

Project Impactor: On Location

On Line Pipe Replacement in New Albany, MS



In this particular part of New Albany, the manholes are above ground to help compensate for the frequent flooding that occurs. The section of sewer main being replaced was in a low lying area populated by old growth trees. The first run of 380 feet started off with good production but at the 100 foot mark friction on the pipe began to slow progress. The power of the Impactor coupled with the pulling force of the drill continued to produce forward momentum but with 20 feet left to go the pipe separated from the Impactor.

Digging down to where the pipe stopped revealed fairly dense systems of tree roots which undoubtedly contributed to the excessive friction. It was decided that using lubrication on the next run would be prudent. The crew decided to use 3/4 inch HDPE as a lube line attached to the new pipe at the rear of the tool. The second 300 feet using lube went very well with production constant throughout the length of the burst.



Project Details

Contractors	Paul Smithy Construction
Date	13/14 November 2001
Project	Sanitary sewer main replacement, New Albany, Mississippi
Specifications	380' and 300' of 12" clay tile replaced with 12" HDPE pipe
Equipment	12" Air Impactor™ and Vermeer® Navigator® D33x44 Horizontal Directional Drill
Production Rate	Average 2.5' per minute in red sand mixed with clay



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Top: Looking down the line, from the drill set up location. The entry manhole is visible in the distance. **Middle:** This above ground manhole is the entry point to the first 380' burst segment. **Bottom:** The business end of the Impactor with starter rod attached. The cutting blades are a new test configuration.