

M5 Metro Milan, Italy – Project Launch

Ghella S.p.A., contracted by the Joint Venture of Astaldi and Torno Internazionale, has commenced excavation on the tunnelling portion of the Metro Milano – Linea M5 tunnel located in Milan, Italy.

The LOVAT RME370SE Series 19601 Earth Pressure Balance TBM will bore 3,541 metres of tunnel along a maximum slope of 1.4%. The anticipated geology consists of gravel and sands with some weak silts. The tunnel alignment is predominately above the water table, with a depth of cover varying from 8 to 12 metres.

The 9.4 metre diameter Mixed Face TBM is equipped with LOVAT Ripper Teeth and Scraper cutting tools. The cuttinghead is powered by a 2700 kW hydraulic main drive consisting of water-cooled electric motors coupled to variable displacement pumps, generating a maximum torque of 24,940 kN·m at 1.0 rpm.

LOVAT supervised the refurbishment of the machine for this project and continues to provide on site Technical Services and Spare Parts support.