



The new MC 9 N model

Developments in Italy

On October 12-13, the Comacchio headquarters in Italy became the meeting point for global players in the drilling industry. During a two-day open house more than 500 people visited. This was preceded by a dealer meeting that brought together the entire Comacchio sales network

The product exhibition was split into two areas: the MC and GEO Line models dedicated to microdrilling and geotechnics were displayed at Comacchio's headquarters in Riese Pio X. The large piling equipment of the CH Line was shown at the new production facilities in Castello di Godego.

"This new plant became operational in April 2016 and is mainly dedicated to the design and assembly of large piling equipment," says Flavio Durigan, sales manager at Comacchio. "[At] the dealer meeting and open house, the new premises were used to set up a demo area with one of our large piling rigs, the CH 450, in WPD [winch pull down] configuration, performing kelly drilling with 1,000mm casings. The demo ... gave our guests a chance to experience some of the main advantages of the CH 450: the very low noise operation, the high torque output, the ease of rig-up and the user-friendliness."

Two more CH 450 units were displayed in addition to the one on the demo area. "We wanted to give our guests an idea of the versatility of this rig, which can adapt to different drilling technologies. That is why we chose to exhibit a CH 450 T4 XL, suitable for CFA [continuous flight auger] drilling up to 24m depth and a CH 450 in CPD [cylinder pull down] configuration.

"This also helped to give our



The second location was the new factory in Castello di Godego

guests an idea of the enormous R&D investment the company has made in the past two years, since the launch of the first CH 450, in order to diversify and expand this range of products."

An effort that has culminated in the launch of the CH 650, a piling rig in the 70t weight class, which made its debut earlier this year at CONEXPO in Las Vegas, US, and was displayed during the open house in WPD version. This more powerful addition to the Comacchio CH line-up features a 240kW Caterpillar engine and a rotary head providing 262kNm nominal torque. It can be used for the construction of cased piles up to 2,000mm in diameter and uncased bored piles (2,500mm maximum diameter), up to 69m depth. The WPD configuration presented during the open house also includes a quick CFA conversion kit for CFA piles with a maximum diameter of 1,000mm up to 22.5m deep.

CORE BUSINESS

"The company's investment in the large-diameter industry over the past two years, both in terms of R&D and human resources, has certainly been remarkable, but this does not mean that we have neglected ... the production of

rigs for small and medium-diameter drilling," says Durigan. This was confirmed by the wide selection of drill rigs for geotechnics and ground engineering that were on display during the two days.

The event included the world premiere of the latest addition to the Comacchio MC line-up: the MC 9 N, a compact but powerful machine that is suited for anchoring works using self-drilling hollow bar system.

Powered by a 100kW new-generation Deutz engine, the rig incorporates an advanced mast articulation design featuring an 'extended reach' double boom and two slewing rings, thus offering an extreme range of mast movements and inclinations.

The MC 9 N was not the only novelty on display: the exhibition also included the MC 28 A HD, a heavy-duty rig in the 28t weight class powered by a 205kW Caterpillar C7.1 engine and featuring a rod and casing carousel.

This rig was designed with a focus on anchoring job sites with cased boreholes, as the carousel allows for the handling of both single rods and the combination of rods and casings. The rig has a double-head Vibro system.

In addition to these three innovations, the event gave space to other recent developments, with several GEO line models (covering the soil investigation, exploration, water-well and geothermal sectors) and numerous MC line models (ranging from the small MC 4 D with separate power pack to the largest model in this line-up, the 40t-class MC 40).

The rigs were presented in their most recent restyling, featuring engines complying with Stage IV/ Tier 4 Final emission standards. ♥

Comacchio's headquarters in Riese Pio X

