

# JET GROUTING

Keller's jet grouting systems offer a unique degree of design flexibility for a broad range of applications.



*Above: Jet grout block for tunnel break-in/break-out.*

*Center: Jet grouting in downtown Ottawa using spoil treatment plant.*

Safety is critical to all operations at Keller. The jet grouting installation crew performs daily site hazard analyses on all projects, which highlights hazards as they relate to the specific jet grout tasks performed throughout the day.

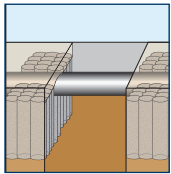


Jet grouting is a ground improvement method that can be used for underpinning, water control, earth retention, and other geotechnical challenges. Jet grouting is well-suited for cases complicated by water or requiring targeted treatment. It is effective across a wide range of soil types, including silts and most clays, making it one of the most versatile techniques. Jet grouting is an erosion-based ground improvement technique that can be used to construct a variety of geometries, from thin vertical panels, to sector (partial) columns, to full columns of varying diameters. Further, soil-cement properties (i.e. strength, hydraulic conductivity) can be modified by controlling various grouting parameters. Parameters that can be modified include drill rod extraction rate, rotation speed, grout pumping pressures, grout flow, and the specific gravity of the grout. Lastly, the equipment can be sized to accommodate project needs ranging from low-headroom applications to treatment depths over 30 meters deep. This flexibility enables the technique to be tailored to meet the specific project requirements.

Keller has designed and constructed jet grouting programs for over 15 years and has successfully completed over 30 jet grouting projects in Canada. Keller has extensively pursued and applied this technique on a multitude of projects across the country and in all geologies. We have continually enhanced our jet grout product and capabilities through the in-house development of specialty tools and proprietary data acquisition (DAQ) equipment and software developed by our sister company Hayward Baker. These efforts enable Keller to continue to be the leader in the jet grouting field.

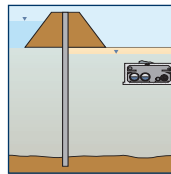
# Technology & Applications . . .

The jet grouting process has many unique aspects that enable it to perform in ways that other ground modification techniques cannot. Because jet grout is an erosional process which will create a relatively large column of soil-cement from a fairly small borehole, it enables one to treat a soil strata at depth without disturbing the soils above it. Additionally, because the mixing occurs with a fluid and not with a mechanical tool, this allows for treating against an existing structure, such as a bulkhead, shaft wall, or concrete pipe. And lastly, the drill rigs used for jet grouting come in a range of different sizes; large ones capable of efficiently treating to depths over 30 meters and very small ones capable of walking through a 76 centimeter door and working in a basement with only 2 meters of headroom, making it a perfect technique for improving the foundation of an existing structure.



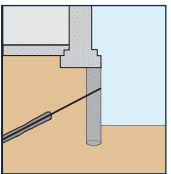
## ① Sealing

Jet grouting can be used to solidify soils against underground structures. This allows a groundwater seal or structural support to be tied to the existing structure.



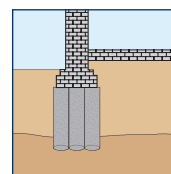
## ④ Groundwater Control

Jet grouting can be utilized to effectively construct hydraulic cut-off walls for temporary (cofferdam) and permanent dams. Overlapping columns are installed at depth to create a wall and tie the core of the dam structure to the underlying bedrock or low permeability soil strata. Common applications include cofferdams, hydroelectric dams and tailings pond dams.



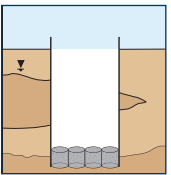
## ② Excavation Support and Shoring

Jet grouting can be placed under an existing foundation to underpin the building and support the soils behind the treatment during an excavation. Depending on cut height, anchors may be necessary.



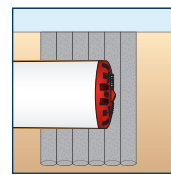
## ⑤ Underpinning

Jet grout columns can be placed under existing foundations to reduce settlements or increase the load carrying capacity of the soils by using the soil cement to transfer loads to a more competent layer.



## ③ Bottom Seal

Overlapping jet grout columns can be used to create a slab to act as a strut and/or bottom barrier to reduce water and soil inflows into an excavation.

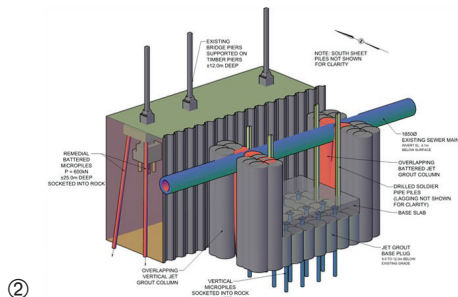


## ⑥ Tunneling

Jet grouting has a wide array of uses in tunneling including soil stabilization at shaft exit and entry (break in/out), cross passage mining, underpinning existing structures, and improving soils where ground loss is critical.



①



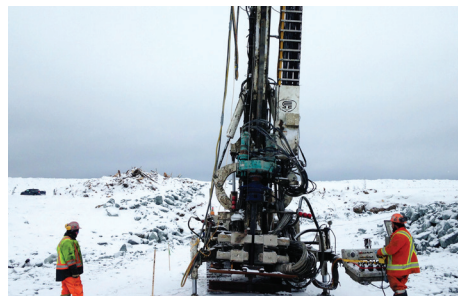
②



③



④



⑤



⑥

① Typical jet grout plant setup.

② In house design capabilities.

③ Exhumed jet grout test column (2 m dia).

④ BOS system used to treat and separate spoils.

⑤ Jet grouting in cold weather environment.

⑥ Jet grouting close to live rail tracks.

# Procedures & Design Considerations . . .

## Jet Grouting Procedures

The jet grouting process uses specialty drill tooling which includes a grouting monitor attached to the end of a multi-chamber drill stem. Typically, the monitor is advanced to the targeted maximum treatment depth, at which time high velocity/energy grout jets (and sometimes water and air) are initiated through nozzles on the side of the monitor. The jets simultaneously erode and mix the in situ soil with binder as the drill stem and jet grout monitor are rotated and raised. The process continues until the upper limits of the treatment zone are reached, at which time the tooling is withdrawn and the hole backfilled.

During the jetting process it is imperative that the desired jetting parameters are maintained. The onboard data acquisition system monitors the rotation rate and withdrawal rate, as well as the grout, air and water (if used) pressure, and grout flow. This information is displayed in real time for the operator, and data are wirelessly transmitted to the DAQ database where it is post-processed, stored and reviewed by the project team.

Depending on the geometry requirements, the monitor can be rotated continuously in the same direction to create a column or rotated partially back and forth to create any portion of a full 360 degree circular geometry. The monitor can also be held static as it is withdrawn to create panels in the targeted soil formation.

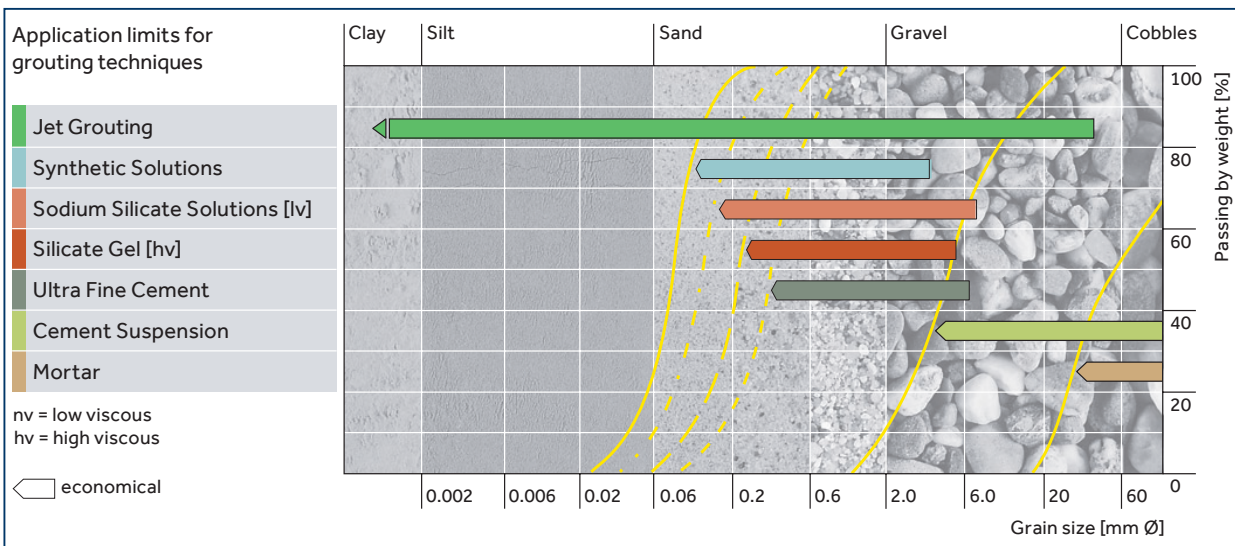
Critical to the success of jet grouting is ensuring spoils return to the surface. Borehole stability is paramount to spoils return and successful jet grouting. It is important for drill holes to be of adequate size to allow spoils to flow freely to the surface and prevent any potential flow restriction, reducing the risk of heave.

## Jet Grouting Design Applications

There are several design parameters that can be altered in the jet grout process. These include geometry, strength, and hydraulic conductivity (commonly referred to as permeability).

The shape of the jet grouted element can be modified as previously described. Additionally, the size of the element can be varied, including both the diameter and length of the treated zone. The length of the treated zone is controlled by initial penetration of the monitor (bottom) and termination of the erosion or jetting process (top). The diameter is a function of the erosional energy of the jet and the erodibility and quantity of the soil. This change is made by varying the diameter of the fluid nozzles. The withdrawal rate can also be changed to increase or decrease the diameter of the jet grouted column. In general, the more granular and cohesionless the soils are, the greater the erodibility. Gravels, however, can be difficult to assess. They can be either easily eroded or problematic to erode based on the geologic depositional process in which they were placed.

The strength and hydraulic conductivity of the soil-cement are both functions of the binder content and type of soil treated. The more granular or less cohesive the soils, typically the higher the strength. Higher binder contents can also yield lower hydraulic conductivities in certain soil types. The binder content can be modified by adjusting the specific gravity of the grout used in the jetting process. As well, Ground Granulated Blast Furnace Slag (GGBFS) as a binder and bentonite as an additive will typically provide lower hydraulic conductivities than Portland cement.



*Jet grouting has the broadest range of soil type applications of all the grouting technologies.*

# Equipment & Materials . . .

*Advancement in technology must include the capability of our equipment.*

As our jet grouting experience and expertise has grown over the years, so has our need to stay on the leading edge of equipment advancement. This need has required that we look past commercially available jet grouting kits and produce in conjunction with other Keller companies our own data acquisition (DAQ) systems, rig control systems, and even fully-automated jet grouting rigs.

## Jet Grouting Rig

Internal to the Keller Group, our manufacturing company Keller Geräte & Service (KGS) produces jet grouting rigs capable of installing the vast majority of work we perform. With a full suite of drills ranging in size, these rigs can work in low headroom applications, install single stroke columns to depths of 34 meters, and perform almost everything in between. In addition to KGS rigs, Keller also uses industry manufactured equipment as well as specialty leads manufactured by our in-house experts that can install jet grout columns using a crane, where long reach applications may be necessary.



*Jet grouting in an urban environment.*

All our jet grout rigs use our sister company Hayward Baker's proprietary data acquisition system. These rigs are fully instrumented with an onboard computer to monitor the parameters necessary for the jetting process. Our DAQ system enables the rig operator to accurately control and monitor the jet grout construction parameters, thereby producing a high quality soil-cement column. Optional GPS integration on our rigs provides real-time installation location records and as-built drawings. Operations of the drill can be either automatic (computer controlled) or manual (operator controlled). In automatic mode, the computer controls the drill during the jetting process based upon the programmed column attributes.

## Grout Slurry Production and Delivery

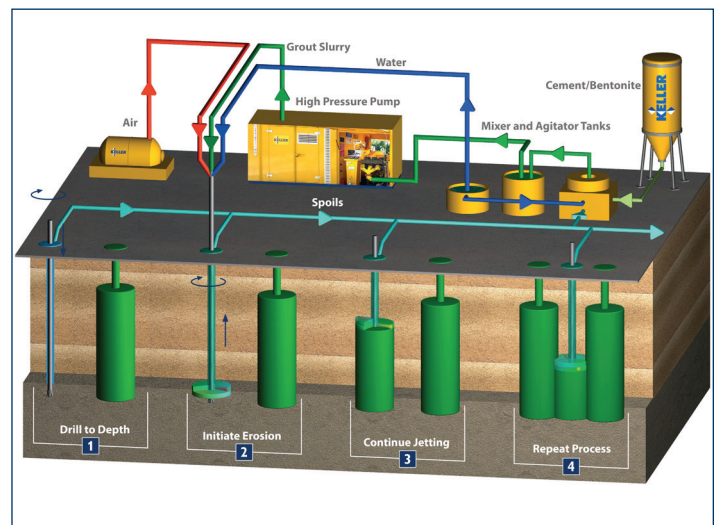
During the process of jet grouting it is necessary to produce a grout slurry with a consistent and accurate water to cement ratio (density). It is equally important that any other components be measured and blended with the same accuracy. These

components may consist of GGBFS, bentonite, and other admixtures. The design and performance of our mixing equipment provides grout slurry thoroughly mixed and hydrated to ensure a quality product.

After the grout slurry is produced it is conveyed to the high jet grout pressure pump. Our pumps are capable of producing flows upwards of 200 gpm (750 l/min) at pressures over 6,000 psi (400 bar). From the pump, the grout is transported through either high pressure steel pipe or purpose-built high pressure hoses to the rig. At the rig, the grout enters the drill string through a specially-designed swivel and exits the drill string at the monitor.

## Spoils Handling

For jet grouting to be successful, spoils must return to the surface. The jet grout spoils will be a mixture of water, grout, and the soils that are being treated. The volume of this material can be predicted from the volume of grout slurry injected (volume in is approximately equal to volume out). Typical spoils volumes range from 40 to 150 percent of the neat-line treatment volume depending on the erodibility of the soil. During the construction process it is critical to manage the spoils properly. The most common method is to simply dig a pit adjacent to the work area and direct the fluid material towards the pit. Once in the pit, the spoils will gain strength over time, similar to the in situ soil-cement, and can be removed the next day with an excavator. Many other options exist to manage spoils when this conventional approach is not suitable.



*Jet grouting equipment and process schematic. This diagram shows the standard equipment layout during column installation on a site.*

# QA/QC . . .

*Quality Assurance is process oriented. It is a proactive quality process ensuring the right procedures are done correctly. Quality Control is product oriented. It consists of activities, such as testing, which confirm quality of the product.*

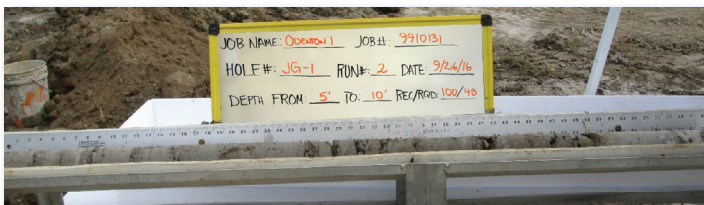
## Quality Assurance

To meet the intent of the project and ensure that the jet grout program is successful, an in situ test program is generally installed prior to production. Based on review of the project borings, the application, and previous project experience, initial jet grout parameters (or sets of parameters) are established and executed in the field for the test program. The test program will specifically demonstrate the column spacing, overlap, and geometry of the jet grouted elements. The test program will also verify consistency of the grout batching, evaluate the equipment functionality, and confirm the real-time recording and reporting of the jet grout parameters. All of these processes are used to establish a standardized protocol for each specific soil type that is consistent and repeatable for the production columns.

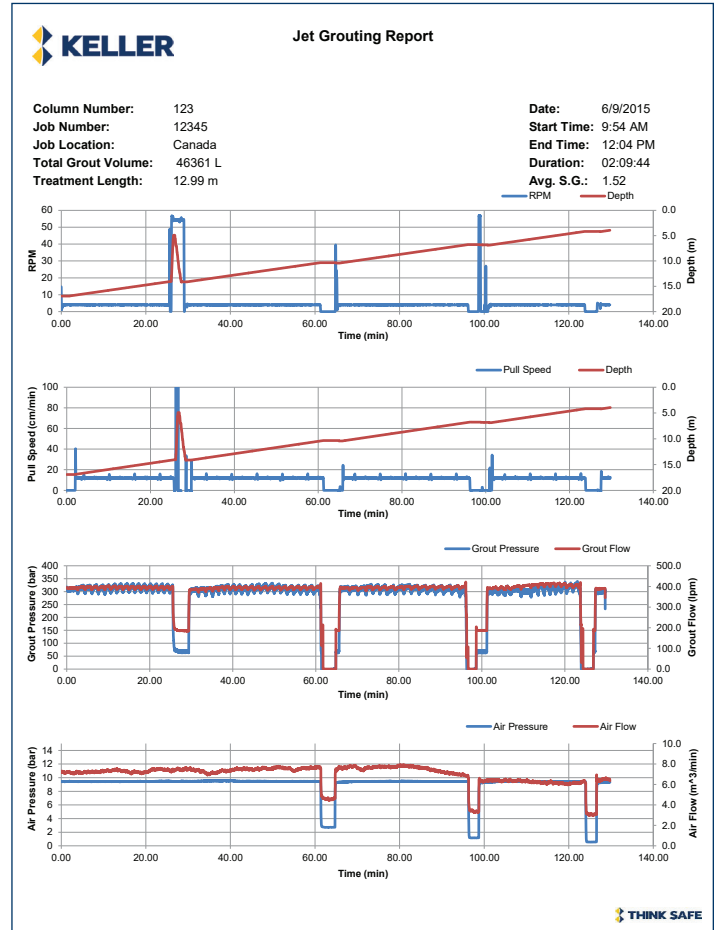
Keller uses our sister company Hayward Baker's proprietary data acquisition (DAQ) system which enables us to continuously monitor and record specific jet grout parameters at the rig. The DAQ interface provides real-time information to the drill rig operator, while the column construction data is uploaded wirelessly to a server soon after completion to be used for report generation. These reports can then be reviewed in near real-time by project management and submitted to the client.

## Quality Control

While quality assurance helps standardize the process, quality control in jet grouting involves validating the work given the variable nature of soils across a site. Quality control is generally performed through periodic coring of the jet grout columns and sampling the wet spoils. Cores are visually inspected and logged for recovery and continuity. When insufficient core length is recovered, down-hole cameras may be used to inspect the core hole in situ. Surface or in situ sampling of wet jet grout spoils is performed during the work to subsequently test the materials for performance requirements such as unconfined compressive strength and permeability. Fresh samples of the soil-cement are usually cast in concrete cylinders in the field and sent for laboratory testing as required.



A coring sample to visually inspect the quality of jet grout installed during production.



DAQ report for a jet grout column. The report is specifically designed for a quick, one page overview of the jet grout installation.



Low headroom jet grout rig.

# Advantages of Keller Jet Grouting

Advantages of using Keller for your jet grouting needs include:

- ◆ *Canada's leader in jet grouting for over 15 years.*
- ◆ *Design, management, and field staff have experience in nearly all geologies and with all types of jet grouting applications.*
- ◆ *Jet grouting can be combined with other techniques to provide a comprehensive and cost-effective geotechnical solution.*
- ◆ *Equipment and staff is willing to travel to where ever your project takes us. We have performed jet grouting projects deep in the urban environment to projects in the remoteness of our country.*
- ◆ *An extensive equipment fleet and a significant array of specialty tooling to address various geologic and logistical conditions.*
- ◆ *DAQ system documents performance and provides quality assurance.*



*Jet grouting for seepage control.*

## You have a strong partner with Keller

As a leading specialty geotechnical construction firm, Keller provides a full range of ground engineering techniques and solutions, related to earth retention, foundation support, ground improvement, and ground treatment.

Built on a reputation of safety and quality, Keller sets the standard for performance and innovation through our commitment to the integration, implementation, and further development of advanced technologies for

specialized geotechnical construction. With technical excellence, and teamwork at our core, we deliver projects safely, on budget and on schedule.

Offering a wide range of services, including design-build packages, Keller meets the needs of our clients by providing comprehensive cost effective solutions to the most complex problems.



Design-Build Services for the Complete Range of Geotechnical Technologies

### Grouting

Cement Grouting  
Permeation (Chemical) Grouting  
Fracture Grouting  
Jet Grouting  
Low Mobility (Compaction) Grouting  
Polyurethane Grouting

### Ground Improvement

Dry Soil Mixing  
Dynamic Compaction  
Injection Systems  
Rapid Impact Compaction  
Rigid Inclusions  
Vibro Compaction  
Vibro Concrete Columns  
Vibro (Aggregate) Piers®  
Vibro Replacement  
Wet Soil Mixing

### Deep Foundations

Auger Cast Piles  
Drilled Shafts  
Driven Piles  
Franki Piles (PIFs)  
Helical Piles  
Jacked Piers  
Macropiles®  
Micropiles

### Earth Retention

Anchors  
Anchor Block Slope Stabilization  
Gabions  
Micropile Slide Stabilization System (MS<sup>3</sup>)  
Pit Underpinning  
Secant or Tangent Piles  
Sheet Piles  
Soil Nailing  
Soldier Piles & Lagging  
Additional Services  
Earthquake Drains  
Sculpted Shotcrete  
Slab Jacking  
Slurry Walls  
TRD - Soil Mix Walls  
Wick Drains

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