

EJ Devastation Renovation: 375 metres of Fire Eating Trench Covers



Before: Damaged Mt. Stromlo Water Treatment works trench runs.



After: Mt. Stromlo Water Treatment works trench runs, repaired with our products.

After the horrific firestorms of January 2003 that ravaged the Mount Stromlo Water Treatment Plant (WTP) in the ACT, 300 metres of chequer-plate covers were severely buckled from the extreme heat. Not only did these trench runs carry cables and various pipework, they also played a dual role as a walkway. The site was dangerous for field personnel so the operators called for a new, long-lasting fire-resistant solution.

It was no fluke that EJ ductile iron trench covers were specified by the engineering group BECA for the ACT water authority, Icon Water. Over 700 individual manhole covers were joined to form 21 trench cover sets. In total, these new cast iron covers formed a 375 metre trench.

But this was no walk-in-the-park specification. It was a challenging construction and required complex work by EJ Specialist staff who flew from the Brisbane fabrication plant to assess the site, measure trench replacements and the custom corner sections which were to be specifically fabricated.

Additionally, transition covers were custom built to accommodate the trench covers' change in height, in some sections between load classifications, from light traffic footpath areas to heavier driveway crossovers.

EJ covers are designed to be non-rocking in their frame, with precision machined drawcut and undercut matching profiles. In addition, our frames are designed to lock and anchor the covers into the surrounding concrete structures and will deliver decades of reliable performance. They also feature Australian Standard, non-rotating lifting keyholes for safe lifting and removal, using industry standard lifting keys.

Cast in ductile iron (SG Iron) to Grade 500/7 (AS1831), EJ covers are available as concrete infill or non-slip solid-top designs. They can even be enhanced with custom logos and badging to identify entity branding or type of service identification. For more information, contact your nearest EJ branch or call 07 3216 5000.