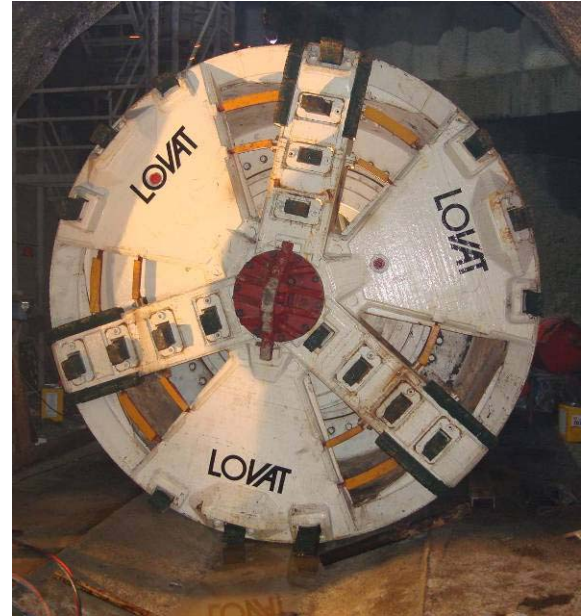


Gürpınar & Firuzkoy Tunnels, Istanbul – Project Update



Turkish contractor Oztas Co. have reported that assembly of the LOVAT RME136SE Series 19501 is now underway. The TBM was recently shipped to Istanbul ahead of schedule from LOVAT's Toronto facilities upon completion of a comprehensive refurbishment.

According to Oztas, assembly is progressing well, with main components such as the Cutting Head, Forward Shell, Stationary Shell, Transformer and several sections of the back up already lowered into the shaft. The electrical and hydraulic circuits are currently being connected in preparation for testing, prior to the start of excavation.

The TBM will be utilized in the construction of the 5,227 meter long Gürpınar & 3,770 meter long Firuzkoy wastewater tunnels. In addition to supervising assembly and testing, LOVAT technicians will be present to assist with the initial drive, expected to commence prior to year's end.