



Marmaray Bosphorus Railway Tube Crossing - Istanbul, Turkey



In early January 2007, the Gama – Nurol – Taisei Joint Venture completed assembly of the LOVAT RME314SE Series 21900 Tunnel Boring Machine [TBM]. The Mixed Face TBM will be used for construction of the Marmaray Bosphorus Railway Tube Crossing Project in Istanbul, Turkey.

The project is part of the Railway Crossing between the continents of Europe and Asia. The TBM will bore twin 7.97 meter diameter tunnels a total length of 3,670 meters, or 1,835 meters per tunnel. Tunnel alignment runs between Yedikule and Yenikapi, on the European side.

As scheduled, on Friday January 26th 2007 the TBM was launched and mining commenced. The first rings were erected soon afterwards, with the entire TBM now underground after completion of the tenth ring. After stopping briefly for further assembly of the backup gantry, the TBM will resume mining this week.

