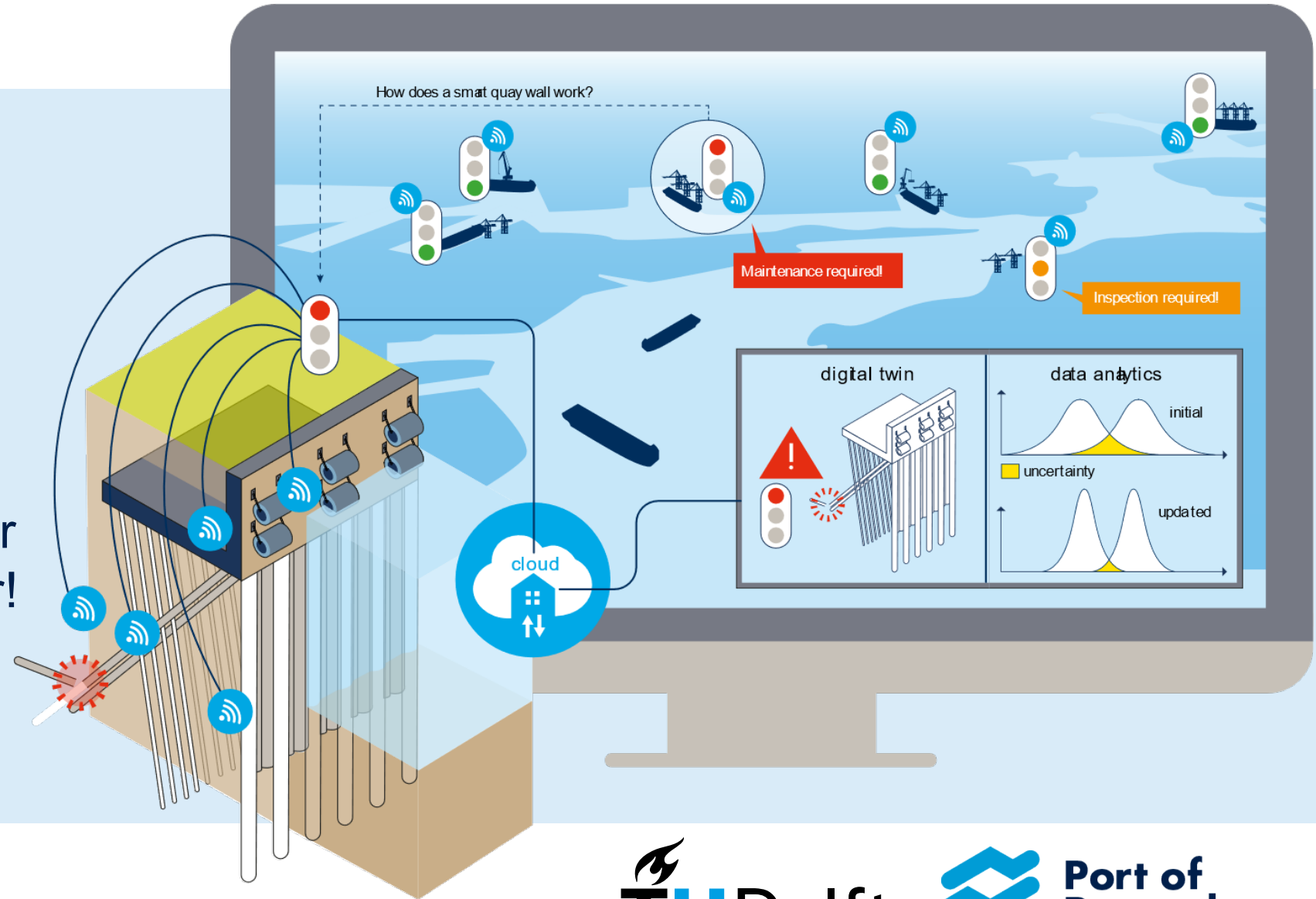
3) Sensoring & digitization



■ Smart quay wall ● Quick Release Hook ⊕ Impressed current ▲ Shore Power ♥ Other

3) Smart quay walls

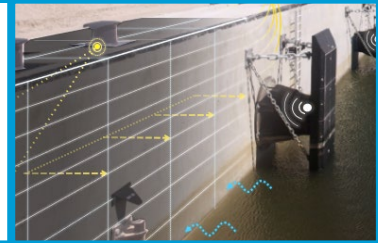
- 10 quay walls equipped with sensors.
- Input for advanced modelling or reliability-based assessments.
- Digital twin => Inspector of the future is a sensor!



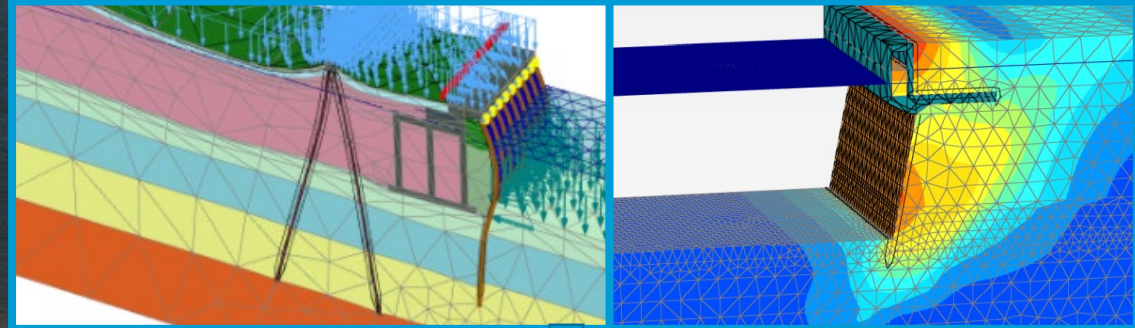
Sensor data

INPUT REVERSE ENGINEERING:

- As-built data
- Smart quay walls (sensordata)
- Construction data, anchor- & pile tests
- New knowledge (e.g. I² & SmartPort)

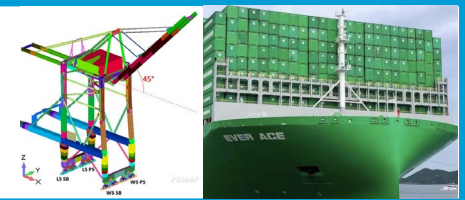


NUMERICAL MODEL quay wall (2D of 3D)

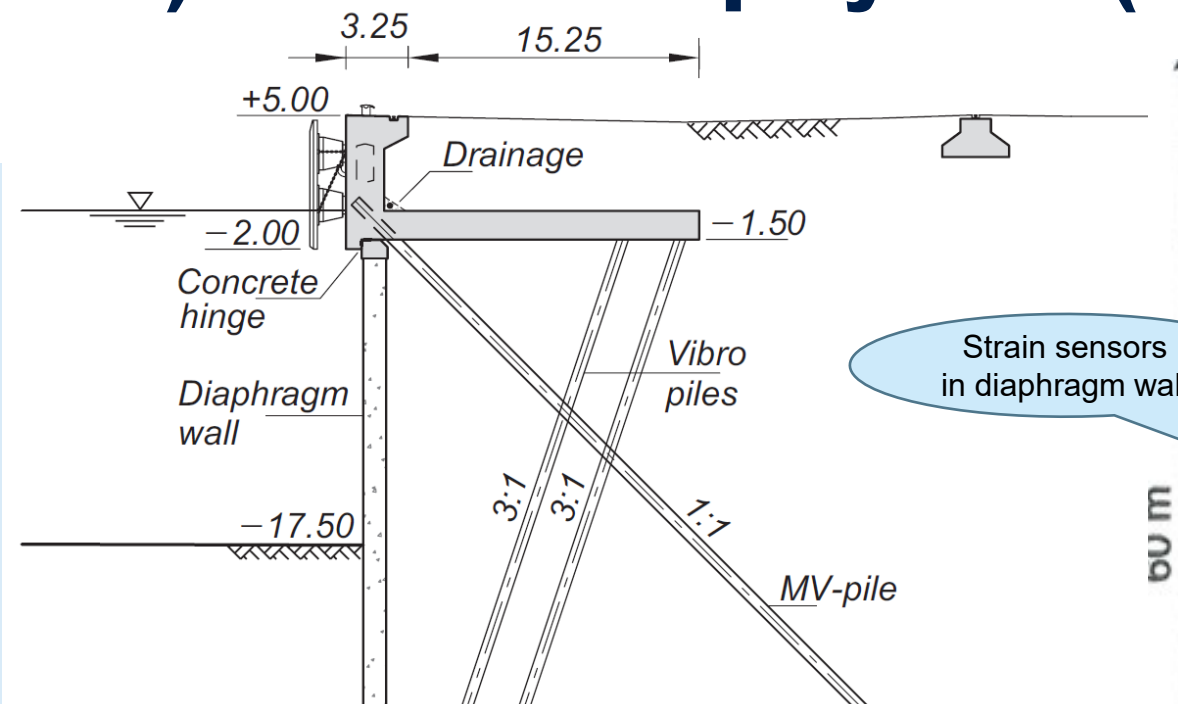


POSSIBLE OUTPUT:

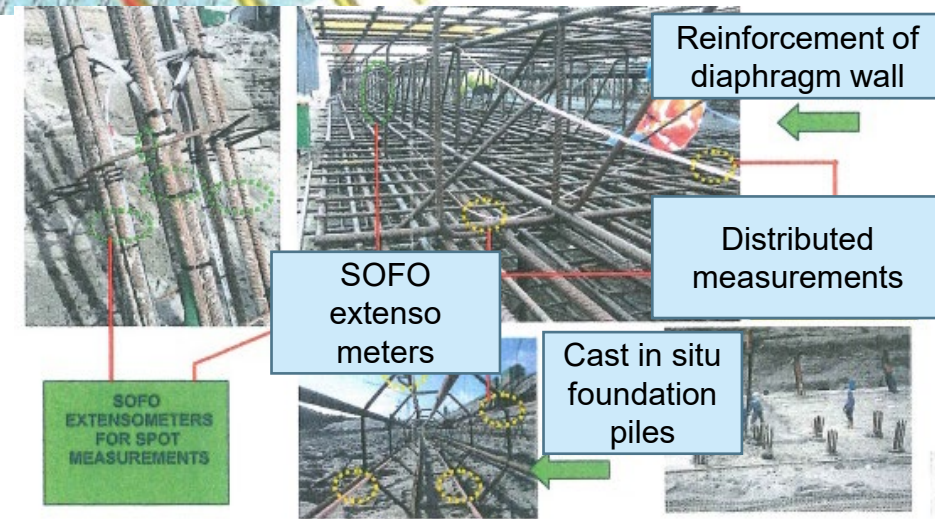
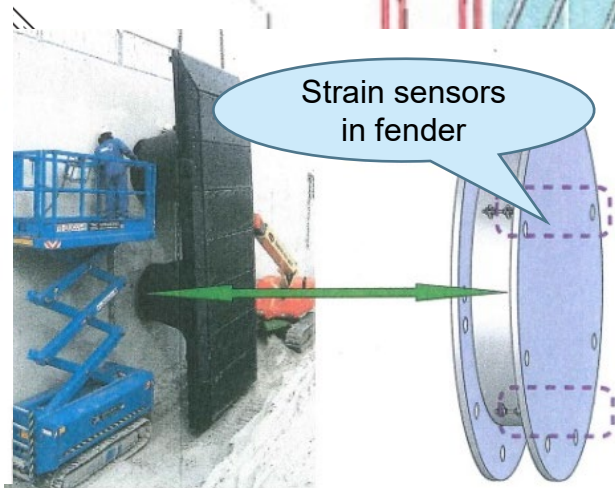
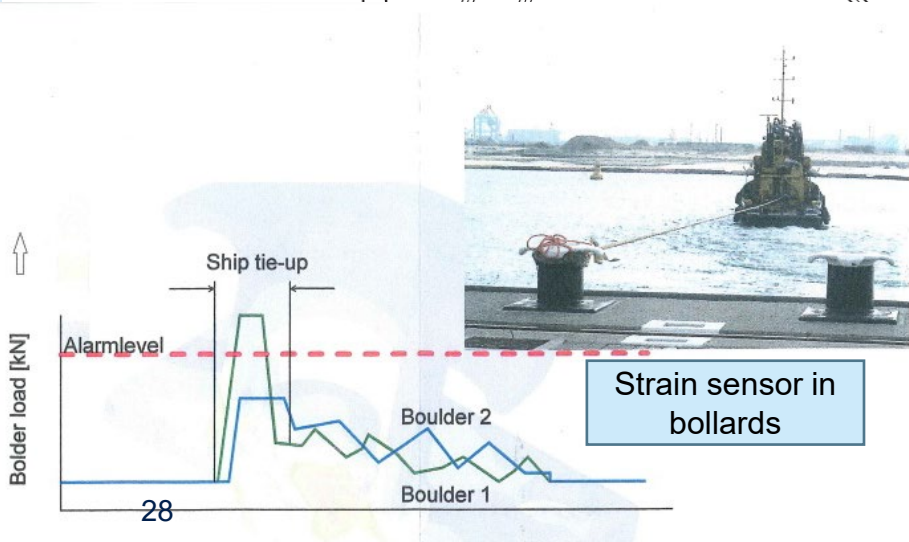
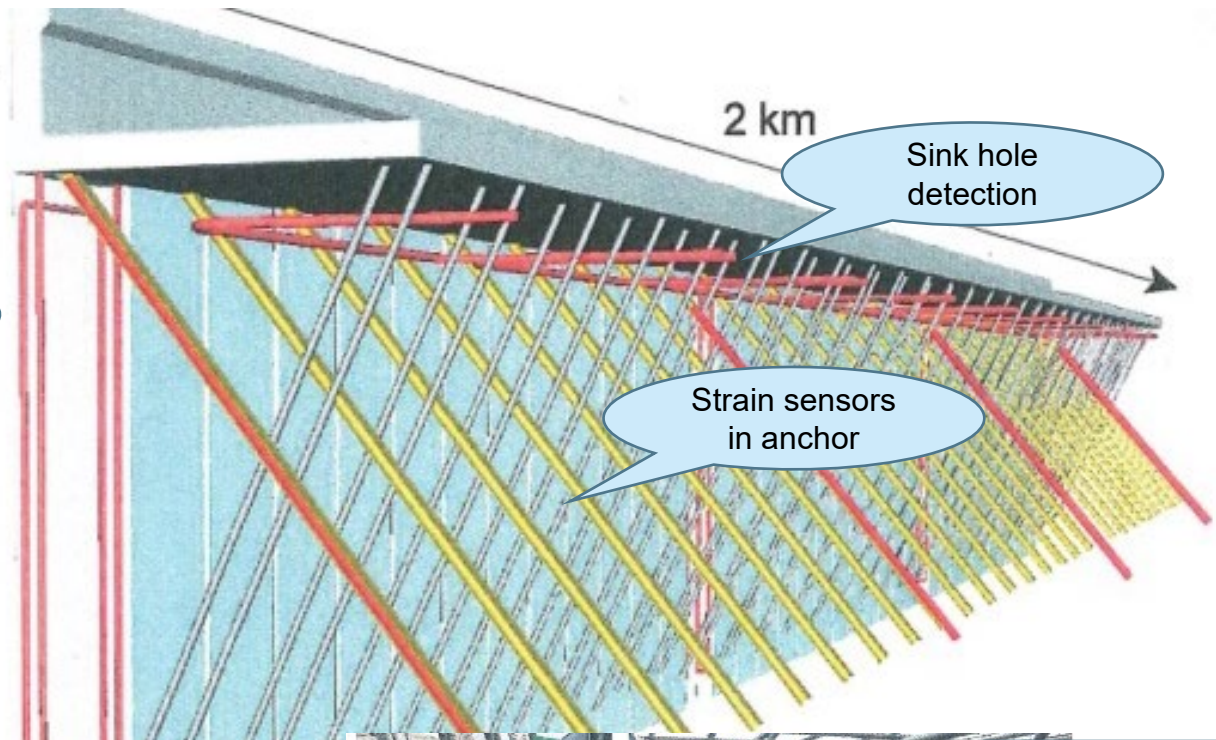
- Bigger crane.
- Higher loads.
- Additional nautical depth.



3) First smart quay wall (2008)



Strain sensors in diaphragm wall



Smart quay wall
Maasvlakte

Water level

Strain sensors & inclinometers in combi wall

Deformations

Gr
water

MariTeam

Port of Rotterdam

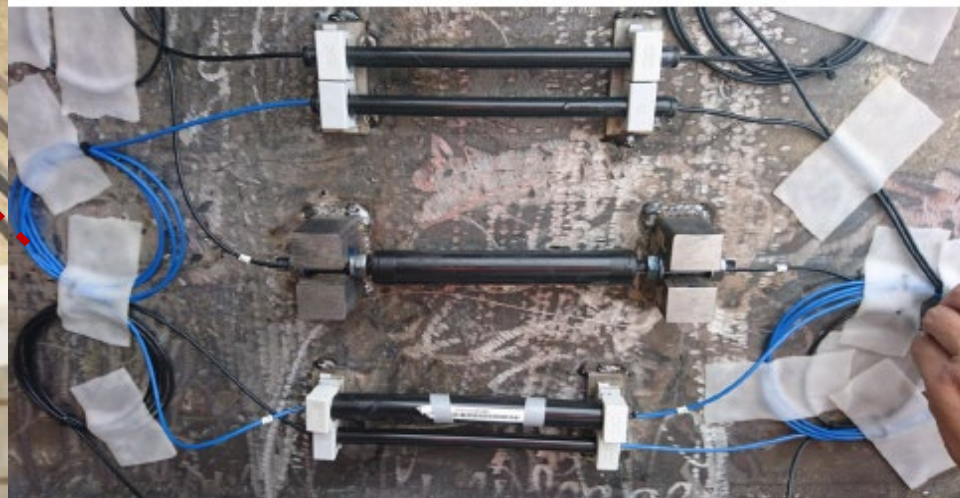
Deformations

Ground water level

Strain sensors & inclinometers
in combi wall



Erosion detection

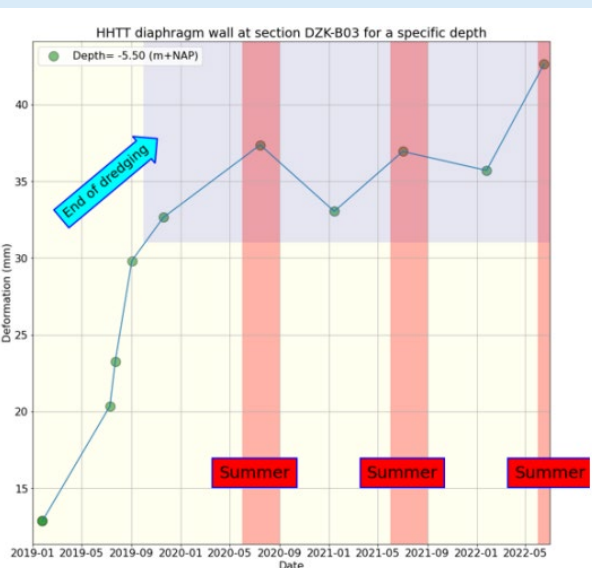
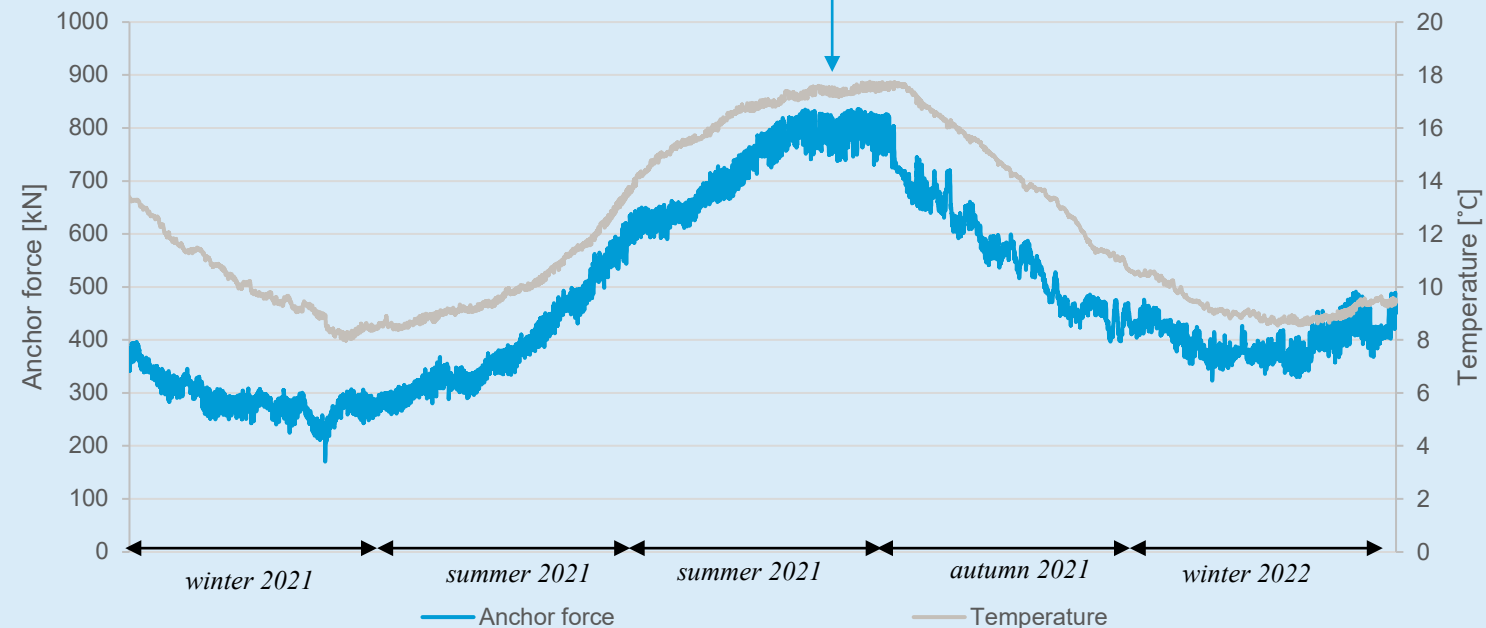


3) Smart quay walls: Anchor Force

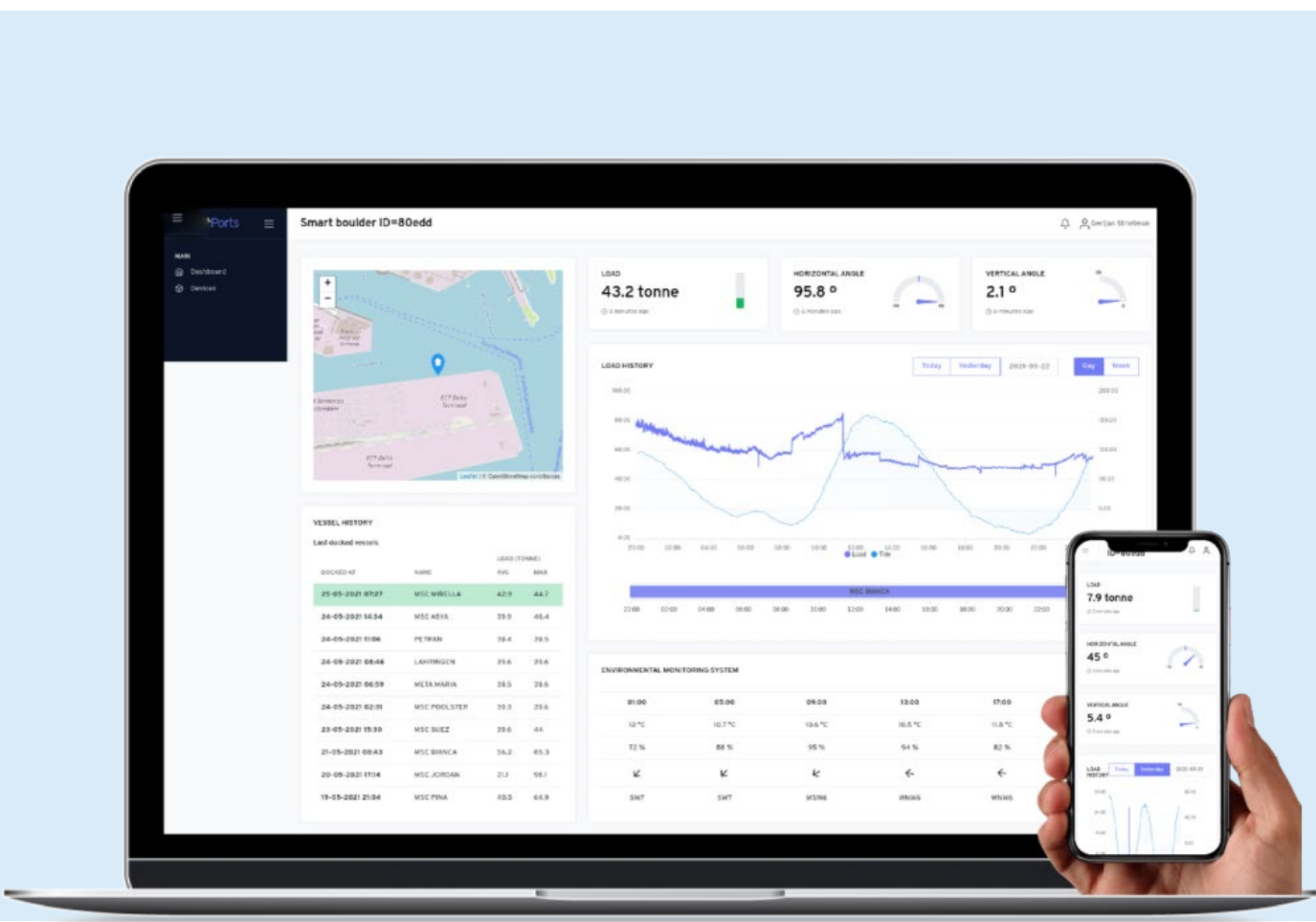
- Lower compared to design value.
- Reduce model uncertainty.
- Input for checking the influence of climate change on quay-wall behaviour.

Design value is 2000kN

Hidden safety?



3) Data analytics: Example Smart Bollard



4) Full scale field test open ended steel tubes

Scope:

- 4 test piles $\varnothing 1220$ (D/t of 60, 80 and 100).
- Spider-shaped test frame for static test
- Tension frame for cyclic test.
- Advanced strain and pressure sensors.
- Max test load 25.000 kN/ 15.000 MN.
- Costs about €2.5m.

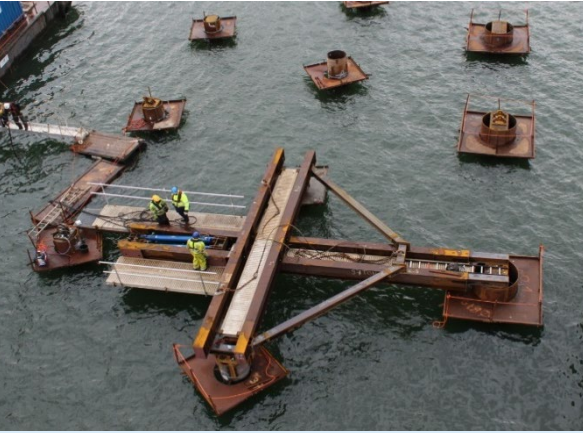
⇒ 5% less material for combi tubes (1-2m shorter)

⇒ > €100m and 100 kton CO₂ savings per off shore wind farm



4) Full scale field tests & stress testing

Flexible dolphin (2014)



Precast concrete piles (2017;'21)



Sheet pile piles (2018)



Urban quay wall (2022)



Anchors (2017;'18,'19,21,'22)



Cast in situ piles (2020)



Bow-thruster loads (2019;'21)



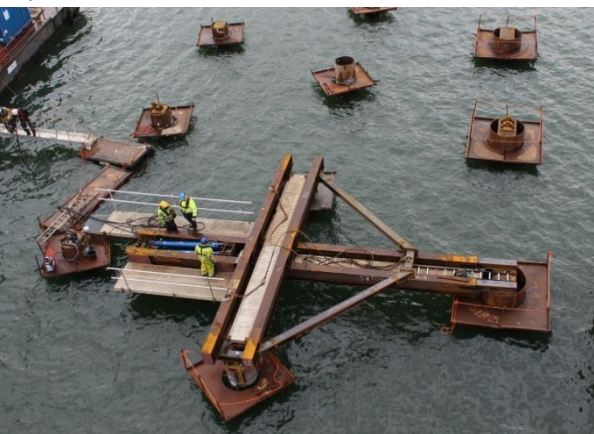
Full-scale test quay wall

Port of Rotterdam

(2024/2025)

4) Full scale field tests & stress testing

A) Flexible dolphins



B) Precast concrete piles



C) MV-pile anchors



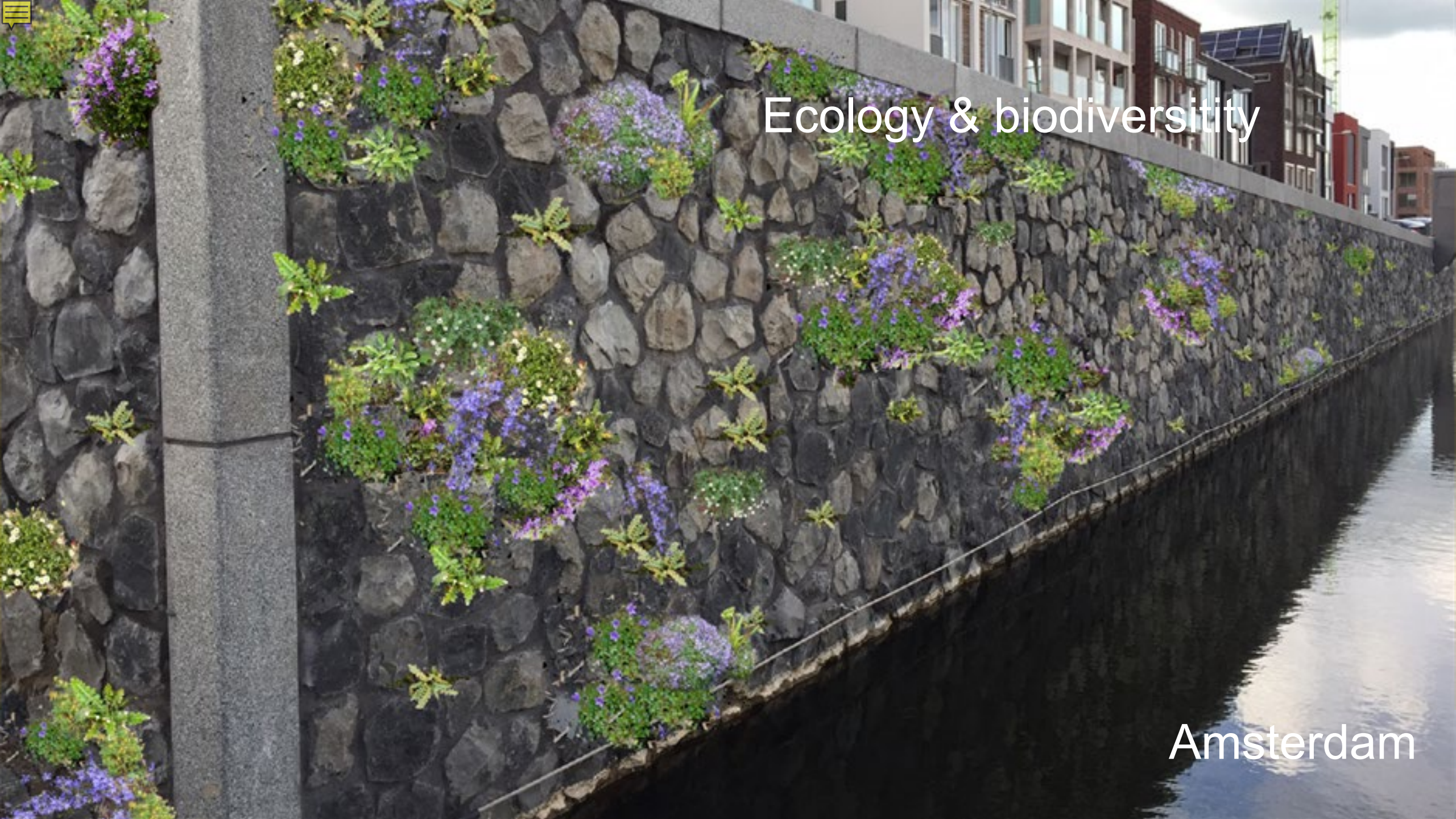
D) Precast concrete, cast in situ & SI piles



Project	n	Costs	Direct savings		Annual future savings ^a	
			[m€]	[kton CO ₂]	[m€]	[kton CO ₂]
A) Dolphins 2014	8	0.75	6.10	0.25	6.00	0.30
B) Precast concrete 2017	4	0.45	0.55	0.75	n/a	n/a
C) Anchors 2017-2022	6	0.75	4.50	1.00	3.00	1.50
D) Cast in situ 2020	11	2.50	15.50	11.00	12.50	10.00
Total	29	4.45	26.65	13.00	21.50	11.80

FULL-SCALE TEST QUAY WALL MAASVALKTE



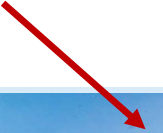
A photograph of a vertical garden installed on a stone retaining wall. The wall is constructed from dark, irregular stones. Various plants, including purple flowers and green foliage, are growing in the crevices of the wall. To the right of the wall is a calm canal, and in the background, modern city buildings are visible under a cloudy sky.

Ecology & biodiversity

Amsterdam

NATURE INCLUSIVE DESIGN

Beneluxhaven



Europahaven



REMOTE SETTING PLATTE OESTER (RESO)



Steen met oesters



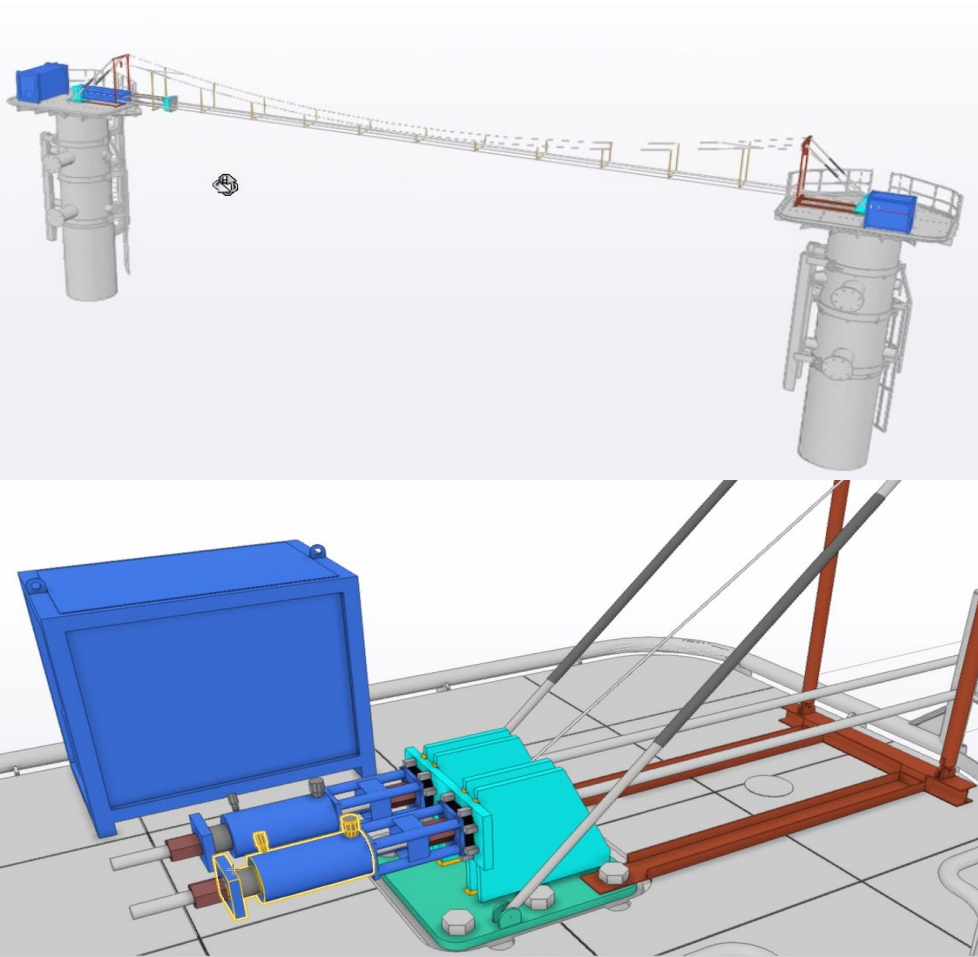
Monitoren ontwikkeling





Thank you for your attention.

Full-scale field test Calandkanaal 2022



Gemeente
Rotterdam



Port of
Rotterdam

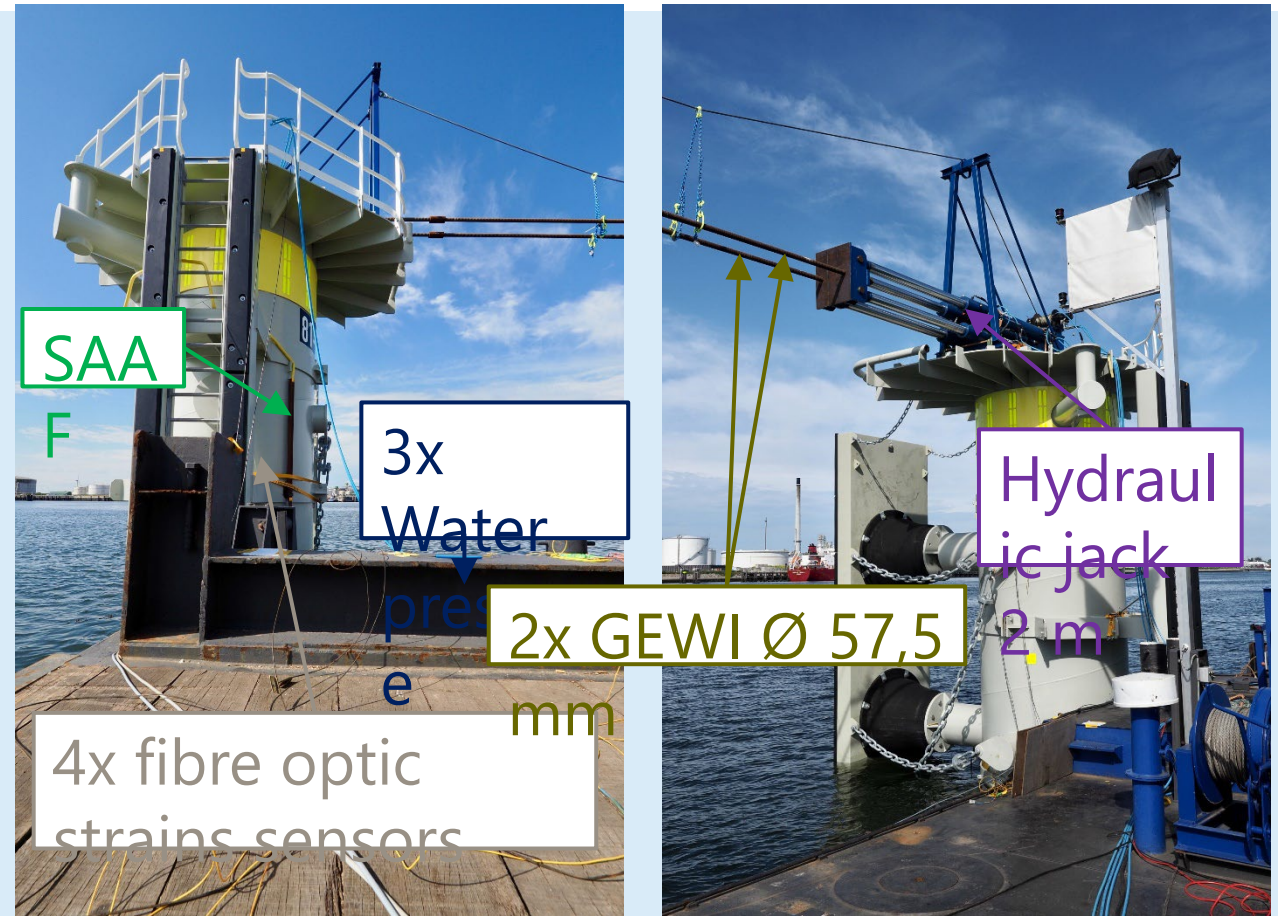
Full-scale field test Calandkanaal 2022



Full-scale field test Calandkanaal 2022

Scope

- Two open ended steel tubes.
- Tube diameter 2.4m.
- Pile length 48m.
- Test load $\approx 1820\text{kN}$ (90% of ULS design load)
- Max deformation $\approx 1\text{m}$.
- Sensors: BOFDA fibre optics, SAAF, water pressure sensors, total station.



Full-scale field test Calandkanaal 2022

Results:

- New guidelines for soil fixation for different design methods (e.g. Blum, p-y cures and finite element models such as Plaxis)
- SLS fixity check: 50% mobilisation of passive soil wedge after 2nd berthing impact.
- ULS geotechnical failure 100% mobilisation of passive soil wedge (ULS energy once in the service life)

Value:

- Shorter dolphin piles and smaller wall-thickness.
- $\approx 12.5\%$ material savings => cost reduction of €20k and 30 ton CO₂ per pile!

