



HERRENKNECHT



Tunnelling Systems

SLURRY MICROTUNNELLING METHODS AND HDD: ALTERNATIVES AND COMPLEMENTS

March 2025, Houston
Simon Herrenknecht



HERRENKNECHT IN GERMANY

- › Strongly rooted in the location of Schwanau and the surrounding region
- › Around 2,400 employees work in Schwanau and Kehl, Germany
- › Our long-term and sustainable thinking is reflected in our support of education, environment and society

MARKET SEGMENTS HERRENKNECHT GROUP

WATER

- › Sewage infrastructure
- › Water supply
- › Desalination
- › Flooding infrastructure
- › Storage and reservoirs



ENERGY

- › Transportation of oil, gas and hydrogen
- › Development drilling
- › Hydroelectric power
- › Geothermal energy
- › District heating/geothermal energy
- › Energy storage
- › Power lines



TRANSPORT AND MOBILITY

- › Road
- › Railway
- › Metro
- › Passenger transport
- › Cargo



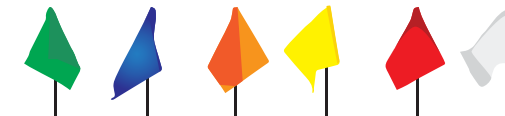
SUPER-SAFE UNDERGROUND STRUCTURES

- › Safe storage facilities, e.g. castor storage
- › Safe underground facilities, e.g. for research purposes



MINING AND RAW MATERIAL

- › Vertical access or production shafts
- › Ventilation shafts
- › Access ramps and transport infrastructure
- › Tunnel infrastructure



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Construction. Rehabilitation. Asset Management.

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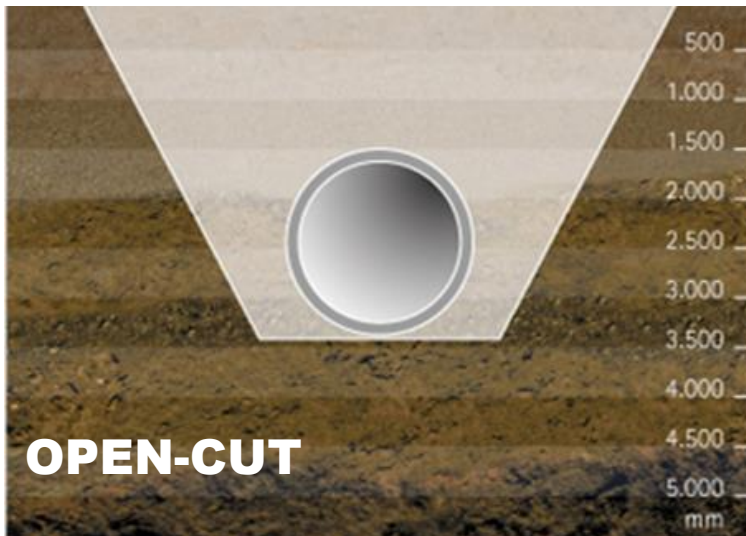


WHY GOING TRENCHLESS?

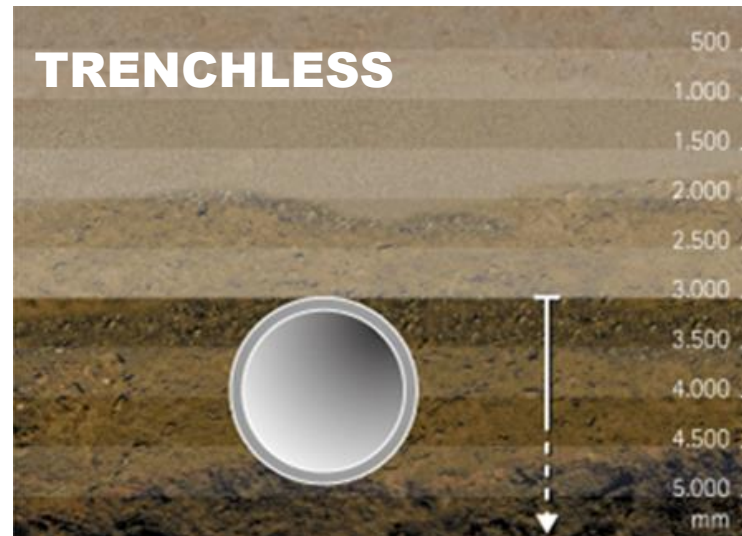
- › Less emissions and impact on life on surface
- › No groundwater lowering needed
- › Lower settlement risk for roads and buildings
- › Better tunnel quality
- › Only way to cross rivers, traffic ways and buildings



OPEN-CUT VS TRENCHLESS CONSTRUCTION



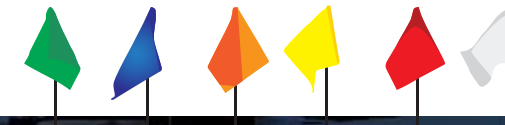
- › Surface intervention / Earth movement
- › Recultivation necessary
- › Operation of machinery
- › Construction time & costs



- › Installation length vs. diameter
- › No surface intervention
- › Min. earth movement
- › Min. recultivation

Criteria

- › Protected areas
- › Crossing infrastructures
- › Compliance with distances
- › Construction time
- › Construction costs
- › Capacities on the market



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SLURRY MICROTUNNELLING METHODS OVERVIEW



PIPE JACKING

DIRECT PIPE®

E-POWER PIPE®

MTBM

AVN or AVNS with jet pump

BOREHOLE SUPPORT

Mechanical borehole support over the entire installation process

PIPE MATERIAL

Pressure resistant
reinforced concrete pipes

Pressure resistant
steel pipeline

All
Pulling of product pipe in
2nd step

PIPE DIAMETER

250 – 4,000 mm
10" – 13 ft
Ø Tunnel (ID)

600 – 1,500 mm
24" – 60"

250 – 700 mm
10" – 27"

**MAX. INSTALLATION
LENGTH**

~ 2,000 m (6,500 ft)
Depending on project-specific conditions

SLURRY MICROTUNNELLING METHODS WITH CONSTANT BOREHOLE SUPPORT

PIPE JACKING

AVN

reinforced concrete pipes

Jacking frame
compact jacking frame
or main jacking station

DIRECT PIPE

AVN/AVNS

steel pipeline (prefabricated)

Pipe Thruster
with clamping unit, tested
for various coatings

E-POWER PIPE

AVNS

temporary steel jacking pipes (1)

Rack & Pinion Jacking frame
pushforce pilot bore (1),
pullforce pipe pullin (2)

Product pipe/bundle (all pipe types, prefabricated)

(2)

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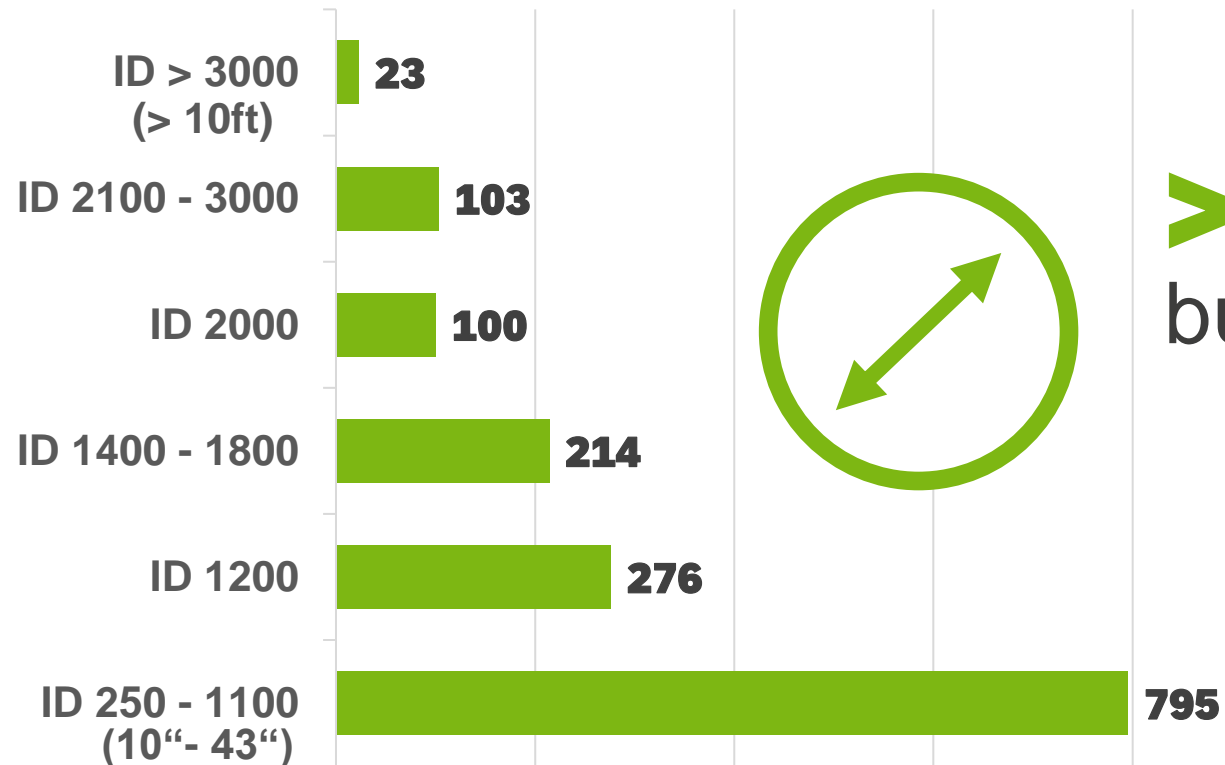
UTILITY TUNNELLING

PIPE JACKING



SLURRY MICROTUNNELLING AVN EQUIPMENT BUILT

PER DIAMETER



>1500 AVN/AVND
built by end of 2024



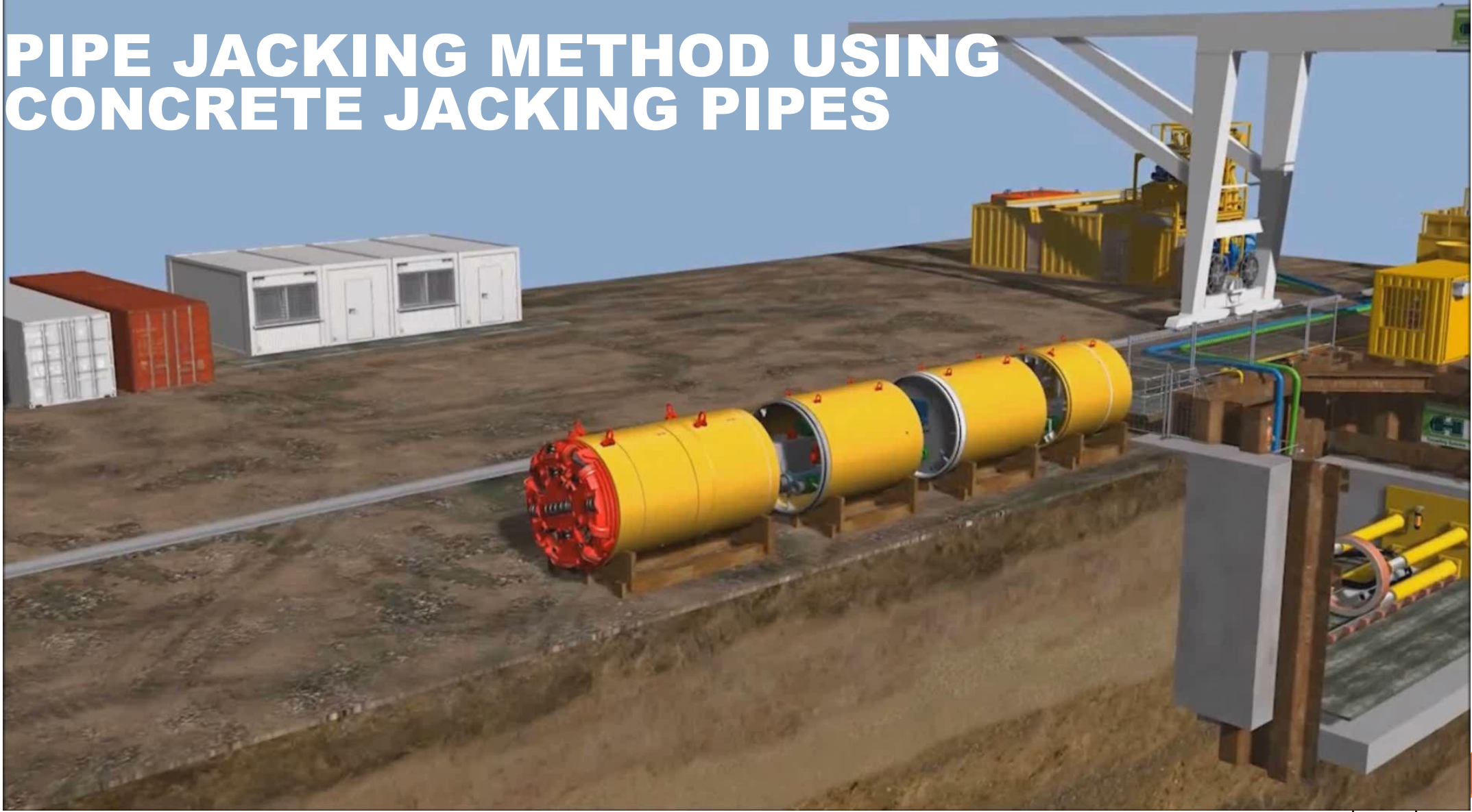
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PIPE JACKING METHOD USING CONCRETE JACKING PIPES



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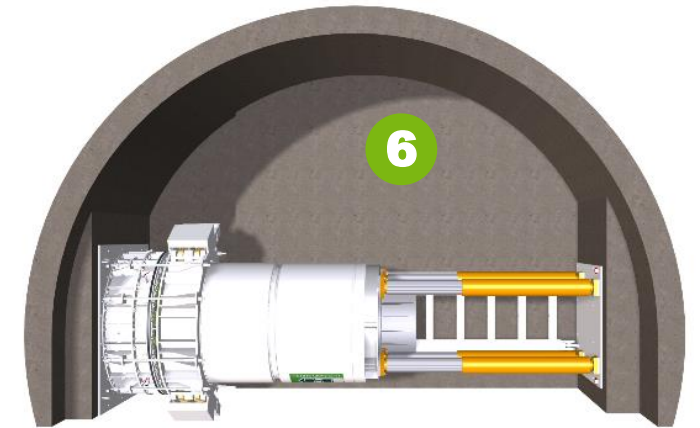
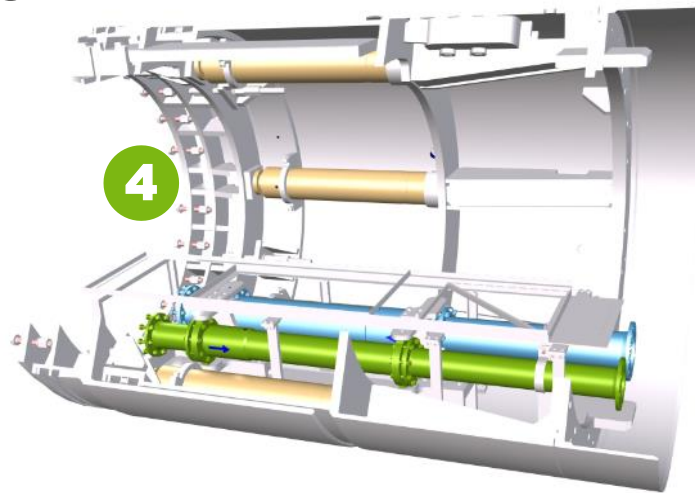
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SLURRY MTBM MACHINE DESIGN



- 1 Cutting wheel and cutter tools
- 2 Main bearing and main drive
- 3 Steering cylinders
- 4 Telecopic station
- 5 Intermediate jacking stations
- 6 Main jacking station
- 7 Jacking pipes



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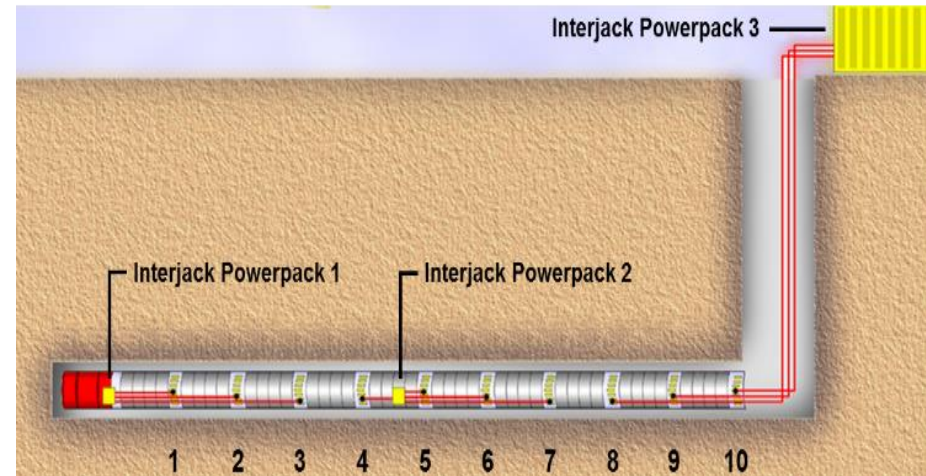


KEEPING JACKING AND FRICTION FORCES LOW



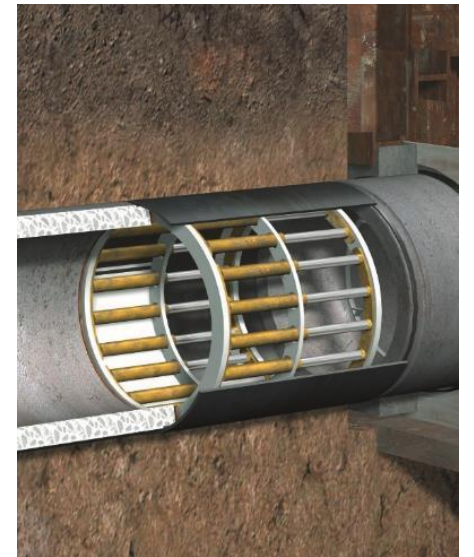
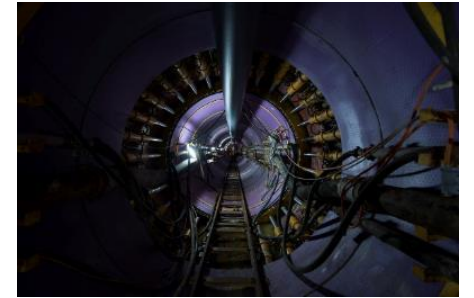
Bentonite lubrication system

- › reduce skin friction
- › adapt to changing geology



Interjacking stations

- › regular intervals
- › reduce jacking forces
- › dismantled when finished



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CUTTING WHEEL AND WEAR RESISTANCE

- › Cutting wheel design and tooling adapted to ground conditions
- › Hardfacing for cutter wear protection



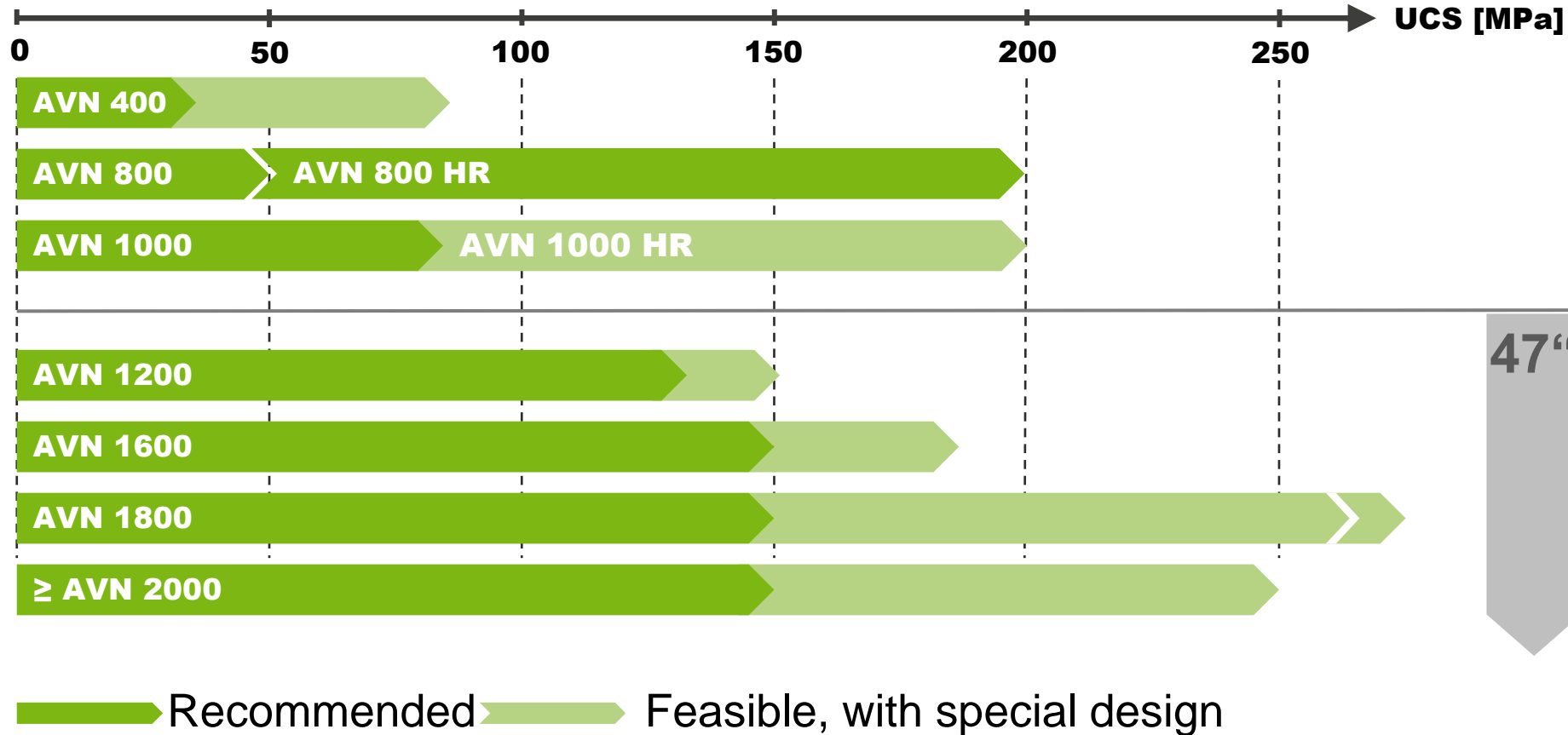
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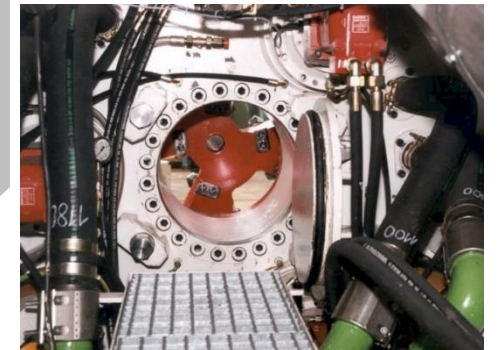


AVN MACHINE RANGE FOR SLURRY PIPE JACKING IN HARD ROCK



47"

With access
to excavation chamber
for tool change



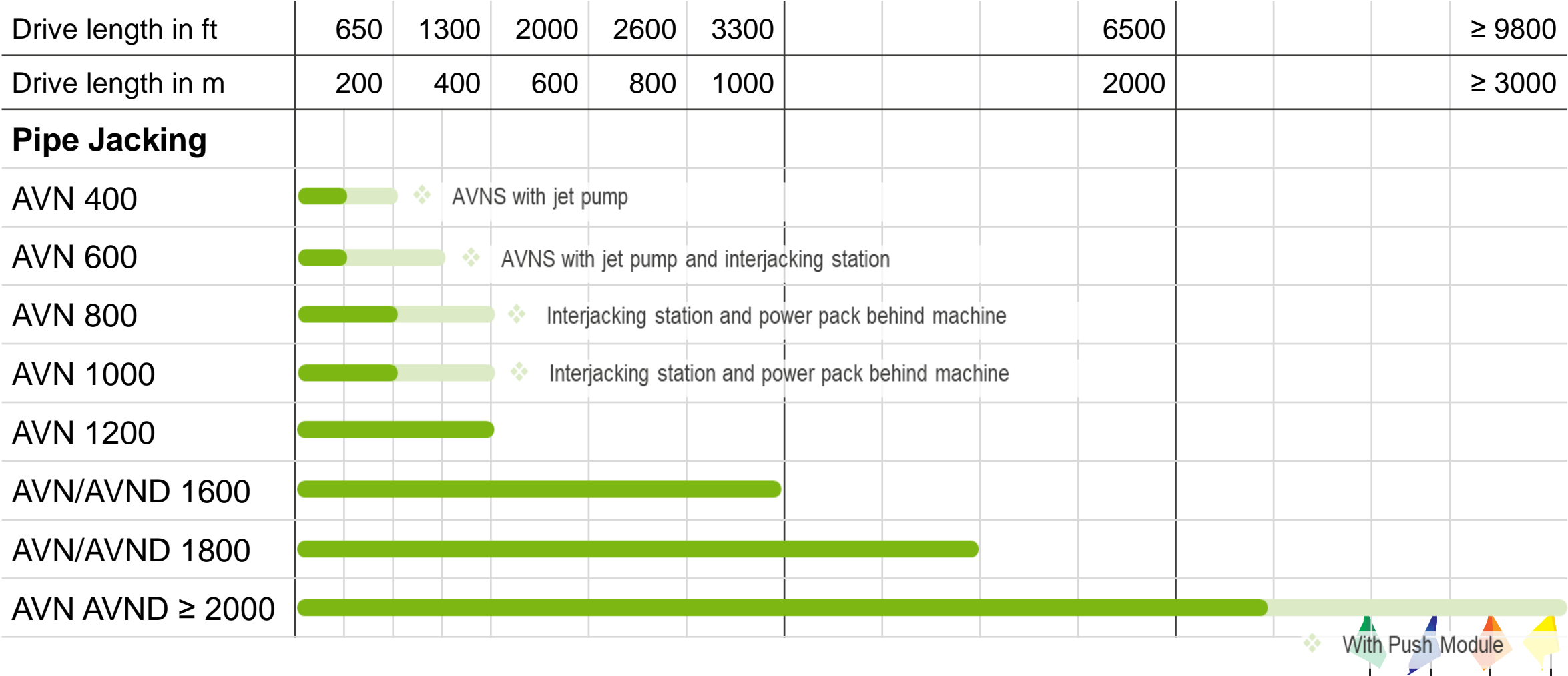
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DIAMETERS AND DRIVE LENGTH



UTILITY TUNNELLING

DIRECT PIPE



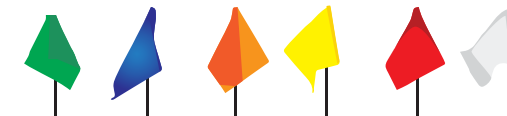
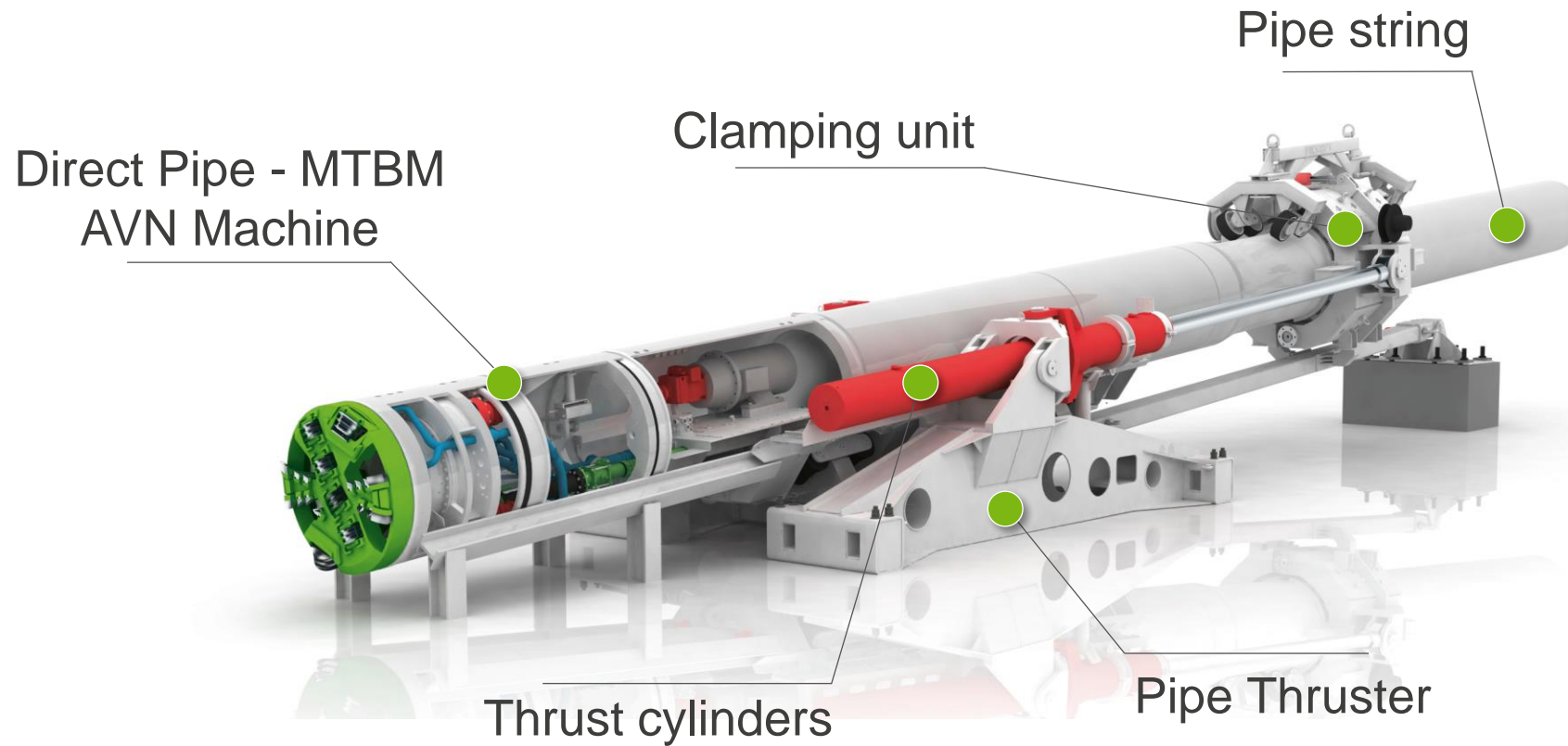
DIRECT PIPE® TECHNOLOGY

- › one-pass installation
- › min. frac out risk | borehole supported
- › high accuracy

24" up to 60" steel pipeline installations



MTBM AND PIPE THRUSTER AS DIRECT PIPE[®] KEY COMPONENTS



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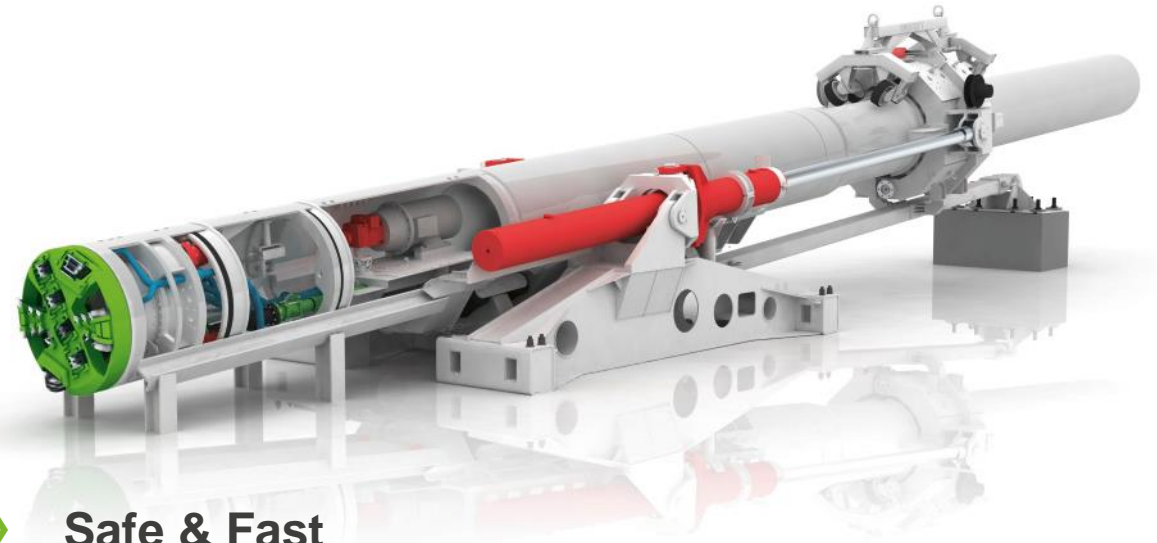
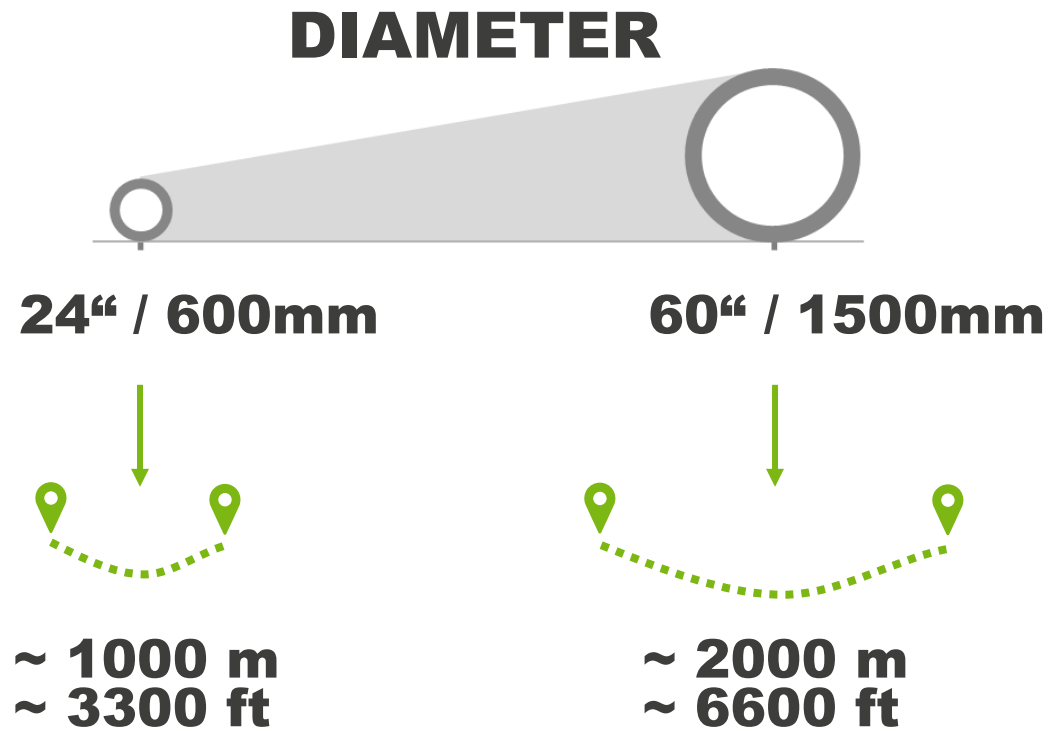
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DIRECT PIPE®

APPLICATION RANGE



- › **Safe & Fast**
 - › on-surface or near-surface launch & exit pits
 - › high advance rates
- › **Flexible**
 - › almost all conditions up to 150 MPa (21750 psi)
- › **Precise**
 - › guided & controlled drilling, incl. spatial curves and uphill/downhill elevation changes



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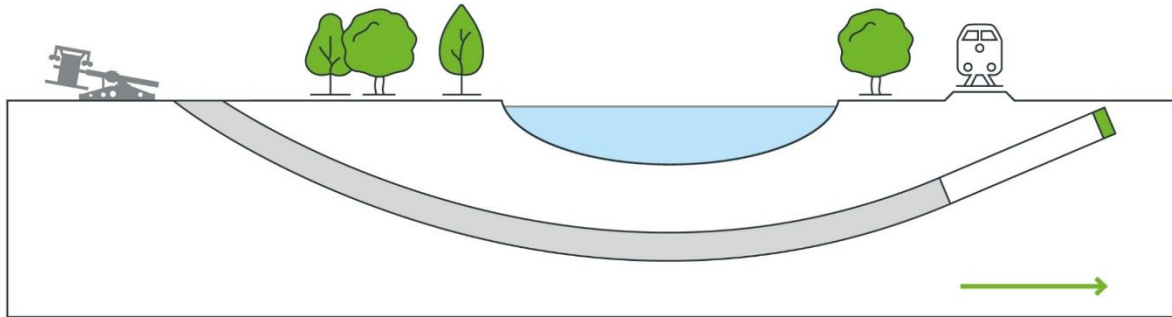
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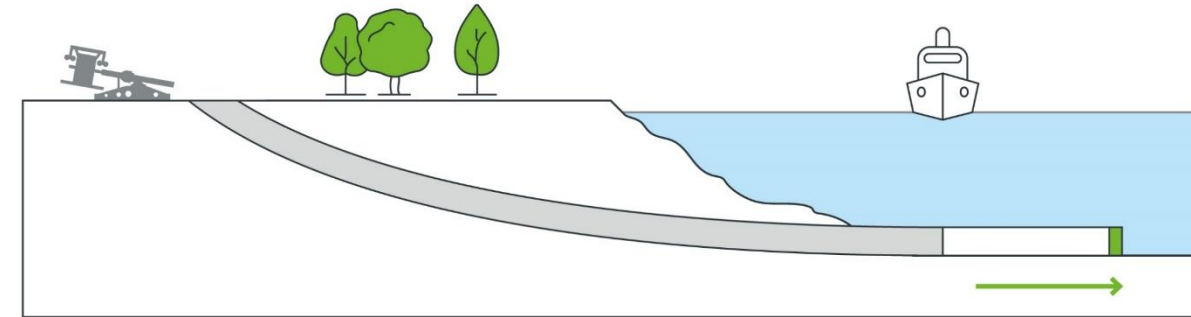


DIRECT PIPE® INSTALLATION OF STEEL PIPE

RIVER CROSSING



SEA OUTFALL



*Simultaneous excavation of borehole and installation of steel pipeline.

- › one-pass / single-step installation
- › permanent borehole support
- › high accuracy
- › minimum risk of inadvertent fluid returns (i.e. frac-outs)
- › less cover resulting in shallower crossings
- › less soil excavation compared to HDD or Pipe Jacking
- › single side entry means land-based operation
- › launch side = pipe side
- › independence from marine conditions at all times
- › minimum fluid release to marine environment



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DIRECT PIPE® SOLUTIONS FOR ALL GEOLOGIES

Pipeline Diameter	Direct Pipe® System	Drilling Distance	Geology						
			Clay	Sand < 2mm	Gravel <63mm	Cobbles <256mm	Boulders >256mm	Rock <100MPa	Hard Rock <200MPa
24"	AVNS 500	3,300 – 4,900 ft*	AVNS-DP			AVNS-HR			
28"	AVNS 600	3,300 – 4,900 ft*	AVNS-DP			AVNS-HR			
32"	AVNS 700	3,300 – 4,900 ft*	AVNS-DP			AVNS-HR			
36"	AVN 800B	3,300 – 4,900 ft*	AVN-DP					AVN-HR	
42"	AVN 800A	3,300 – 4,900 ft*	AVN-DP						AVN-HR
48"	AVN 1000	4,900 – 6,500 ft* *	AVN-DP						
56"	AVN 1200	4,900 – 6,500 ft* *	AVN-DP						
60"	AVN 1200	4,900 – 6,500 ft* *	AVN-DP						

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WORLD RECORD LENGTH NEW ZEALAND

- › M-2170M, AVN1000 + HK750PT Pipe Thruster
- › 48" Casing Snells Algies Wastewater Pipe and Outfall Replacement (Watercare, Auckland)
- › Drilling length: **2,021 m / 6,600 ft**
- › Shore approach with offshore recovery
- › Best Performance: Daily: 42.5 m / Weekly: 211 m
Daily 140 ft / Weekly: 690 ft



DIRECT PIPE®

SMALLEST DIAMETER IN ITALY

- › SNAM - Gas Network Adriatic Coastline
 - › #1 Tratto Recanati – S. Elpidio
Geology: sand, clay, gravel
 - › #2 Metanodotto Recanati –
Chieti Geology: sand, silt,
sandy clay, clay, some
gravel
- › Pipeline: 26" w/ PE/GRP
Coating
- › Distance: 310m + 521m
1,010ft + 1,710ft



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DIRECT PIPE®

SMALL DIAMETER IN POLAND

28"



- › Projects: 3x GAZ-System
2x GIPL (Gas Interconnector Poland-Lithuania)
- › All 5 crossings completed successfully:
 - › # 1 River Czarna Hancza: 342m (1120 ft)
 - › # 2 River Narew: 884m (2900ft)
 - › # 3 Sosnowiec: 220m (720 ft)
 - › # 4 Oswiecim Park: 372m (1220 ft)
 - › # 5 River Wisla: 878m (2880 ft)
- › Geology: sand, gravel, boulders, silt, clay



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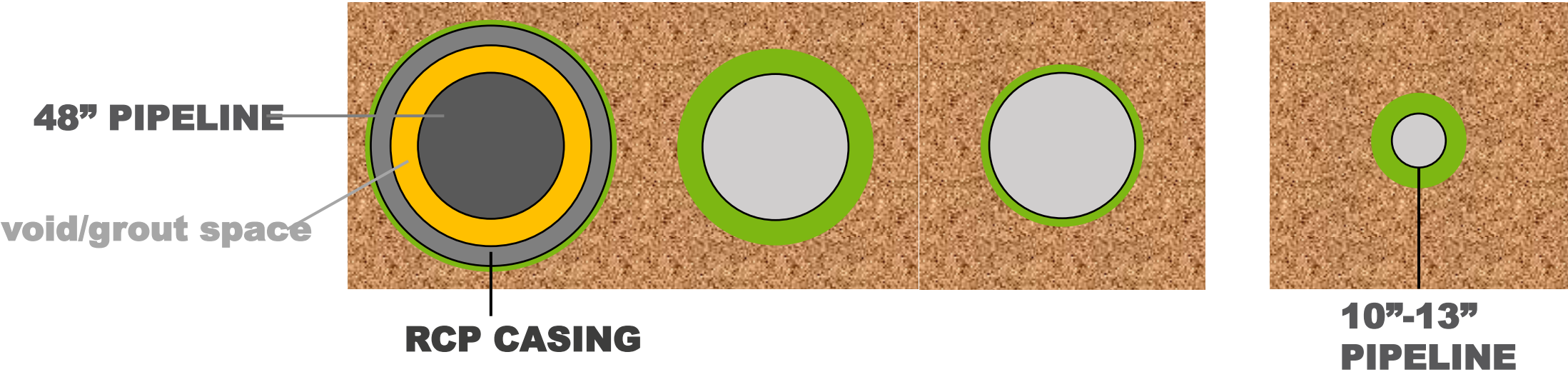
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DIRECT PIPE® BOREHOLE DIAMETER

48" PIPELINE INSTALLATION	PIPE JACKING (RCP CONCRETE PIPE)	HDD	DIRECT PIPE®	E-POWERPIPE® 11" EXTRAPOLATED TO 48"
Usual Size of Overcut in Relation to Pipeline Size	65 %	30 %	< 10%	45 % > 15 %
Borehole Diameter	~ 2,0 m (79 in)	~ 1,6 m (63 in)	~ 1,3 m (51 in)	~ 0,5 m (20 in) ~ 1,45 m (57 in)
Excavation Volume (per meter)	~ 3,2 m³ (113 cu.ft)	~ 2,1 m³ (74 cu.ft)	~ 1,4 m³ (49 cu.ft)	~ 0,2 m³ (7 cu.ft) ~ 1,6 m³ (56 cu.ft)



PIPE THRUSTER **STEEL PIPE COATINGS**

- › Polyethylene (PE)
- › Polypropylene (PP)
- › Polyurethane (PUR)
- › Fusion Bonded Epoxy (FBE)
- › Glass-Fiber-Reinforced Plastic (GRP)
- › Concrete Coating (limited feasibility)
- › CWC, HDPE, PVC, District Heating Pipes (Pipe Insertion)



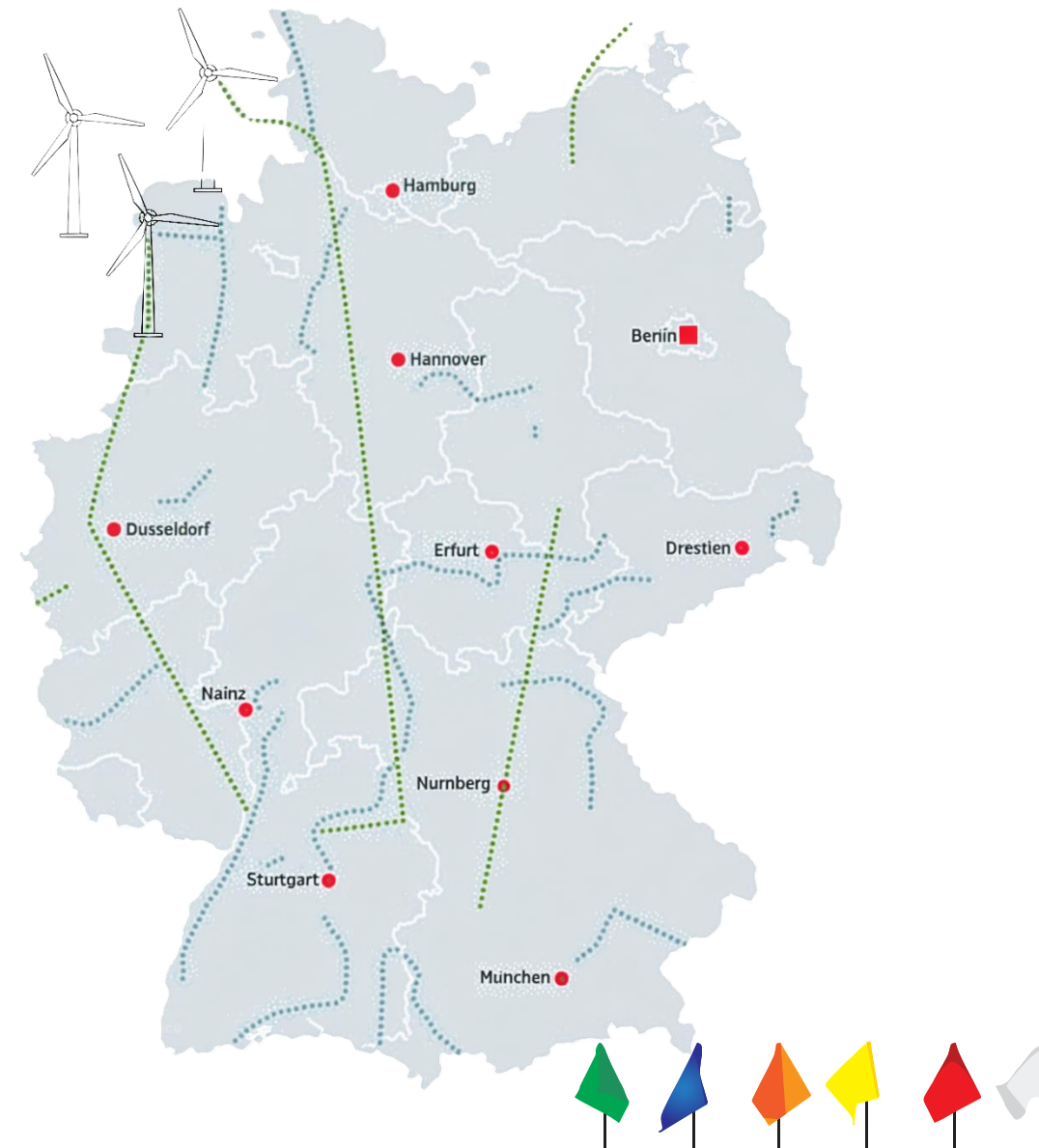


E-POWER PIPE MICROTUNNELLING



UNDERGROUND CABLE INSTALLATION, GERMANY

- › Offshore wind parks in the North
- › Extensive transmission grid construction
- › Open-cut approach



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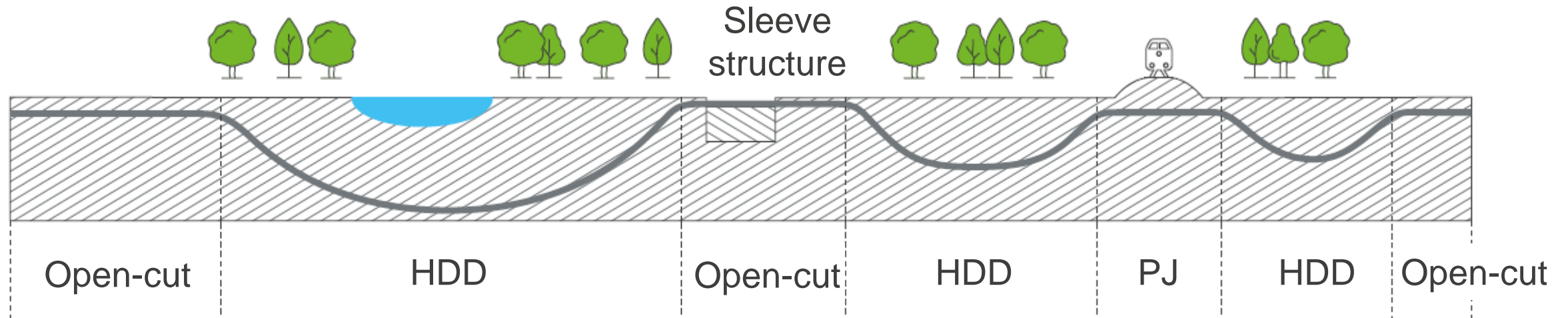


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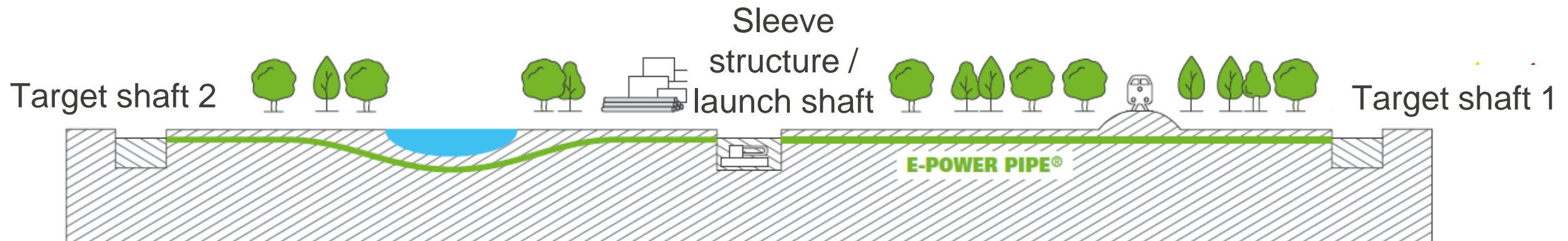
UIC
CELEBRATING 30 YEARS 1995 - 2025

TRENCHLESS OPTIONS FOR UNDERGROUND CABLES

Planning of 12,000 ft. for cable protective pipe with **METHOD MIX**

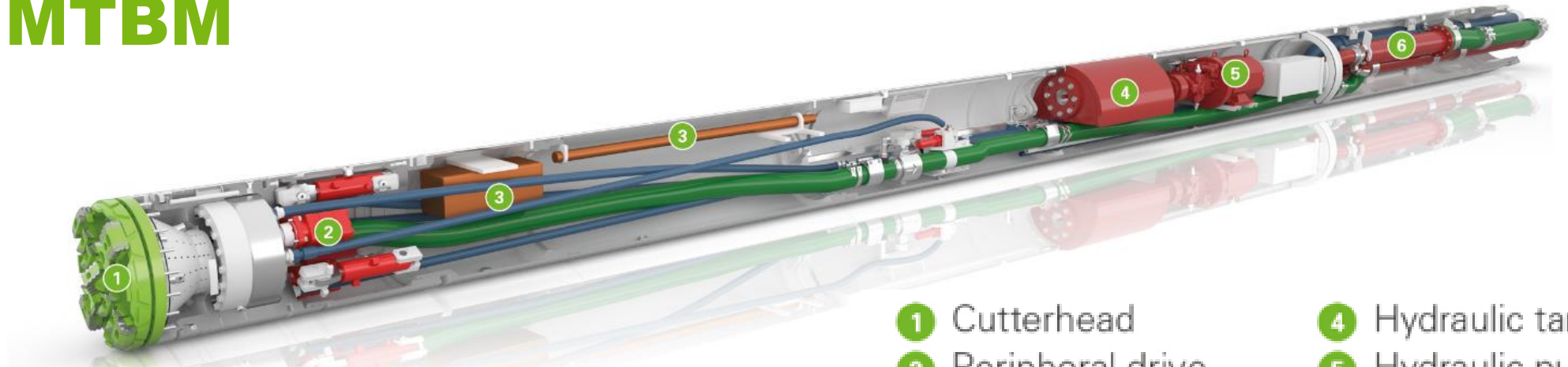


Alternative with **E-POWER PIPE**

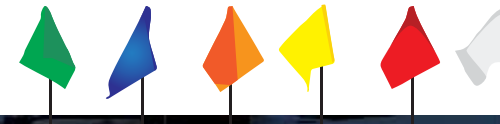
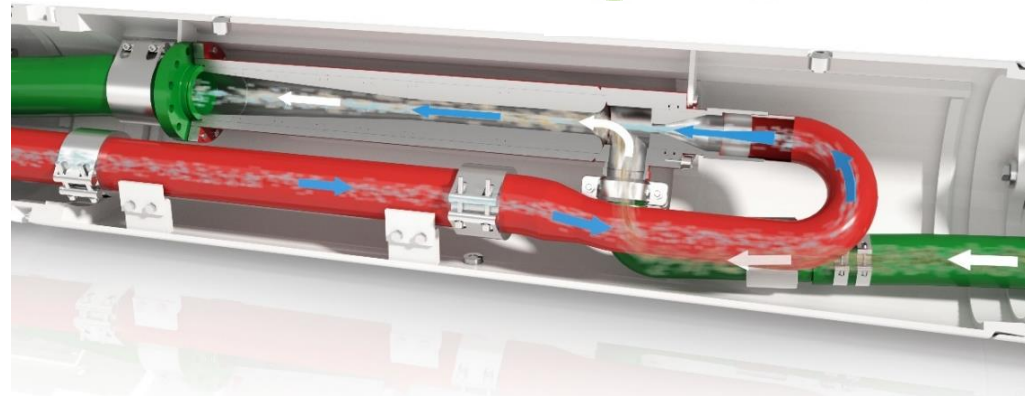


SLURRY MICROTUNNELLING WITH JET PUMP

AVNS MTBM



- 1 Cutterhead
- 2 Peripheral drive
- 3 Navigation system
- 4 Hydraulic tank
- 5 Hydraulic pump
- 6 Jet pump



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E-POWER PIPE® JOBSITE INSTALLATION

An aerial photograph of a construction site for E-POWER PIPE installation. The site is a large, flat, sandy area. In the center, a large yellow crane is positioned over a rectangular structure. To the left, a yellow excavator is working in a trench. To the right, several large white pipes are stacked. At the bottom, there are several yellow containers and a separation plant. Various cables and hoses are visible across the site.

**JACKING
FRAME**

AVNS 350XB

**OPEN TRENCH
INSTALLATION**

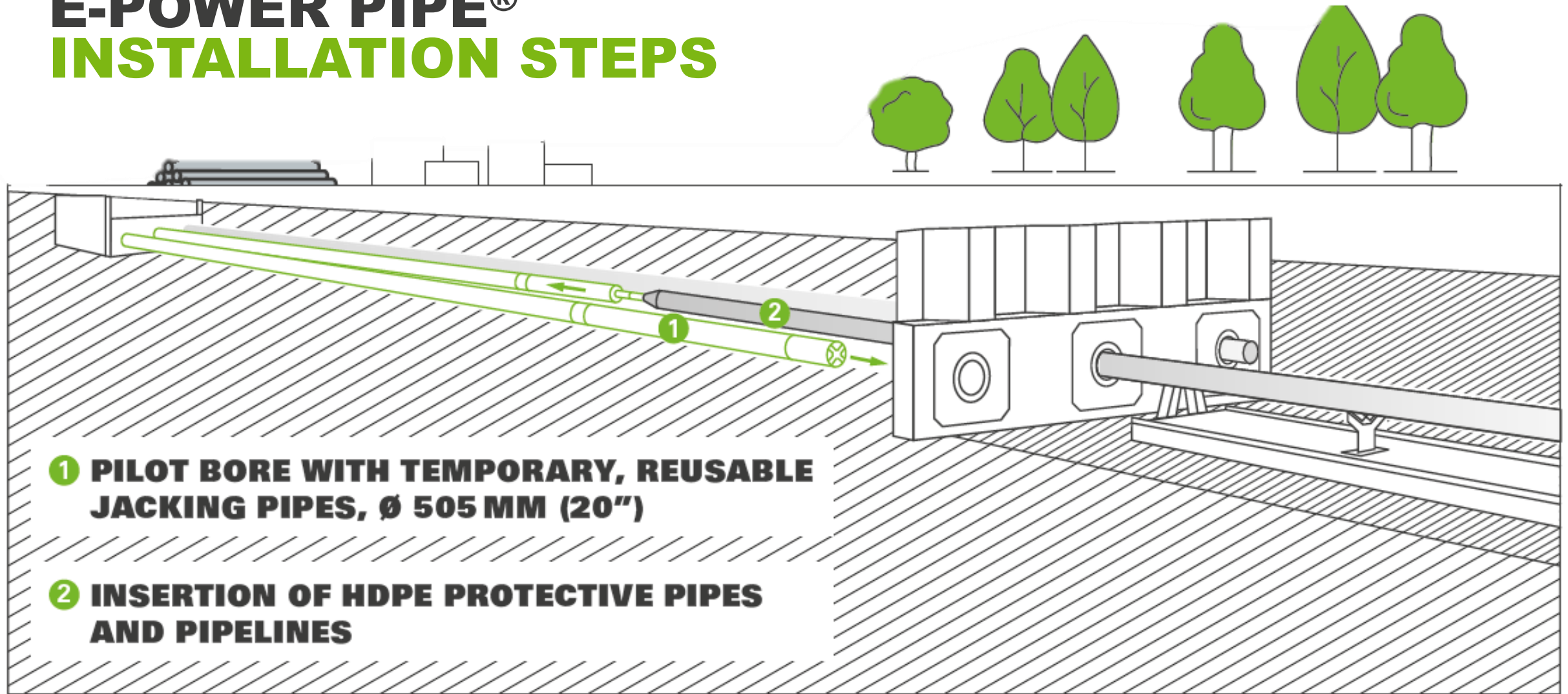
**JACKING
PIPES**

**SEPARATION
PLANT**

**BENTONITE
MIXING UNIT**

BENTONITE PUMP

E-POWER PIPE® INSTALLATION STEPS



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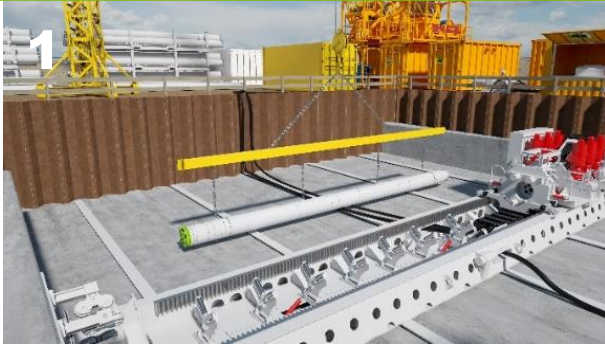
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E-POWER PIPE® INSTALLATION STEPS

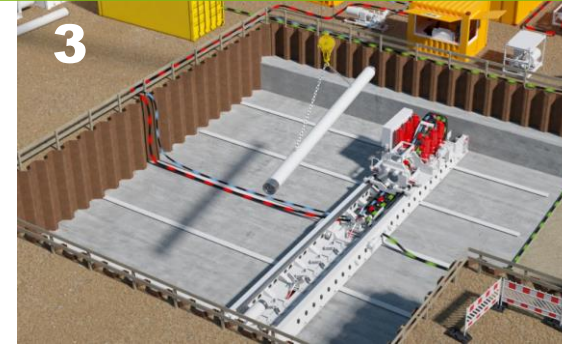
I PILOT BORE with AVNS and temporary jacking pipes



1 Installation of jacking frame in launch shaft



2 Soil excavation with AVNS & pipe jacking process



3 Handling & coupling of temporary steel jacking pipes



4 Precise breakthrough at target point

II PULL-IN



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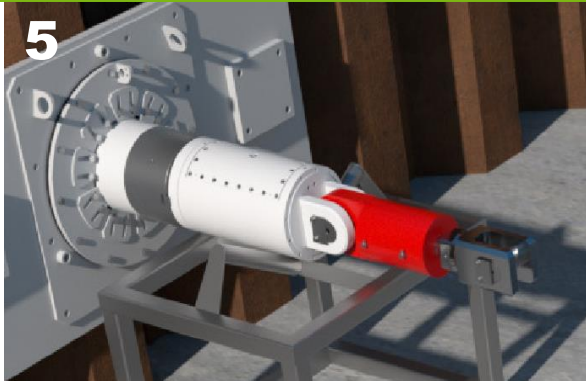


E-POWER PIPE® INSTALLATION STEPS

I PILOT BORE



II PULL-IN of protective pipe or pipeline



Dismantling of AVNS and connection of pullhead

Connection of prefabricated pipe to pullhead

Pullback process by jacking frame in launch shaft

Pulling completed



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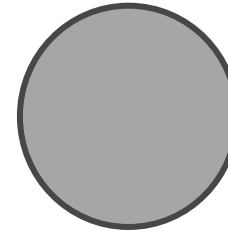
E-POWER PIPE® APPLICATION FIELDS

10"-18"

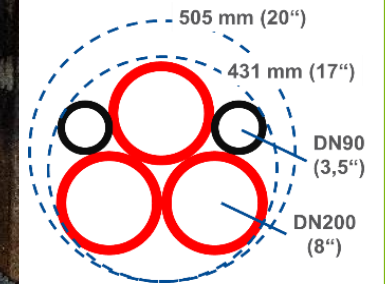


- › Drilling diameter: 505 mm | 20"
- › Drive length: $\leq 2,000$ m | 6,500 ft
- › Near surface installation: overburden ≥ 1.5 m | 5 ft
- › Precise, parallel installation: distance ≥ 1.0 m | 3 ft
- › Grouting of annulus during pullback

SMALL-DIAMETER STEEL PIPELINES



HDPE PROTECTIVE PIPE | SINGLE INSTALLATION OR BUNDLE PULLING IN BOREHOLE



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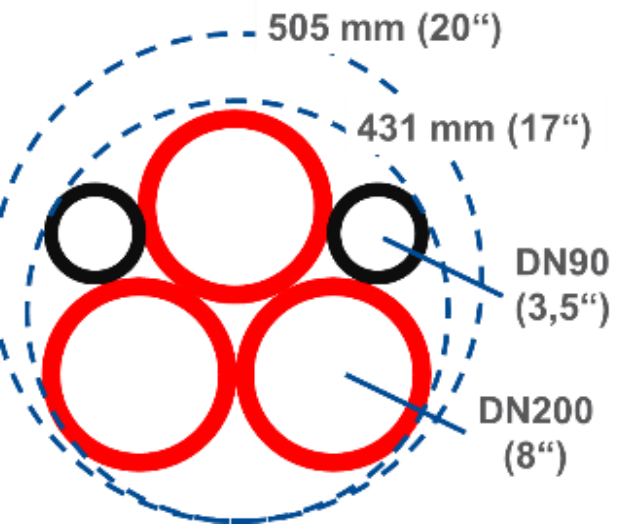
RECORD CABLE PROJECT IN THE NETHERLANDS

L = 2,000m | r = 1200m

LAUNCH SHAFT
20 x 10m

6,500ft

**L = 400m
/ 1,300ft**



EPOWER PIPE

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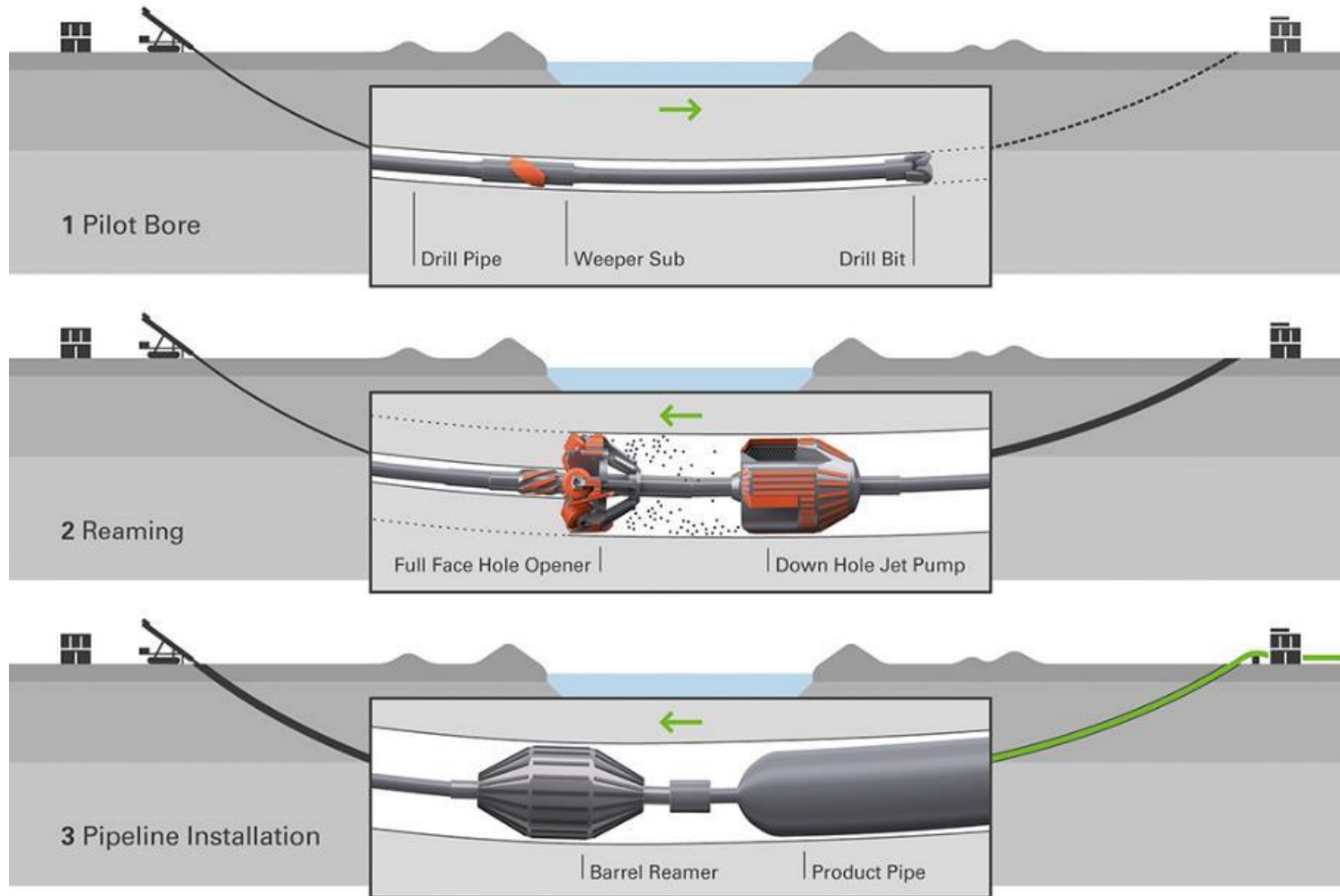




UTILITY TUNNELLING

HORIZONTAL DIRECTIONAL DRILLING

DRILLING METHOD



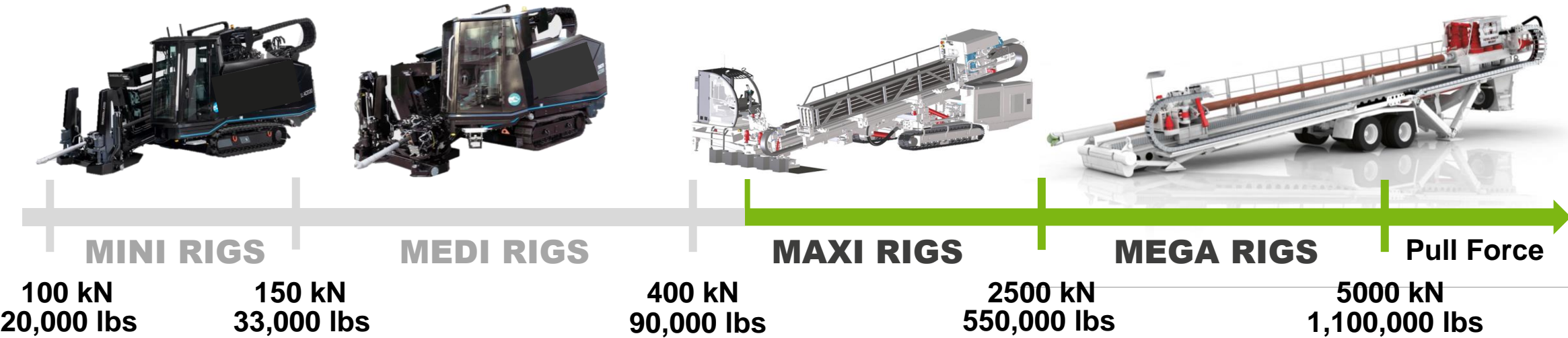
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HDD RIGS AND THEIR SELECTION



CATEGORY	PULL FORCE	
Mini Rigs	≤150kN	} Small scale drilling technology
Medi Rigs	150-400kN	
Maxi Rigs	400-2500kN	} Large scale drilling technology
Mega Rigs	>2500kN	





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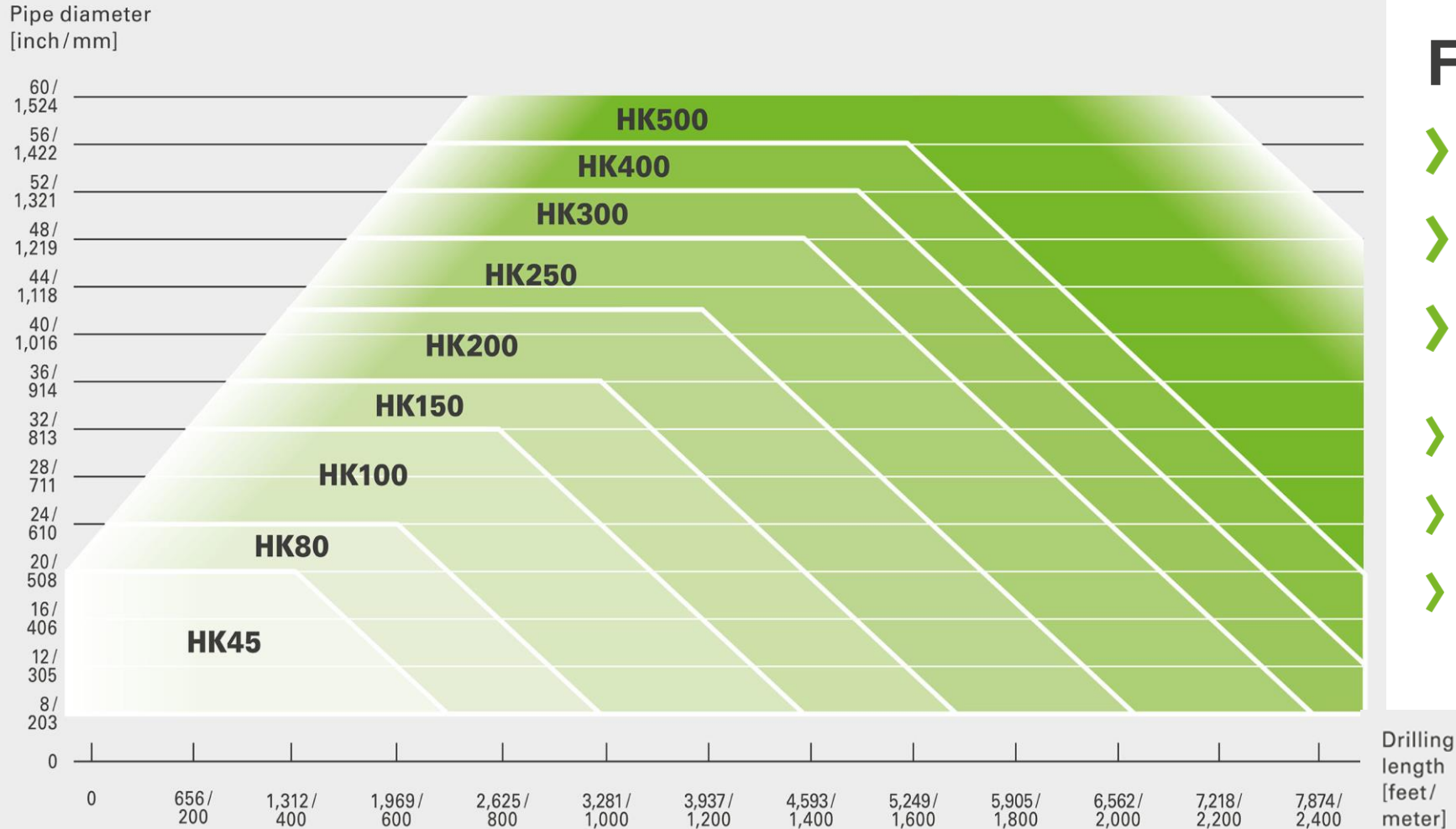
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30
YEARS
1995 - 2025

HDD RIGS AND THEIR SELECTION



Factors for rig size:

- › Geology
- › Length
- › Diameter
- › stability of product pipe
- › limits of drill pipe
- › limits of tooling



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RIG TYPES STANDARD

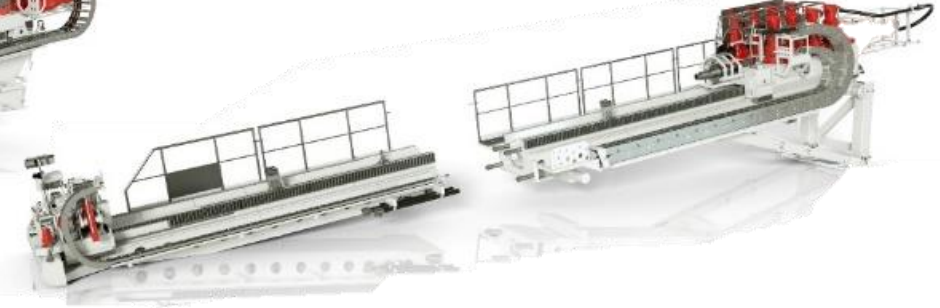
Compact Rigs **CK**



Trailer Rigs **T**



Modular Rigs **M**



100 ton

200 ton

300 ton

400 ton

500 ton



Crawler Rigs **C**



Frame Rigs **F**



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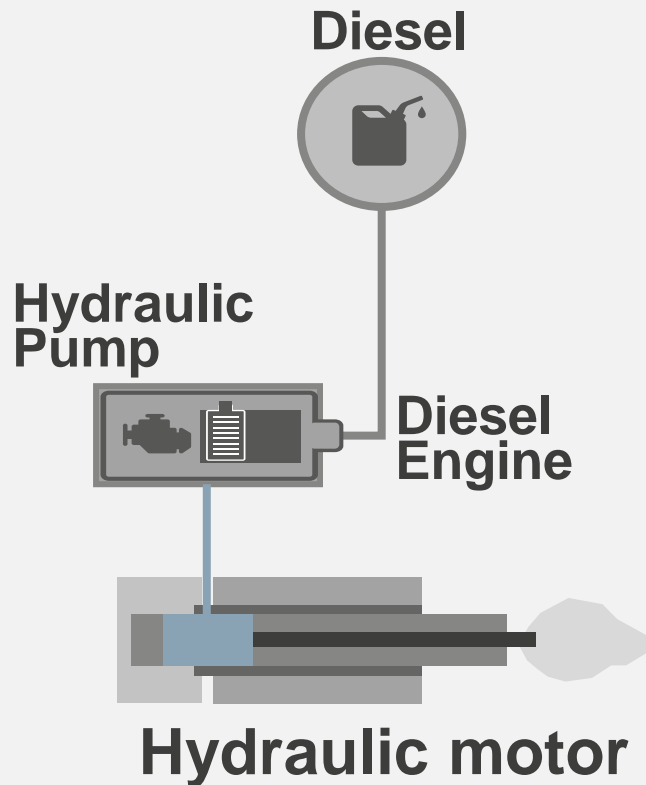
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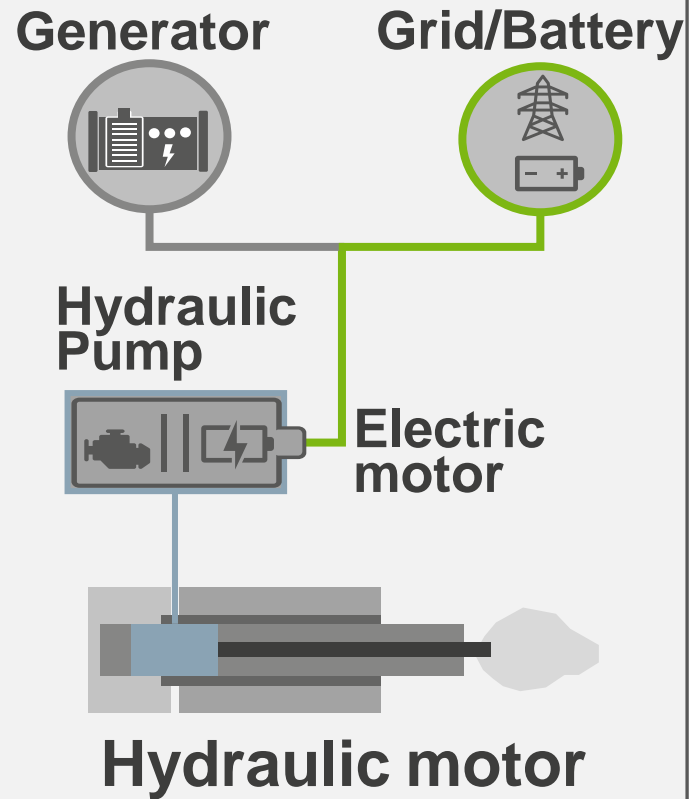


DRIVE TECHNOLOGIES

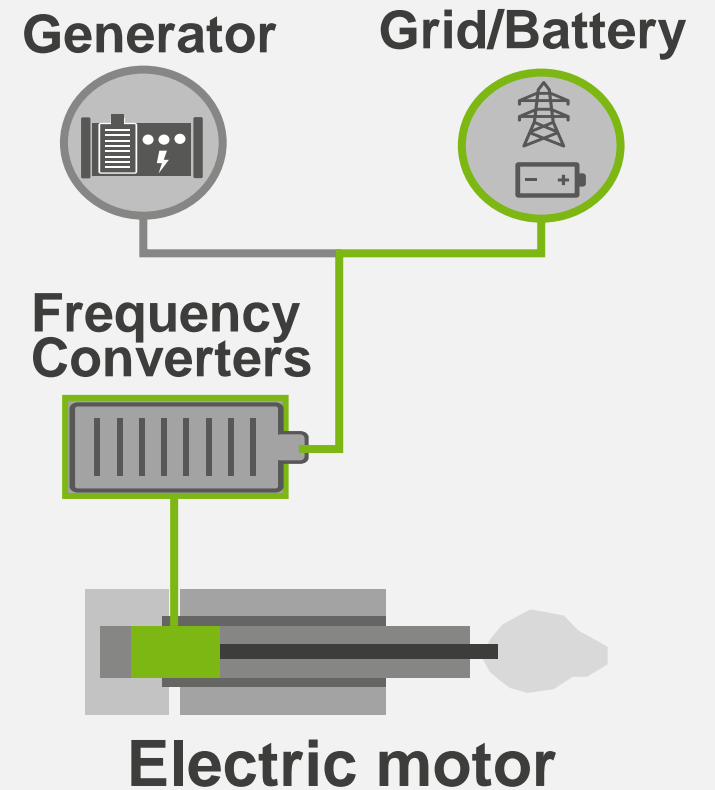
CONVENTIONAL Diesel-hydraulic



HYBRID Electro-hydraulic



ALL-ELECTRIC












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HDD RIG RANGE COMPARISON

	CONVENTIONAL HDD RIG	HYBRID HDD RIG	ALL-ELECTRIC HDD RIG
Power source	Generator	Generator / Grid	Generator / Grid
Efficiency	+	+	+++
Emissions / Noise			
Investment Costs			
Maintenance Costs			





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ADVANTAGES OF ELECTRIFICATION



INCREASED EFFICIENCY



**REDUCED CONSUMPTION
TO 50%**



REDUCED CO₂ EMISSIONS



REDUCED COSTS



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ADVANTAGES OF ELECTRIFICATION



LESS NOISE



LESS LEAKAGE



LESS MAINTENANCE



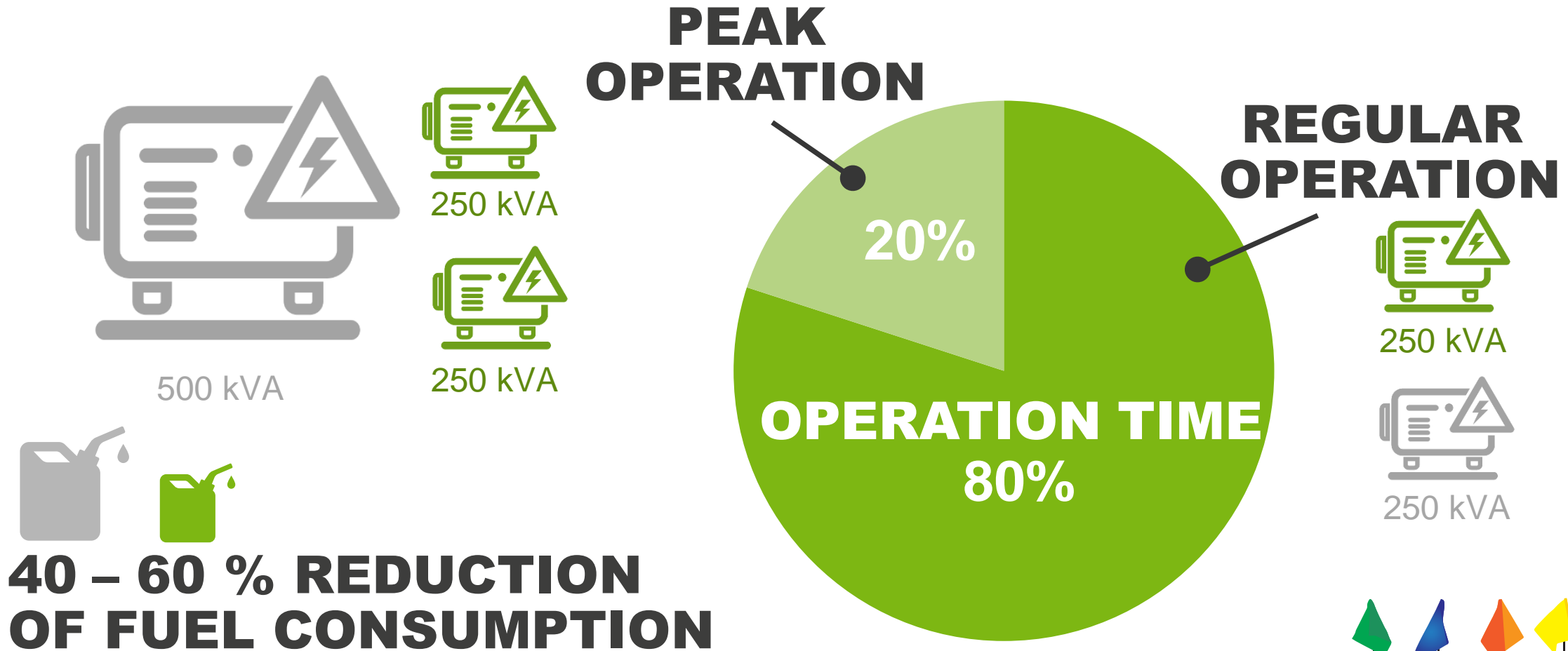
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INTELLIGENT GENERATORS WITH **E-RIGS**



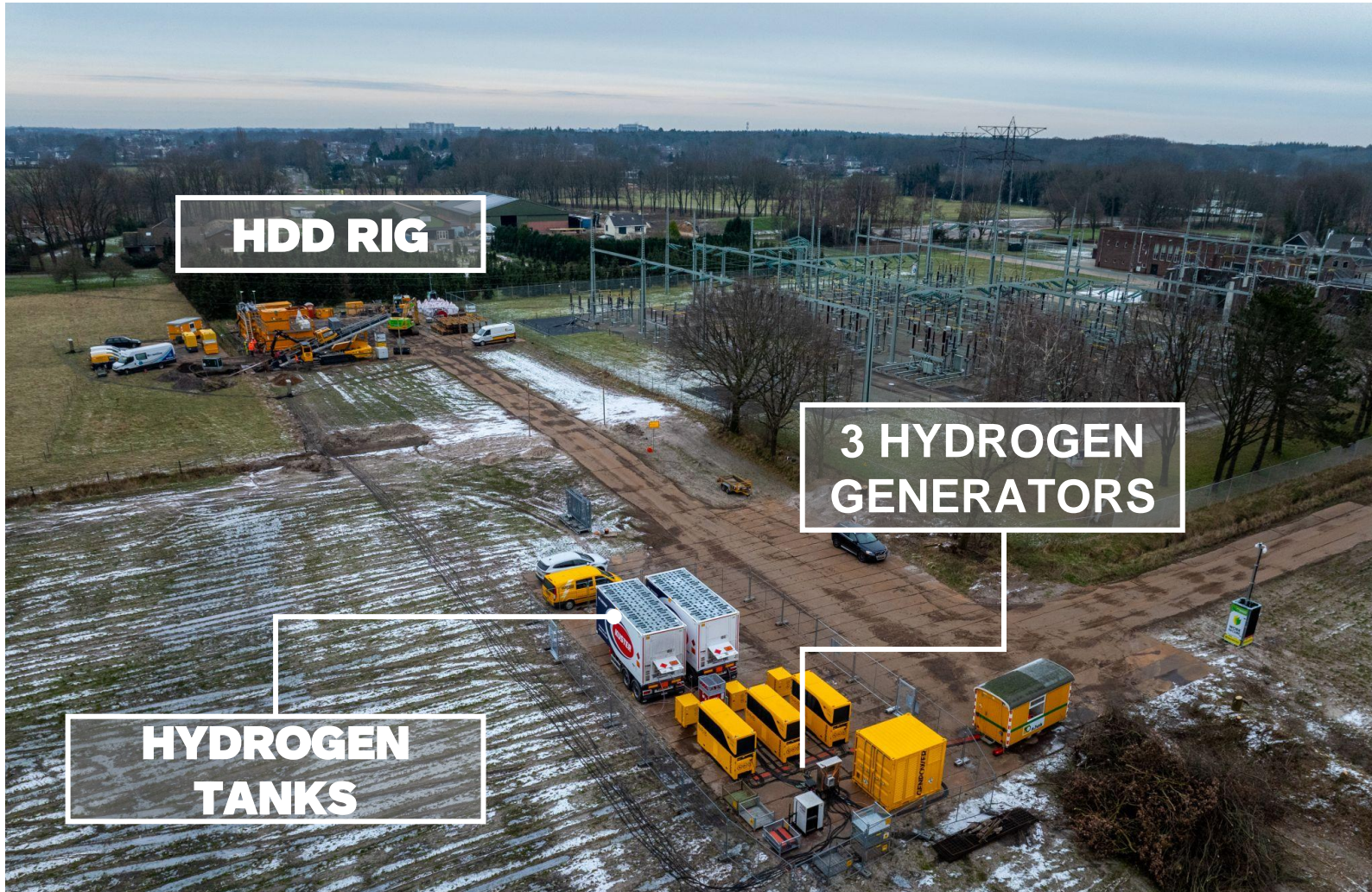
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MODERN HDD JOBSITE



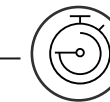
QUIET



SUSTAINABLE



CLEAN



EFFICIENT



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ALL-ELECTRIC HDD RIG HK300TE/FE

- › Pullforce: 300 Ton / 660,000 lbs
- › Torque: 120 kNm / 88,500 ft-lbs
- › Drilling angle: 8° - 15°
- › Drill pipe length: 9.8m / 32ft | Range 2



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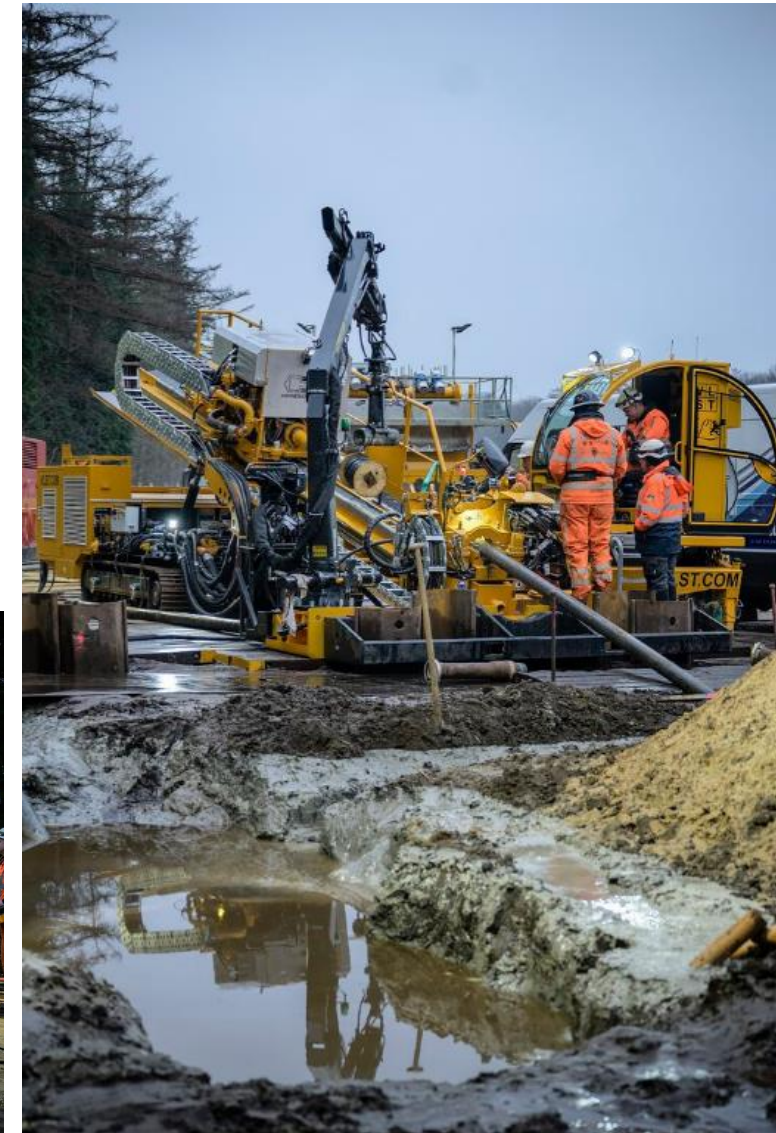
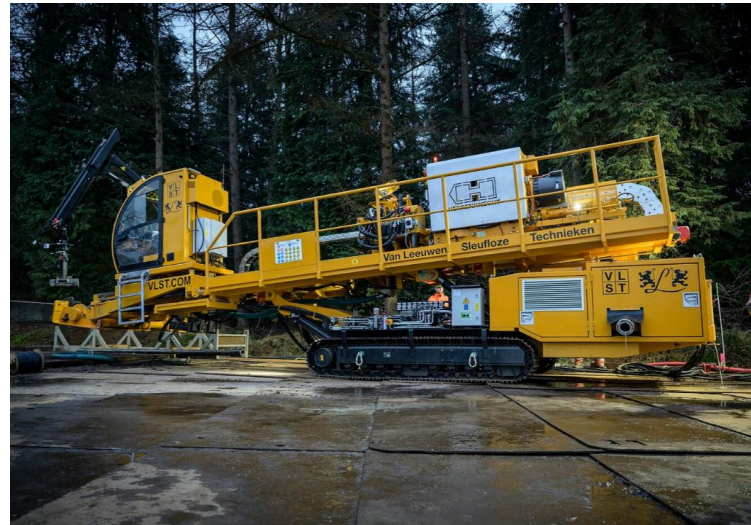
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NEW **ALL-ELECTRIC** HDD RIG HK45CKE

- › Pullforce: 45 tons / 100,000 lbs
- › Torque: 24 000 Nm / 17,700 ft-lbs
- › Rotation Speed: 0 – 150 rpm
- › Drilling angle: 9-20°
- › Drill Pipe length: 6m / 20ft
- › High Pressure Pump:
1000 l/min @ 40 bar
260 gal/min @ 580 psi



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