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ABI Equipment Ltd were contracted to supply a heavy duty Delmag RH28 drilling rig with BT340 rotary head plus Kelly bar to Red7Marine Ltd for 10 weeks in the Summer of 2019.

Working from a jack-up barge just offshore at Oxen Cove, Brixham in Devon, the rig was required for the installation of 22No. 15m rock socketed piles. This was to provide foundational support for the construction of a new jetty.

The ground at this location is hard limestone. This robust rig with its 340 kNm of torque and 330 kN of delivered crowd force ensured the pile sockets were drilled accurately and efficiently. Rock socketed piles are used in hard rock or stone conditions where conventional piling methods will not offer sufficiently secure support.

New Jetty Construction, Brixham, Devon

Our client:

Red7Marine Ltd

Equipment used:

Delmag RH28

BT340 Rotary Head + Kelly Bar

Application: Rock Socketed Piles



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By drilling into the rock layer and creating a shaft space of a slightly larger diameter than the supporting pile, a void is produced around it which is then filled with a high strength grout. This 'socket' in the rock provides the final pile with stability by giving resistance against both lateral loads and uplift forces, and is commonly used in this type of offshore location. The resulting piles will support precast concrete cross head members, and a reinforced concrete deck.

The work was carried out for the construction of a new jetty in Brixham Harbour, Devon in order to assist in the expansion of the local shellfish industry. With existing facilities at capacity, this jetty will create loading and unloading space for many more vessels - to include those run by Offshore Shellfish Ltd, which service their 15.4km² mussel farm.

The construction of the 8m wide, 60m long jetty will bring great benefits to the community through the generation of opportunities for the local fishing industry, as well as general employment; and as a result it's believed that it will boost the local economy by many millions of pounds per annum.

