



Third New TBM for China Railway Tunnel Group - Chengdu Metro Tunnel Project, China



中国中铁



LOVAT is pleased to announce the recent signing of a contract to supply a new RME246SE Earth Pressure Balance Tunnel Boring Machine [TBM] to the China Railway Tunnel Group (CRTG). The 6.3 meter TBM is the third LOVAT machine to date purchased by CRTG, and will be used for construction of the Chengdu Metro Line 2 Lot 11 tunnel project located in Sichuan Province, China.

The mixed face TBM will excavate through geological conditions consisting of sedimentary deposits, including gravel and cobbles. The tunnel alignment will be driven entirely under the groundwater level, with groundwater heights above the tunnel invert varying from 6 to 13 meters. Maximum EPB pressure is anticipated at up to 2 bar. To reduce wear in the abrasive geological conditions anticipated, the TBM will be equipped with chromium carbide plating on the cuttinghead face and rim, in addition to being outfitted with a LOVAT Ground Conditioning System.

CRTG has partnered with LOVAT to manufacture the steel structures for the TBM locally in China. After-sales technical assistance and on-site support will be provided by LOVAT China. Delivery of the TBM is scheduled for early 2009.