

Ditch Witch® Next-Generation JT40 Directional Drill Optimizes Drilling Performance

16 February 2017 by Ditch Witch

New drill delivers maximum performance, operator comfort and increased productivity

To equip utility contractors with the latest technology for optimal drilling productivity, **Ditch Witch®**, a Charles Machine Works Company, has added the innovative new JT40 **horizontal directional drill** (HDD) to its industry-leading fleet of drills.

The new unit is equipped with two, 7-inch LED displays for a direct, transparent view into all critical machine functions and operations. In addition to the digital displays, the machine's real-time carriage-position indicator tells the operator the exact carriage location, for increase productivity and more intuitive operation. A multifunctional, radial operator control is highlighted on the display for better control efficiency, including mud flow, rotation and more. New to the JT40, tracker information is integrated into the advanced displays for enhanced visibility into all jobsite functions beyond drill operation.

"The JT40 represents the future of horizontal drilling," said Seth Matthesen, **Ditch Witch** senior product manager, **horizontal directional drills**. "The unit integrates machine data into an innovative display to keep operators informed and productive on the job. As with all of our products, we continue to seek customer feedback to improve uptime, profitability and performance, and this machine features several new pending patents to do exactly that."

The machine's raw power – provided by a 160-gross-hp, Tier 4 Cummins® diesel engine – gives operators 14 percent more horsepower in a smaller package than competitive models in its class. And for greater drilling efficiency, the JT40 offers an innovative, two-speed, rotational drive system that produces 5,500 ft-lbs of torque. The machine minimizes pipe-entry distance, giving operators increased drill pipe support as it enters the ground. It holds up to 600-feet of drill pipe onboard – more than its primary competitors – allowing for longer bores and increased ROI. And, the optimized carriage speed gives contractors class-leading cycle times for faster installations.

The evolutionary JT40 is available with the option of a fully enclosed cab, with premium heat and air capabilities, or an open operator's station designed with integrated vandal covers. Both options feature a

premium ergonomic seat, extended legroom and place the operator at a 45-degree angle, which provides industry-leading visibility of all critical vision points.

Featuring a unique add-a-pipe design, operators are able to manually insert multiple sticks of drill pipe once the pipe box is empty, improving overall productivity. With the drill's fold-out, lift-off service doors, operators also gain easy access to daily maintenance points. The JT40 has no daily grease zerks, allowing operators to spend less time on maintenance and more time drilling.

Source: Ditch Witch