

Innovation tailor made



Comacchio is a leading company nationally and internationally in the production of drill rigs designed specifically for the small to medium diameter hole market

The company, operating from 20,000 m² premises in Riese Pio X, in the North Eastern part of Italy, has written one of the most remarkable success stories in the drilling industry. Comacchio srl was founded in 1986 as a family run company. Driven by their passion for mechanics and using the experience gained as employees in the engineering sector, the brothers Renzo, Pasqualino and Patrizio Comacchio decide to start their own business, which initially focuses on the manufacturing of mechanical parts and high precision units for other companies.

In the following years they begin to provide services for drilling companies: assistance on site, maintenance, overhauling and modifications of drill rigs from different manufacturers. In 1989 they eventually come to develop a product of their own, entering the market with the first Comacchio drill rig. In 1992 the company moves from the family farm where it started to a veritable factory in Castello di Godego,

Comacchio machines involved in the construction of the Turin railway bypass (Italy).



1989, the first machine built by Comacchio.

a facility equipped with all the necessary machinery and tools for the designing and manufacturing of drilling rigs, which gradually becomes the company's core business. The year 1997 is marked by the creation of the first drill rig designed for the foreign market. Since then the international presence of Comacchio expands dramatically and will bring the company to reach a 95% export share with more than 2000 units sold across the world either directly or through its sales network of dealers and agents that currently covers 70 states in all continents. The work for export markets, initially the Scandinavian and British markets, marks a fundamental shift for the company, a significant growth in turnover and a change in mentality and organization.

The increase in production volumes leads to the construction of the new headquarters in Riese Pio X in 2003. The new facilities, spacious and imposing, give the company a completely different image, oriented to the future and increasingly to foreign markets. A brave choice that allows the company to double its turnover in the next three years.

Innovation

From the very beginning, Comacchio stood out for its ability to absorb and work out the requests of the market and to assimilate different ideas, insights and practices, turning them into finished products, able to meet specific customer needs. Comacchio's philosophy is built on innovative techniques that are less costly, more effective, easier and safer for the operator. The "tailor made" design is a distinguishing feature of all Comacchio machines.

The company introduces the first significant innovation in 1998 with the creation of a new patented concept of mast artic-



Overview of Comacchio factory in Riese Pio X.



In the picture, from left: Renzo, Patrick and Pasqualino Comacchio, Comacchio owners.

ulation. The introduction of a new type of mast cinematics makes it possible for Comacchio drill rigs to perform drilling on the side of the track, reaching a range of movements and inclinations unknown until then on any drilling rig. Initially designed for the MC 1200 (a ground engineering drill rig, ranging from 20 to 22 tons, today one of Comacchio's "best sellers"),

the system is replicated to scale on other drill rig models produced by Comacchio and marks a big step forward for technology development of the company and the industry.

Since 1999 another innovative idea of Comacchio takes shape: the consistent application of radio-controlled technology to ground engineering machines. Starting once again from the desire to meet the demand of a customer, Comacchio decides to produce the first MC 1200 drill rig with a remote radio control capable of controlling the drilling and tramming functions. It is a small revolution in the way of working on the job site. The radio control grants the operator freedom of movement and a better management of the drilling and tramming phases, thus not only simplify-



1998: the first MC 1200 designed by Comacchio with the innovative mast joint.



Comacchio Machine used in the reconstruction of "La Fenice" Theatre in Venice (Italy)



Comacchio machine used in the reconstruction of New Orleans (USA).

American Market

Comacchio will participate in CONEXPO 2014 with a new image. Since last year, the brand is represented on the North American market by two dealers, able to cover the whole North American territory and operating from six main hubs located in the states of North Carolina, New Jersey, Missouri and California for the U.S. and Ontario and British Columbia for Canada. Visitors of Conexpo will be able to see Comacchio products displayed on 2 stands (Platinum Lot booth 8854 and Silver Lot booth 4128). The CONEXPO 2014 will give the Italian manufacturer the occasion to officially introduce to the American market a new drill rig model launched at the end of 2013: the MC 15, an extremely versatile product, able to perform any type of ground engineering work, from micropiles to jet grouting, as well as anchor drilling. The MC 15 High Tech that will be shown at CONEXPO features the latest generation engine Cummins QSB 4.5 Step 3B/Tier 4 Interim, able to meet the new emissions regulations. Two more High Tech line (HT) models will be on display during the show: the MC 22 HT and MC 28 HT. The CONEXPO will also offer the visitors the opportunity to see first hand the innovative double head systems and rod loading carousels developed by Comacchio.



The new MC 15 introduced last October during the Comacchio Open House will be also on display at CONEXPO 2014.

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ing his work and speeding up production, but also offering enhanced security. The use of the radio control allows the operator to work at a distance from the machine, maintaining a complete vision both of the machine in movement and of the surrounding job site area.

A new type of radio control is launched by Comacchio at the beginning of 2011. The "new generation" of radio control includes in addition to the "traditional" tramming and drilling functions, the possibility to remote control the machine set up and the rod loading. The entire machine can be easily managed from one console.

The passion for technology and innovation brings Comacchio to create over the years a number of patented systems that focus on operator's safety and simplification/automation of the drilling processes on site.

Comacchio has also played a significant role in developing the technology for geothermal drilling. Thanks to the experience gained in foreign markets, starting from the Scandinavian market since 1997, Comacchio was able to create a series of models covering all the needs of geothermal drilling. The flagship of the range is the GEO 909 GT, with its patented automatic rods and casing loading carousel, a high-tech and

innovative solution, which was awarded a special mention of the jury in the competition Technical News Samoter 2008.

Product range

The company has developed over the years a comprehensive range of models (varying from 2 to 40 tons) covering the entire spectrum of work related to ground engineering, geotechnics, water well drilling, geothermal, exploration etc. The Comacchio range stands out for the great variety of models and was recently reorganized into 5 main "families":

- MC LINE: a complete line of hydraulic crawler mounted drilling rigs specifically designed for ground engineering works such as micropiles, anchors, jet grouting and ground improvement in general.
- GEO LINE: includes hydraulic crawler mounted drilling rigs utilized for geotechnics, environmental studies, water well drilling, geothermal (GT series).
- EX LINE: identifies the range of hydraulic drilling rigs used for mining exploration.
- MC-T LINE: hydraulic multipurpose truck mounted drilling rigs used mainly for geotechnics and water well drilling.
- MC-E LINE: hydraulic drilling rigs installed on hydraulic crawler excavators used mainly for ground improvement works and anchor drilling.

Besides the 5 main product lines, the Comacchio range includes special hydraulic drilling rigs designed and manufactured to meet specific needs. ■

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