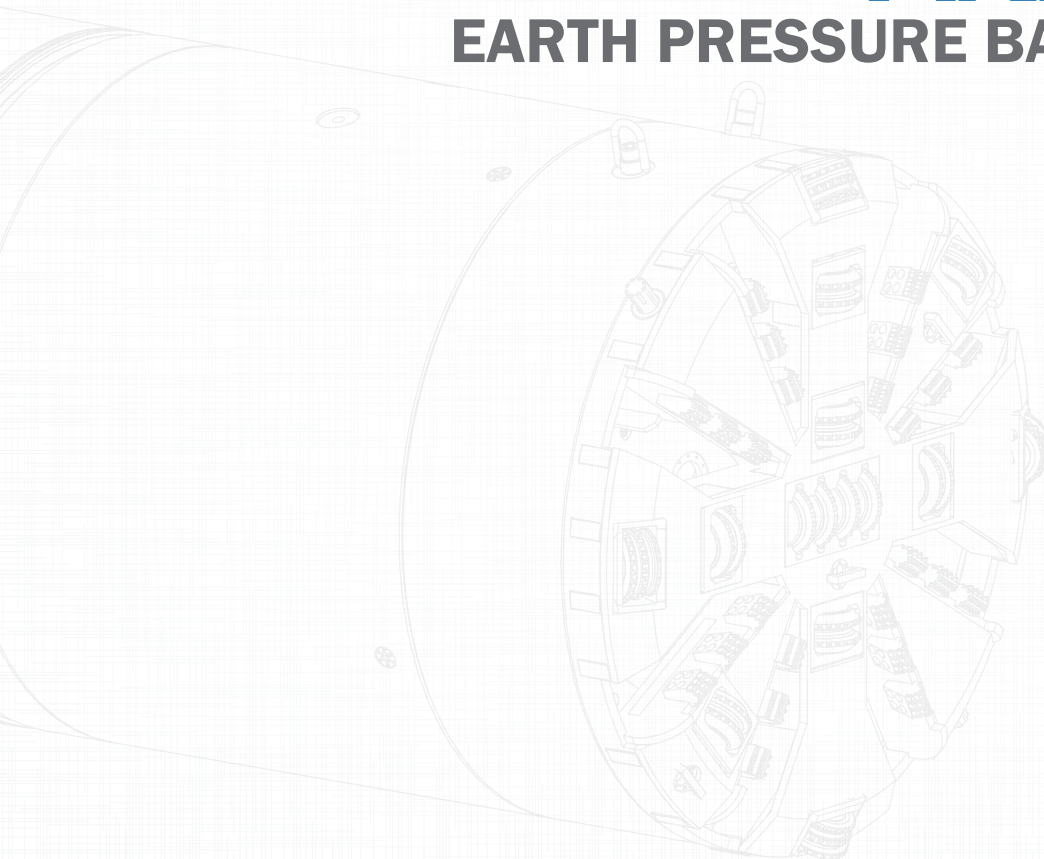


# **AKKERMAN**

## **EARTH PRESSURE BALANCE SYSTEMS**





# EARTH PRESSURE BALANCE SYSTEMS

Earth Pressure Balance Machine (EPBMs) Systems install pipe by pipe jacking or segment erecting methods. EPBMs excavate soil while balancing machine and soil pressures to minimize ground settlement. With both methods, soil from the EPBM cutter chamber is injected with foam and slurry to balance the face pressure and then removed through screw conveyor and haul unit. The operator guides the EPBM and monitors targeting data, pressures, position, speed, torque and flow from a control console to pilot an accurate course and achieve maximum productivity rates. A series of back-up cars follow behind the EPBM, each with a special function. A power container distributes power to EPBM operations and foam and slurry plants provide additives which aid in soil removal. The EPBM cutter head design and power source can be configured to best meet geological and performance requirements.

## EARTH PRESSURE BALANCE SYSTEMS

**Earth Pressure Balance Machine (EPBM)** systems are complex in design and performance and are custom built to suit project parameters. EPBMs are capable of curves and extended lengths with extreme accuracy using a specialized guidance system. The Pipe Jacking EPBM and pipe sections are advanced by a hydraulic jacking frame in the launch shaft. The Segment Erecting EPBM positions segments to form a ring to build the tunnel. The EPBM advances itself off the previously built ring with hydraulic cylinders.





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