



## Storm Sewer System, Bogota Columbia - Breakthrough



## CONGRATULATIONS !

Contractor Micotunel S.A. de C.V. of Mexico has announced that the LOVAT MP114PJ Series 2600 Tunnel Boring Machine has broken through on its current project, an extension of the Storm Sewer System (Colector Central Fontibon and Centenario) in Bogota, Columbia.

After undergoing refurbishment last year at LOVAT's facility in Toronto, Canada, the pipe jacking TBM was shipped to Columbia where it began boring in early October, 2006. The 2.8 meter diameter TBM bored a series of five tunnels totaling 990 meters, through soil consisting predominately of fine sand and soft clay. To assist excavation in the encountered conditions, lubrication ports were used behind the TBM while bentonite was used to lubricate the rest of the drive at the pipe ports. A muck pumping system was adopted for spoil extraction, coupled with the use of conditioning agents at the face to improve the spoil quality for passage through the system.

Senior officials at Microtunel were quoted as saying they were "very pleased with the performance of the LOVAT TBM"

