

# USGasTech Inc

Providing gas-related technologies to the American Gas Industry

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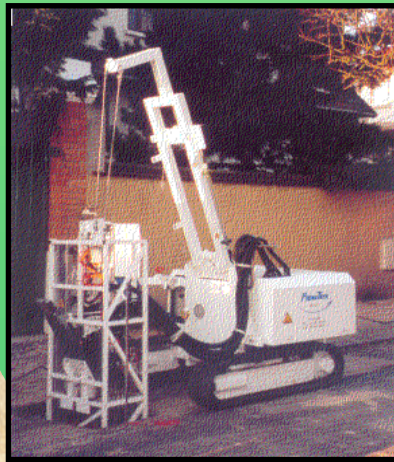
**Directional drilling machine  
for laying service pipes.**

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## ➤ Application

This equipment, developed in partnership between a major European gas company, Flowtex France and Doll (Germany), is used to connect a customer to an existing network located on the other side of a roadway. Via a small access hole (2.6 x 1.6 ft), the machine drills the passage for the service pipe without need of a trench.



The drilling operation can be guided from above the ditch around obstacles and other underground lines, without damages to the latter. A transmitter on the drilling head indicates its position underground at all times.

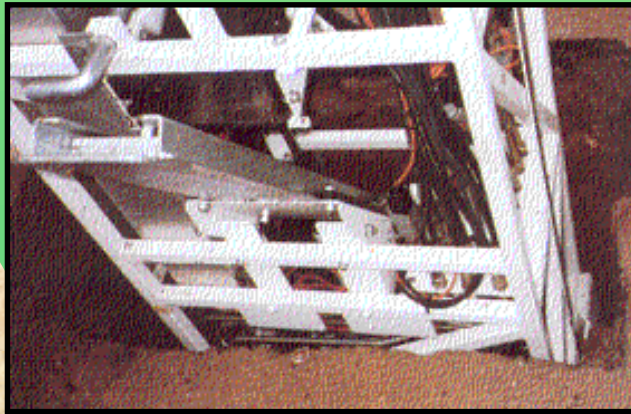
This equipment is designed for use on most buried networks

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## ➤ Characteristics

This machine is used to lay service pipes 0.8 to 2.5 in diameter, in three stages:



- ✓ The pilot hole is drilled under the pavement by means of 5"-long rods screwed together, proceeding according to the dry directional drilling technique.
- ✓ A reamer is installed, followed by a smooth sleeve, in the receiving hole.
- ✓ The drill string is withdrawn and the sleeve line is pulled through.

The drilling and reaming phases can be either automatic or manual

The machine moves above the pit with two motor driven tracks. A single operator can manage all these steps.

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## ➤ Performances

The drilling speed is roughly 30 ft/h, depending on the nature of the ground.



Aside from the time for preparing the insertion and receiving holes, installation of a 30 ft service pipe takes about an hour and a half, depending on the diameter of the pipe and the presence of obstacles underground.

This tool can drill a pilot hole for the service connection at a depth of 5 ft and over a distance of 65 ft.

Pulling and pushing loads of roughly 31 kN are exerted, with a maximum moment of 2,460 Nft. The total weight is about 3,000 lb. The bending radius of the drilling path is lower than 160 ft.