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TITLE: Guided Boring Innovation for Longer Lengths, Extended Diameters and Harder Geology

Guided boring offers contractors the ability to achieve accurate and extended trenchless gravity flow installations for 4-48-inch outside diameter pipe and larger with the guided auger boring method, in a range of geology within a minimal site footprint. Contractors rely on guided boring systems to tackle complex pipeline installations on-line and on-grade in varying geology with minimal surface disruption.

Guided boring technology has greatly evolved since 2001, and each year brings new tooling innovations for greater distances and application variety. The range of jacking frames on the market have made it possible for contractors to jack pipe from a minimum eight foot shaft with one frame and mimic the powerful capabilities of an auger bore machine to directly install up to 42-inch steel casing pipe with another.

Guided auger boring has become one of the most common applications for guided boring systems in North America, and its utilization has positively impacted the auger boring market. Guided auger boring is a cost effective method of accurately installing pilot tubes, followed by steel casing installation with an auger bore machine to ensure bore accuracy, expedite installations, facilitate longer lengths, avert down time and realize project savings.

The most recent and notable guided boring innovation is pilot tube rock drilling, which has achieved success in up to 18,000 psi rock conditions. This method is similar to a standard pilot tube installation, but is coupled with cutting tool technology to establish an accurate course for subsequent upsizing to the final casing diameter in densely compacted soils and soft rock.

This presentation will address standard guided boring, guided auger boring, and several unique applications including guided boring pipe ramming, pipe roofing, and gas line, fiber optic cable and HDPE and PVC pullback installations.