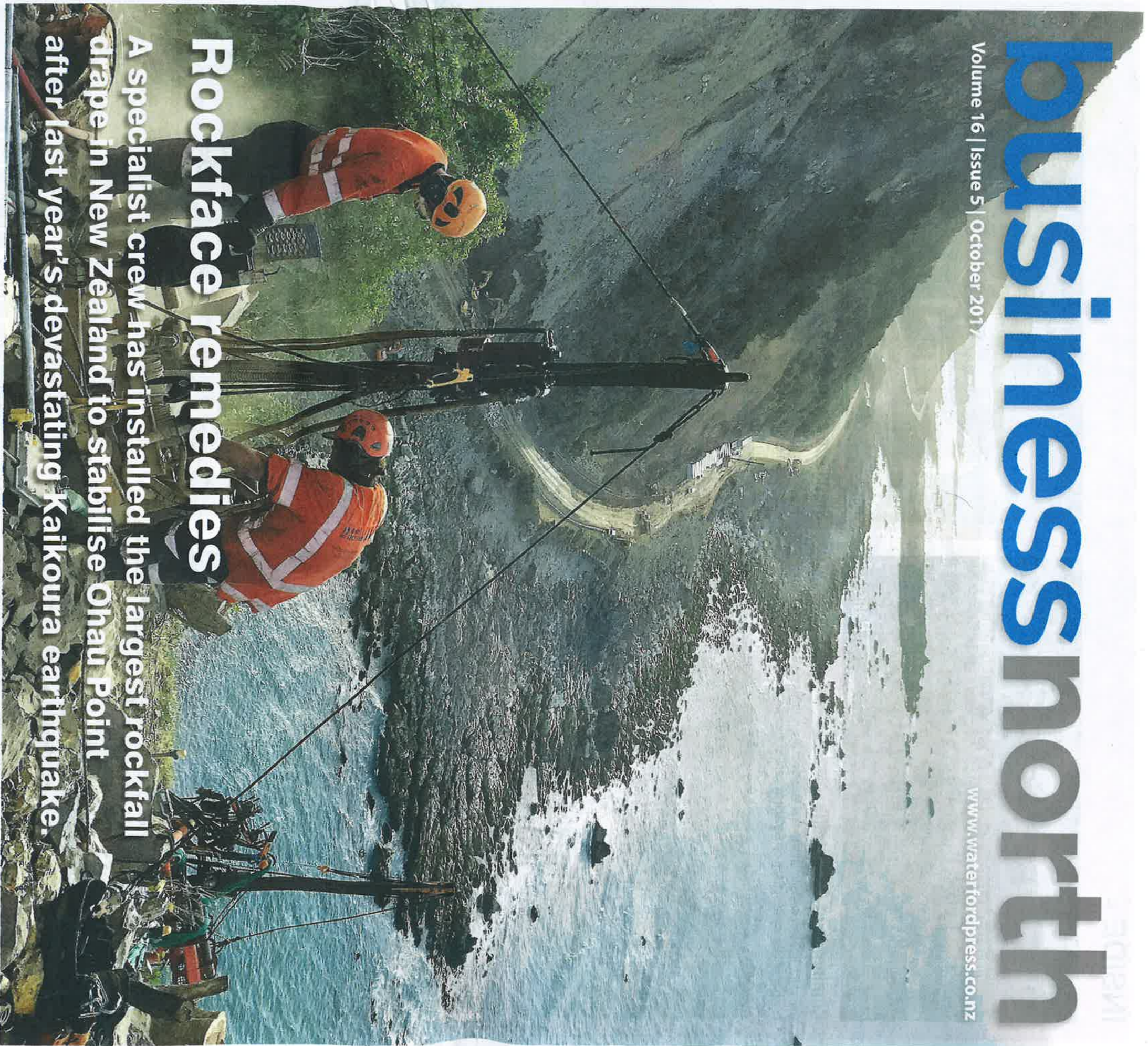


businessnorth

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Rockface remedies
A specialist crew has installed the largest rockfall drupe in New Zealand to stabilise Ohau Point after last year's devastating Kaikoura earthquake.



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Creating Communities

Hopper Developments projects include a wide range of diverse activities including residential commercial, retirement villages, tourist accommodation and marinas.

Accolades for Mangatawa development

The new offices built for Mangatawa Incorporation have become a prominent landmark for Papamoa Beach.



HGS absellers have been securing the rock face at Ohau point with ring nets, high-tensile steel mesh and rock bolts.

Specialist team tackles Ohau Point

Karen Phelps

The Hiway Group has recently established a joint venture Hiway Geostabilization (HGS) with GSI from the US to bring innovation and specialist capability not seen in New Zealand before, to assist with the disaster recovery of the Kalkoura earthquake.

HGS has been tackling Kalkoura's most challenging project to secure the area after last November's 7.8-magnitude earthquake, which caused more than 100,000 cubic meters of rock and debris to bury the road below Ohau Point. The project involves the installation of the largest rockfall drape in New Zealand.

Hiwayway Stabilizers chief operating officer, Peter Metcalfe, says although the views of the ocean and wildlife have been stunning, the work has been difficult and challenging, often undertaken in uncompromising weather.

But he says that the work performed by HGS is crucial for the safety of the public who will be able to once again travel past Ohau Point once the road has been repaired.

HGS absellers - known as rock remediation technicians - have been removing loose rock and securing the remaining rock with ring nets, high-tensile steel mesh and rock bolts.

After installing the ring net and mesh drape, which covers the top 4500sqm of the rock face, the crew have worked to remove all of the loose rocks from the base of the drape down to the road level, an approximately 12,500sqm area.

"Once the rocks are removed, construction access can be granted below the rock face to begin construction of the new road," says Peter.

At that point the HGS crew will move back to the top of the bluff to install rock bolts through the drape in a 1.8-metre grid pattern.

"Once the rocks are removed, construction access can be granted below the rock face to begin construction of the new road."

Peter says that this will secure the ring net and mesh to the face, while also anchoring the larger loose rocks, and complete the permanent design of the remediation allowing safe public access to the new road below.

Health and safety has obviously been a key consideration in the challenging project and the experienced team wear full-body harnesses and utilise secured lines to ensure their safety as they descend the steep, near vertical rock slope to secure the ring net and the mesh drape to the rock face.

HGS is contracted by the North Canterbury Transport Infrastructure Recovery (NCTIR) - the alliance formed to repair, the road and rail networks

between Picton and Christchurch following the November 2016 Kalkoura earthquake.

Peter says that NCTIR aims to have the road open by Christmas this year, but work will work continue into 2018 to complete a number of improvements along the highway.

Based in Silverdale, Auckland, Hiway Group has been delivering innovative ground improvement solutions throughout New Zealand and the South Pacific since 1986.

Today the company is New Zealand's largest provider of specialist solutions for pavement stabilisation, slip and slope reinforcement, soil mechanics, ground improvement and contamination remediation.

The Group includes Hiway Stabilizers, Hiway Geotechnical, Hiway Environmental and Hiway Hire. Hiway Stabilizers offers a wide variety of services including new pavement construction, road rehabilitation and maintenance, ground improvement, soil remediation, heavy compaction and concrete crushing.

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The Hiway Group has established a joint venture Hiway Geostabilization with GSI from the US to assist with the disaster recovery of the Kaitioura earthquake.

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Specialist team tackles Ohau Point Stabilisation

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Road stabilisation is the company's core business and Hiway Stabilizers has undertaken a wide variety of projects from motorways to subdivisions, clays to marine dredging, above and below ground.

Hiway GeoTechnical is the geotechnical and ground improvement division, which provide deep soil mixing and slope remediation technologies and in house geotechnical design solutions while Hiway Environmental provides specialist services relating to environmental contracting.

Peter says the divisions allow the Group to deliver innovative cutting edge technologies and services to the local market as well as develop its own advanced methodologies and stabilising products.

An important focus is health and safety and Hiway Group operates its own system focused on behaviours, values and hazard management.

It also uses a new approach to zero harm with training on variability, resources and recognising and improving things that go well, which provides an unrelenting focus on maintaining the highest health and safety standards, says Peter.

This has enabled the business to meet the Tertiary Status requirements for ACC Workplace Safety Management Practices.

This certification is the highest level possible in New Zealand, and has only been achieved by a select few organisations, explains Peter.

It's no surprise then that Hiway Stabilizers was recently named finalists in the Westpac Auckland Business Excellence Awards 2017 – North for excellence in innovation, excellence in strategy and planning and employer of the year.

"It's just another indication of the high levels the business is operated at in all levels underpinned by our core values – pride, honesty, respect and drive."



After installing the ring net and mesh drape, which covers the top 4500sqm of the rock face, the crew removed the loose rocks from the base of the drape down to the road level, an approximately 12,500sqm area.

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