

### TBM Refurbishment – RME222SE Series 9100 & 9200 for Transtonnelstroy



Russian contractor Transtonnelstroy, owner of two LOVAT RME222SE Tunnel Boring Machines (Series 9100 & 9200), has contracted LOVAT to perform a complete refurbishment of both machines.

After undergoing a comprehensive inspection, the TBMs, originally delivered in the 1980's, will be 'modernized' and retrofitted with current technologies including PLC control systems and state of the art safety equipment as part of the refurbishment program. Modifications to the Cuttingheads and sealing systems of both TBMs, as well as the installation of new Screw Conveyors, will allow for operation in Earth Pressure Balance Mode in pressures of up to 3 bar.

Both "Polina" (Series 9100) and "Olga" (Series 9200) will also have their diameters increased from approximately 5,638 mm to 5,940 mm. The increase is necessitated by planned future tunnel projects in Russia, including a 2,691 meter long tunnel in the Zapolyarnaya Coal Mine in Vorkuta.

Refurbishment of the TBMs, to be performed in Russia under the supervision of LOVAT technicians, is expected to be completed in Spring 2008.