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GHELLA S.p.A. ME310SE Series 24500

BREAKTHROUGH!

Ghella S.p.A. has announced that their 7.9 metre diameter Soft Ground TBM completed its drive on September 20th, 2010 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The first of two TBMs used in construction of two Arroyo Maldonado Flood Relief Tunnels, the tunnels are constructed to alleviate flooding in Villa Crespo and Palermo neighbourhoods located in central and northeastern area of Buenos Aires.

A total tunnel length of 4,579 metres was successfully completed in 352 days and maintained 2.5 bar of EPB pressure. The TBM encountered geology of mostly sand mixed with thin layers of clay throughout the surface of the ground. The tunnel alignment is located below groundwater level. Groundwater heights above the tunnel invert varied from 17 to 27 metres.

Since its start of excavation on Oct. 2nd, 2009 the TBM achieved the following performance rates:

Best Shift: 22.5 metres

Best Day: 42 metres

Best Week: 199.5 metres

Best Month: 712.5 metres



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