Eurodrill at the core 'Santa Lucia' tunnel project

As road networks expand across Europe more and more tunnels are being built to accommodate them and when it comes to digging those tunnels drill heads from Eurodrill are at the forefront

cross Europe, it seems that efforts to renew outdated transport infrastructure are never-ending. Major road building projects are necessary, not only to cut journey time, but to increase safety, too.

At the forefront of one such project, you will find Eurodrill's CH 400 drill head. Integrated into Europe's largest tunnel boring machine (TBM), produced by Herrenknecht, the Eurodrill coring head is helping to drill through Italy's mountainous Apennine region, taking part in of one of Europe's biggest infrastructure projects.

Between Florence and Bologna, a major expansion and redevelopment project is underway including 44 new tunnels and more than 40 new bridges. This will reduce the journey time, on what was previously a difficult and hazardous stretch of road, by 40 minutes and, of course, increase safety. Part of this project is the construction of a single 7.7km tunnel long called 'Santa Lucia'.

To ensure the safety of the tunnel's construction, investigations into the rock formation are required in potentially problematic areas. Core samples that provide relevant information about rock formation must be extracted so

that underground construction can continue. During the investigation the TBM is forced to stop work which puts high demands on the core drilling equipment.

The design of Eurodrill's coring head takes these demands in account. It is specially designed to be quick and easy to install and use – vital elements when operating under demanding time constraints. Added to that, the CH400's reliability and overall performance make it the go-to coring head when completing such ambitious tasks. That is why the CH400 is Herrenknecht's standard coring head for all of its TBM projects. •

