

Controlled boring

TPC – Tunnelling Process Control “permits a new level of information and control for your tunnelling project,” say its makers at Babendererde Ingenieure.

“TPC is the culmination of years of hands-on experience in consulting and construction management work. During construction complex decisions are made on a daily basis, especially in highly-mechanised operations like TBM tunnelling. How you interpret the available data has a significant impact on decisions and control of any

situation.”

It is said that TPC can collect any and all required data automatically from any source on site and present it in one concise report. The software can also be tailored to meet specific needs, “you even have the option to evaluate and display data in real-time mode for instant screen display, as a hard copy report or as a PDF-file for email distribution,” the company adds.

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Document management

SoftXS has announced the release of version 9.2 of DrawMGT. DrawMGT manages design and construction drawings, documents and the tasks necessary for review and revision. The program was created specifically for tunnelling and is “ideally suited for projects with participants from multiple organisations, located at multiple sites,” says SoftXS.

DrawMGT manages the status of drawings and documents, making links to the tasks associated with their production and updating. It also helps users to coordinate design and construction management tasks with other project activities.

DrawMGT is an Internet-based web application and requires no software beyond the DrawMGT server. Major features include:

- Version/Revision Management – Construction drawings and

- documents
- Design Management – Tracking design, check, approval, submittal
- Task Management – Common construction tasks supported
- Automatic Document Classification – Based on drawing code values and project specific defaults
- Indexing and Searching – Industry standard and project-specific classification criteria supported
- Lists and Reports – Drawing and task lists. Multiple list formats and sorting
- Drawing Submittals – Automatic delivery of drawings approved for construction
- Data Import/Export – Bulk upload and download of data
- Secure – Multiple permission levels (user roles) and comprehensive audit trail

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Intelligent drilling

Atlas Copco's newly upgraded Tunnel Manager MWD software is said to offer new functionality, “based on several years of research at Luleå University of Technology, in Sweden”.

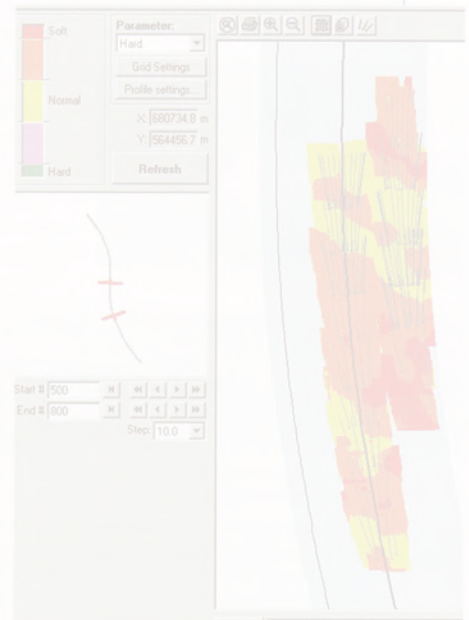
The Windows based program is designed for use with Atlas Copco Boomer rigs that are equipped with Rig Control System (RCS) and the Advanced Boom Control function (ABC Regular or ABC Total) and is available in the form of three different packages: Tunnel Manager, Tunnel Manager Pro and Tunnel Manager MWD.

The Tunnel Manager package offers basic functionality such as generating drill plans, while Tunnel Manager Pro contains the upgraded Measure While Drilling function. The most advanced package, Tunnel Manager MWD, provides additional functionality for analysing data.

“This means the user can swiftly translate rock mass data into relevant rock mass characteristics such as rock hardness and fracturing,” says Atlas Copco.

The MWD technique was designed to collect an array of drilling data, such as penetration rate, feed force, rotation speed, percussive, rotation, water pressure and water flow whilst drilling of a hole is being undertaken.

“The calculated figures are



presented in line with customer requirements, which can be chosen from a range of various graphical tools available,” says the company.

Compared to other methods of characterising rock properties, Tunnel Manager MWD is said to give high data resolution at low costs, since data is extracted automatically at regular intervals. Based on this information excavation and rock reinforcement plans can be modified to achieve optimum safety, speed and economy.

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