

# USGasTech Inc

Providing gas-related technologies to the American Gas Industry

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## Pipelaying quality

Pipes laid by directional drilling are subjected to high stresses and scoring caused by friction against rock. The Research and Development Division of a major European gas company has designed two processes to preserve the quality of the pipe.

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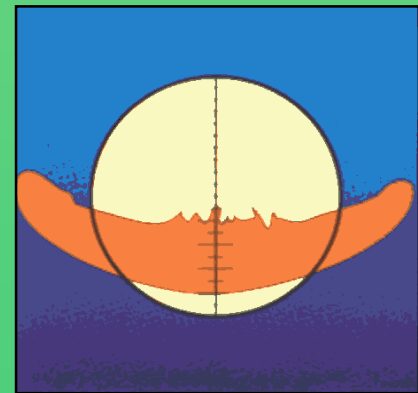
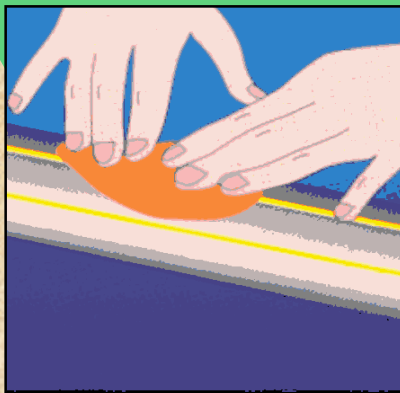
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## ➤ Monitoring of gouges by impression molding :

The acceptance threshold of the gouges' depth is 10% of the pipe wall thickness.

To check for gouging, an impression molding system is easily implemented on worksites. A thermosetting elastomer, which is fluid to start with, penetrates into the gouges and cures at ambient temperature. Once set, it provides a negative replica, the depth of which can be read with a graduated magnifying glass. This means that in less than half an hour, the decision can be made to accept or reject the pipe run laid.

The equipment for taking impressions is marketed by Soproga (France).



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## ➤ Release head :

The release head developed by a major European gas company limits the tensile stresses on the polyethylene pipe. If the release head breaks under excessive stress, the operation just has to be repeated at the point in the pipe section at which the break occurred.

**Manufacturers :** TD Williamson, Inc., and Arias (France)

