



APPLIED RESEARCH MITIGATES RISK OF COAL SEAM GAS PIPE FAILURE

PROBLEM



HDPE (high-density polyethylene) pipelines are critical infrastructure in the coal seam gas industry. During a testing phase, a leak in a HDPE pipe was identified. A leak in a HDPE pipe could result in significant financial loss.

SOLUTION



The leak was found to be a result of poor welding practices. An enhanced training program was developed to ensure that the risk of a leak and subsequent economic loss were minimised.



“Enforcing specific training processes has led to product risks being reduced and a significant improvement in welding success.”

Mark Holmes, Business Development Manager
Georg Fischer

RESEARCH APPROACH



During testing of coal seam gas infrastructure, a leak was identified in the HDPE pipeline.

The HDPE Training Centre of Excellence at TAFE Queensland's SkillsTech simulates on-the-job conditions.

TAFE Queensland SkillsTech's HDPE training solution has been instrumental in improving productivity in the gas industry. The training has been so successful that several of the major gas providers within the industry do not permit workers onsite until this training has been undertaken.

International experts determined that the failure was due to a fault in welding (welding competency).

TAFE Queensland SkillsTech in a partnership with Georg Fischer (HDPE welding equipment supplier) and Iplex pipelines decided to establish an innovative training centre of excellence in HDPE welding and curriculum.