



## Press Release

# HERRENKNECHT Europe's largest is all set for its tunnelling job in Italy

August 29, 2016  
Schwanau

**The new titan among European tunnel boring machines has been completed: the TBM for the Santa Lucia Tunnel in the Apennines has a diameter of 15.87 meters. It towers above the previous European record holder by more than 20 centimeters and is the largest machine ever made at the Schwanau plant. The technical acceptance of the EPB Shield took place in late August.**

Assembled in Schwanau in just a few months, with a diameter of 15.87 meters the tunnel boring machine for the Santa Lucia road tunnel is an impressive sight. In the next three years the 4,800 tonne drilling giant will build a 7,528 meter tunnel in the Apennines near Florence – and takes over from the existing record holder for size, which was also used in Italy (EPB shield for the Galleria Sparvo, diameter 15.62 meters). On completion of the record breaker a comprehensive technical acceptance took place on August 29, 2016. The highlight was the turning of the massive cutting wheel (410 tonnes), which, equipped accordingly, will burrow through the heterogeneous subsoil. The TBM customer, construction company Pavimental S.p.A. (Gruppo Atlantia), representatives of client Autostrade per l'Italia S.p.A. as well engineers and the Board of Herrenknecht AG inspected the machine thoroughly and with some pride. Together with the now completed TBM, in the near future 13 Herrenknecht tunnel borers will be operating in Italy – in particular the larger formats. Eight of them have a diameter of more than 8 meters. Major projects such as the construction of the Autostrada A1 create modern, new infrastructures. In mountain ranges such as the Apennines, tunnels are part and parcel of the realization of safer and more efficient traffic arteries. On the A1 new-build route alone a total of 44 new road tunnels are planned – including the Santa Lucia Tunnel. In future the journey time from Bologna to Florence will be reduced by 30% thanks to the new build. The route will be opened to traffic in 2019.

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#### MACHINE DATA

**Machine type: EPB Shield**

- › Shield diameter: 15,870 mm
- › Drive power: 8,750 kW
- › Torque: 101,296 kNm

#### Photos

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Photo 1

The diameter of the tunnel boring machine for the Santa Lucia Tunnel is an impressive 15.87 meters. Not only does this make the TBM the largest ever assembled at Herrenknecht's plant in Schwanau. In the whole of Europe a machine with a greater diameter has never been used before either. The previous record holder was the Herrenknecht EPB shield for the Galleria Sparvo with a diameter of 15.62 meters.



Photo 2

The diameter titan for the renewal of the Autostrada A1 in Italy was formally accepted in an official ceremony on August 29, 2016. In the next three years it will dig one of 44 new road tunnels for the project in the Apennines near Florence. After a comprehensive technical inspection by customer Pavimental S.p.A. (Gruppo Atlantia) and client Autostrade per l'Italia S.p.A. the acceptance certificate was signed.

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## For further information: Please contact us.

### **Herrenknecht AG**

Herrenknecht is the only company worldwide to deliver tunnel boring machines for all geologies and in all diameters – ranging from 0.10 to 19 meters. The product range comprises tailor-made machines for traffic, supply and disposal tunnels, technologies for pipeline installation as well as additional equipment and service packages. Herrenknecht also manufactures drilling rigs for vertical and inclined shafts as well as deep drilling rigs.

In 2015 the Herrenknecht Group achieved total revenues of 1.343 billion euros. The Herrenknecht Group employs around 5,000 people worldwide, including around 170 trainees. With 76 domestic and overseas subsidiaries and associated companies working in related fields, Herrenknecht provides comprehensive services close to each project and customer.

› <http://www.herrenknecht.com/en/references>

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