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HDD Marsdiep crossing between Den Helder and Texel

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Abstract:

PWN, the major water supplier in the North of the Netherlands, had to replace a main water supply line between the harbour of Den Helder and Texel island. The length of that line is almost 5000 m and most of that line is placed below the seabed. As such, surfaces are not accessible. After investigating multiple installation techniques to solve that challenge, the decision was made to do test drill operations for confirming the feasibility of HDD. Those test drill operations, done in 2015, by two different contractors, showed that HDD is a reasonable approach. As a consequence, the tender was published, and bits were handed in. After some negotiations the subject HDD contract was awarded to LMR Drilling. Eight months period of profound engineering was used to prepare this project and to cover almost all eventualities.

Construction began in spring 2017. Drilling operations for that 4600-m-long crossing took only three weeks. This outstanding job was a great achievement for the HDD industry in Europe.