Use of a 72-inch Motorized Small Boring Unit (SBU-M) on Multiple Bores with Strict Line and Grade Requirements

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Presentation Outline

Machine Design SBU-M

- + Cutting Tools
- + Specifications
- + Setup
- + Advantages

Southwest Connector

- + Crossings
- + Geology
- + Setup
- + Performance
- + Conclusions



Machine Design Motorized SBU (SBU-M)

Single Disc Cutter Methodology



Mixed Ground Cutter Methodology

ROCK w/CLAY OR DIRT SEAMS



Disc cutters in combination with tungsten carbide bits are used in rock with clay or dirt seams. When rock is encountered the disc cutters, which stick farther out in profile, cut the rock as in hard rock cutting.





Any soft ground that is encountered will move past the disc cutters, where it is then excavated by tungsten carbide drill bits.



Dry alluvium or dense glacial till spoils

SOFT GROUND w/COBBLES & BOULDERS

Two-row tungsten carbide cutters are used in combination with bits in soft ground conditions with cobbles and boulders. The tungsten carbide cutters crush any boulders using a pulverizing action.



Two-row tungsten carbide cutters

Pipe Jacking With the Motorized Small Boring Unit (SBU-M)



	SBU-M Specifications
Length	98 to 590 foot drives
Diameters	48 to 78 inches
Casing	Steel or RCP
Types of Cutterheads	Hard Rock or Mixed Ground
Geology	-Mixed Ground -Hard Rock (25 to 175 MPa+)
Ground Conditions	Dry (above water table) and stable

Motorized Small Boring Unit (SBU-M)

Articulating front shield, steered to a laser for precise line and grade installation of bored exceeding 492 ft.



SBU-M

Cutterhead is powered by an electric motor with a torque limiter. Spoil is removed with invert auger or vacuum removal.



SBU-M and ABM Setup



SBU-M Video Clip



Advantages SBU-M

- + Articulating forward shield allows use of typical pipe laser for line and grade control on critical bores through hard rock.
- + Use of standard ABM or pipe jacking station and spoil removal.
- + No long-term learning curve due to standard ABM operation.
- + Bores completed exceeding 492 ft.
- + Use of durable and common invert auger for spoil removal.
- + Costs are typically one half that of a microtunneling operation.

Southwest Connector 54-inch Water Main Phase 1

Crossings

A total of three crossings:

- + Rottenwood Creek- totaling 220 LF, utilizing the solid rock cutterhead.
- + I-75- totaling 590 LF, utilizing the mixed ground cutterhead.
- + Powers Ferry Road- totaling 280 LF, utilizing the mixed ground cutterhead.

72-inch SBU-M with Hard Rock Cutterhead Mounted Disc Cutters



72-inch SBU-M

with a mixed Ground Cutterhead Mounted With Tungsten Carbide Roller Cutters and Carbide Bits



Rear View of Machine Showing the In-Shield Drive Motor



Cobb County, GA 72" SBU-M Bore for 54" Water Main



Bore pit underway



Complete installation of shoring along with a concrete foundation and headwall

Launch Pit and Site Setup



SBU-M Installation for Launch

A 150 thousand pound excavator was used to set in the SBU-M.





Launch of SBU-M with ABM

A 48/60-1.35 ABM was utilized to push the SBU-M.



Crew Setup at Site

We used 8 men to run this boring operation and 4 of them used push to talk headsets to communicate during boring operations, this included:

- Excavator Operator
- ABM Operator
- SBU-M Operator
- Bank Man



Casing Installation

A mini skid steer (Dingo) was utilized to push the spoil to the rear of the pit to be removed by a large excavator.





Each 20" piece of casing took about 2 ½ hours to set in and weld up. It took approximately another 4 hours to bore in solid rock.

Internal View of Lead Steel Casing



Between Crossings Cutterhead Changes

- + Cutterhead was interchanged between crossings by being hauled back to shop.
- + Changed from rock cutterhead to mixed ground cutterhead.
- This kept everything clean and allowed use of an overhead shop crane.

Types of Geology Rottenwood Creek

+ Began with solid rock.

- Rock coring was performed and the rock quality designation of the core samples ranged from 41.7 to 71.7 percent, while the recovery ranged from 80 to 100 percent. This indicates a hard to moderately hard continuous bedrock.
- Rock had some seams so tarp was used to line the creekbed.
- + Ended in PWR
 - the PWR consisted of very dense sand with some silt or hard sandy silt.

Creek Crossing



The Creek was layered with a tarp and sand bags in case the rock fractured during the boring process. This will help prevent water infiltration.



Types of Geology 1-75

- Mixed ground condition ranging from PWR, sand, clay, mica and solid rock.
- Rock coring was performed and the RQD ranged from 36.7
 to 78.3 percent while the recovery ranged from 93.3 to 100 percent.
 - This indicates hard to moderately hard continuous bedrock.

Types of Geology Powers Ferry Road

 Bore was a mixed ground that consisted of stiff sandy silt or firm to medium dense silty sand with a layer of PWR.

Advance Rates

+ Varied in type of ground

- Solid rock: approximately 5 feet per hour.
- Softer material: approximately 10-15 feet per hour.

+ Cutterhead Preferences

- Mixed face provides ability to bore solid rock and mixed ground and achieve good advanced rates.
- when you encounter softer rock/mixed ground with the solid rock face the advanced rate isn't as consistent as the mixed face.

Breakthrough!



