# Atlas Copco Geotechnical Engineering Products **Pipe roofing solutions**





Sustainable Productivity

# **Pipe roofing solutions** – pre-support in tunnel constructions

Cities and urban areas around the world are continuously being modernized and infrastructures developed to match an increasing traffic flow. As a result, tunneling projects are moving into more challenging conditions such as soil, weak rock and shallow overburden in already developed areas. No matter what challenges a tunneling project is facing, compromises can never be made on safety and economical efficiency. This calls for innovative and reliable methods of ground support.

#### **Settlements from excavation**

Tunnel excavation causes stresses to the ground that may result in settlements. The effect of settlements is hazardous not only to nearby buildings and structures but also to the people working inside the tunnel. The answer to these challenges is pre-support, a method of pre-reinforcing the formation ahead of the tunnel face to ensure that the excavation can proceed safely until heavier and permanent support structures has been installed.

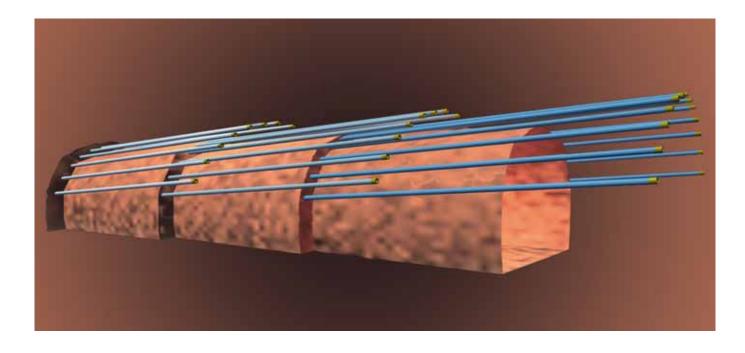
#### Pre-support increases stability

Over the last decades, technical developments have led to an increased use of different pre-support technologies preventing unwanted accidents and protecting surrounding structures from damages. Some of these methods, such as freezing and jet grouting, are known as both cost and time consuming while the method known as pipe roofing is becoming increasingly popular and has many economical advantages. The experience gained from several tunnel projects, indicates that the pipe roof support method not only increases the stability of the tunnel itself as well as the working face, but it also significantly decreases the subsidence induced by the excavation. The popularity of this pre-support method has led to many

different names. You might recognize it as Umbrella, Tube Umbrella, Pipe Canopy or Fore Poling.

#### The principles of pipe roofing

In implementing the method, steel pipes are installed ahead of the tunnel face arranged like an umbrella or canopy around the excavation line. The umbrella stabilizes and protects the ceiling and face of the tunnel by increasing the load bearing capacity of the ground. Thanks to the rigidity of the steel pipes, distribution of loads will be improved and the critical spot will be moved further ahead of the working face.



#### **High flexibility**

The pipe roof support method is a presupport concept widely used in conventional tunneling, but has also gained interest as a support system for TBM tunnels. This method of supporting potentially unstable ground ahead of the excavation face provides a high degree of flexibility and is easily adapted to the encountered conditions.

#### Cost-efficient and easy to adapt

Requiring only standard equipment and little training of your operator crew, your investment in employing special machinery or contractors is notably reduced.

#### Maximized safety

By reinforcing the ground ahead of the excavation, the ground is never without support. This means that the installation of regular tunnel support can be carried out more effectively and with increased safety for the operators.

#### **Extended possibilities**

Using the same principals, installation method and equipment, perforated PVC and steel pipes can be installed for drainage purposes, bringing added value in controlling the ground water, especially in extreme conditions.

#### A complete package

Atlas Copco has a long history and extensive experience in delivering products for ground support and rock reinforcement. By introducing a system solution with optimized products dedicated for pipe roofing, customers can now take full advantage of Atlas Copco's vast experience. The Pipe Roof System offers high quality products perfectly matched together for maximized safety. In combination with Atlas Copco's wide range of capital equipment for drilling and grouting, we are delivering a unique turnkey solution for improved productivity..

**Designing a pipe roof** Engineers consider various measures for design including ground properties, overhead height, tunnel geometry, load analysis, and last but not least the surrounding structures, especially above the tunnel with regards to settlement analysis.

The most critical specifications of the pipe roof, from a design point of view are:

- (outer) diameter of the pipes
- wall thickness
- length of pipes and overlap
- spacing of the pipes

Generally, pipes with outer diam-eter of 76-140 mm and wall thick-ness of 6-10 mm are installed using standard tunneling equipment. In some specific cases, larger diam-eter pipes might be installed using special rigs and Down-The-Hole drilling method.

The pipe roof length is commonly 9-18 metres and due to the overlap the excavated length underneath is around 3-6 metres shorter.

## A complete package from Atlas Copco

Atlas Copco offers a complete package for pipe roofing, including everything from consumables to drilling and grouting equipment.



#### Symmetrix - at the heart of the system

The centerpiece of the package is the well-known and well-proved Symmetrix casing advancement system. The Symmetrix system is a solution for concentric drilling and simultaneously advancing of pipes and offers several benefits in pipe roofng.

#### The Symmetrix system components

- a **pilot bit** which drills the center part of the hole and transfers the impact energy to the ring bit

- a **ring bit set**, which is an integrated ring bit and casing shoe, welded to the front of first pipe, known as the starter pipe. The ring bit, which is connected to the pilot bit through locking mechanism, drills the void needed to advance the pipe into the ground simultaneous to drilling.

#### Straightness

In pipe roofing applications, straightness is vital in both design as well as economical aspects. Symmetrix systems have proved to drill very straight holes thanks to their centric design and smooth drilling.

#### **Internal flushing**

Atlas Copco Symmetrix system, is designed so that the flushing media (mainly water in this application) transports the drill cuttings from the bit face, back inside the pipes. Considering the fact that the system is used when ground is poor or unconsolidated, internal flushing allows for drilling the pipes with no disturbance to the ground.

#### Efficiency and productivity

Symmetrix systems can drill at high speed in virtually any ground. Customers can rest assured that the pipes will be installed successfully and efficiently independent of the encountered ground formation. The easiness to unlock and lock the pilot bit from the ring bit set also adds to the high productivity offered by the Symmetrix system.

#### Less torque

The Symmetrix systems advances the pipes by impact energy simultaneously to drilling a hole slightly larger than the outer diameter of the pipes. This means, the pipe is not rotated while drilling, requiring less torque than alternative solutions. Customers can thereby utilize relatively small drilling rigs.

#### **Drill string**

The Speed Rod with wrench flat from Atlas Rock Drilling tools (Secoroc) is suitable for this application and commonly used. Due to practical principles, Speed Rods (male-female) with wrench flats are widely used. Since the flushing media used in pipe roofing is water, all rods provided are fully carburized to increase life expectancy and durability.

#### **Steel pipes**

The pipes included in the Pipe Roof System offer are: **Starter pipe.** The first pipe section welded to the ring bit set on one end and female threaded on the other end.

**Extension pipe.** A male-female threaded pipe section used to extend the pipe to desire length.

**End pipe.** The end pipe can be either an extension pipe or a pipe section with no thread at the rear (mouth) depending on the used practice for grouting.







#### Accessories

To complete the offer, a range of different tools and accessories including suitable wrenches, centralizers and injection caps can be provided when necessary.

### Threads

All pipes have trapezoidal thread with double start and 10mm entrance and thread ran out to assure easy make up of the joints.

#### Welding

The Symmetrix ring bit set is welded to the front of the starter pipe using an automated robot to enhance the quality of welding and quality consistency.

#### **Optional injection valves**

Pipes can be delivered with 12mm or 16mm injection valves for respectively 3-5bar or +10bar injection.

## **Capital equipment for pipe roofing**

#### **Tunneling face drilling rigs**

Atlas Copco Boomer tunneling rigs are used world wide for pipe roofing applications. These high-capacity drill rigs can meet all your demands from 6 to 206 m<sup>2</sup> coverage area. The unique Atlas Copco boom system offers outstanding flexibility and precision to ensure straight-hole drilling performance in high-quality tunnelling.

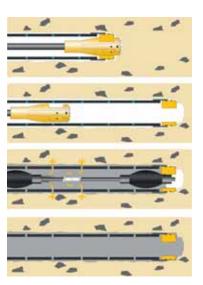


The front and middle guides are replaced to an application specific design for easy handling of the pipes.



#### **Grouting equipment**

Atlas Copco offers compact platform mounted grouting equipment very well suited for pipe roofing. The Atlas Copco Unigrout range is designed to fulfill customers requirements for high quality grouting to seal, strengthen or consolidate formations and structures. Unigrouts for pipe roofing as well as tunneling applications are mainly electric driven.



Cement grout is commonly used for filling the gap between the pipes and ground. A grout cap at the pipe mouth is used and backfill grouting applied. However, sometimes customers use pipes with one way injection valves for injecting grout with higher pressure providing improved grouting quality and further consolidated ground. In these cases, double packers might be utilized.

## **Specifications**



#### Pipe Roof System - range

Atlas Copco offers systems with pipe diameters ranging from 76.1 to 139.7 mm and wall thickness ranging from 6.3 to 10.0 mm.

#### Pipe quality and steel grade

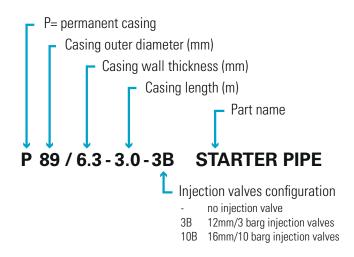
Pipes or casings in the Atlas Copco Pipe Roof standard assortment are made out of high-quality, first hand steel pipes longitudinally welded with removed welding seam. This ensures a completely round shape and good straightness along the pipe. Steel grade and other characteristics are shown in below table.

Steel grade and properties									
EN 10025	DIN 17100	Yield min. (N/mm²)	Tensile strength (N/mm²)	Elongation min. (%)	C max	Mn max	P max	S max	Si max
S355	St 52-3	355	490 - 630	22	0.2	1.6	0.035	0.035	0.55

Note: Other Steel Grades can be provided upon request

#### **Designation Code**

The product designation code to the right is applicable for the pipe products presented in the tables on the following pages. For Symmetrix pilot bit designation and detailed specifications, please refer to product catalogue (PMI 6991 1570 01).



## **Product listing**

All below listed products are suited for installation of pipe roofs using top hammer drilling technique. Other length and wall thickness can be provided upon request. Larger pipe diameters for installation using special rigs and DTH drilling method can be offered upon request

Atlas Copco Pipe Roof, outer casing diameter 76,2 mm (3")						
Wall thickness (mm)	Part	Designation	Pipe Weight (kg/m)	Product Number		
max 8.0	Symmetrix Pilot Bit	P76/8-41-R32		8092402214		
	Starter Pipe Complete	P76/7.1-2.95-STARTER PIPE		8092420006		
	Extension Pipe	P76/7.1-3.0-EXT PIPE	12.1	8092420007		
-	End Pipe	P76/7.1-3.0-END PIPE		8092420128		
-	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P76/7.1-2.95-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420008		
7.1	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P76/7.1-3.0-3B-EXT PIPE	12.1	8092420009		
-	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P76/7.1-3.0-3B-END PIPE	]	8092420129		
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P76/7.1-2.95-10B-STARTER PIPE		8092420010		
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P76/7.1-3.0-10B-EXT PIPE 12.1		8092420011		
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P76/7.1-3.0-10B-END PIPE	]	8092420130		
	Injection Cap with 1" connection	P76/INJECTION CAP		8092420131		

Atlas Copco Pipe Roof, outer casing diameter 88,9 mm (3 1/2")						
Wall thickness (mm)	Part	Designation	Pipe Weight (kg/m)	Product Number		
max 8.0	Symmetrix Pilot Bit	P89/8-54-T38		8092400954		
	Starter Pipe Complete	P89/6.3-2.95-STARTER PIPE		8092420014		
	Extension Pipe	P89/6.3-3.0-EXT PIPE	12.8	8092420015		
	End Pipe	P89/6.3-3.0-END PIPE		8092420162		
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P89/6.3-2.95-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420018		
6.3	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/6.3-3.0-3B-EXT PIPE	12.8	8092420019		
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/6.3-3.0-3B-END PIPE	] [	8092420163		
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P89/6.3-2.95-10B-STARTER PIPE		8092420020		
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/6.3-3.0-10B-EXT PIPE	12.8	8092420021		
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/6.3-3.0-10B-END PIPE		8092420164		
	Starter Pipe Complete	P89/7.1-2.95-STARTER PIPE		8092420022		
	Extension Pipe	P89/7.1-3.0-EXT PIPE	14.3	8092420023		
	End Pipe	P89/7.1-3.0-END PIPE		8092420132		
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P89/7.1-2.95-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420026		
7.1	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/7.1-3.0-3B-EXT PIPE	14.3	8092420027		
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/7.1-3.0-3B-END PIPE		8092420133		
-	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P89/7.1-2.95-10B-STARTER PIPE		8092420028		
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/7.1-3.0-10B-EXT PIPE	14.3	8092420029		
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/7.1-3.0-10B-END PIPE	PIPE 80924			

Atlas Copco Pipe Roof, outer casing diameter 88,9 mm (3 1/2") - continues from previous page						
Wall thickness (mm)	Part	Designation	Pipe Weight (kg/m)	Product Number		
	Starter Pipe Complete	P89/8.0-2.95-STARTER PIPE		8092420030		
	Extension Pipe	P89/8.0-3.0-EXT PIPE	15.9	8092420031		
	End Pipe	P89/8.0-3.0-END PIPE		8092420135		
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P89/8.0-2.95-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420034		
8.0	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/8.0-3.0-3B-EXT PIPE	15.9	8092420035		
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/8.0-3.0-3B-END PIPE		8092420136		
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P89/8.0-2.95-10B-STARTER PIPE		8092420036		
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/8.0-3.0-10B-EXT PIPE	15.9	8092420037		
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P89/8.0-3.0-10B-END PIPE		8092420137		
	Injection Cap with 1" ball valve	P89/INJECTION CAP BV		8092420046		
	Injection Cap with 1" connection	P89/INJECTION CAP		8092420141		

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Atlas Copco Pipe Roof, outer casing diameter 101,6 mm (4")					
Wall thickness (mm)			Pipe Weight (kg/m)	Product Number	
max 8.0	Symmetrix Pilot Bit	P102/8-65-T38		8092402721	
	Starter Pipe Complete	P102/7.1-2.95-STARTER PIPE		8092420048	
	Extension Pipe	P102/7.1-3.0-EXT PIPE	16.5	8092420049	
7.1	End Pipe	P102/7,1-3.0-END PIPE	] [	8092420142	
7.1	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P102/7.1-2.95-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420050	
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P102/7.1-3.0-3B-EXT PIPE	16.5	8092420051	
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P102/7.1-3.0-3B-END PIPE		8092420143	
	Starter Pipe Complete	P102/8.0-2.95-STARTER PIPE		8092420054	
-	Extension Pipe	P102/8.0-3.0-EXT PIPE	18.5	8092420055	
0.0	End Pipe	P102/8.0-3.0-END PIPE		8092420165	
8.0	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P102/8.0-2.95-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420056	
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P102/8.0-3.0-3B-EXT PIPE	18.5	8092420057	
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P102/8.0-3.0-3B-END PIPE	] [	8092420166	
	Injection Cap with 1" connection	P102/INJECTION CAP		8092420060	

## **Product listing**

Wall thickness (mm)	Part	Designation	Pipe Weight (kg/m)	Product Number	
max 10.0	Symmetrix Pilot Bit	P114/10-75-T38		8092401737	
	Starter Pipe Complete	P114/6.3-2.95-STARTER PIPE		8092420062	
	Extension Pipe	P114/6.3-3.0-EXT PIPE	16.8	8092420063	
	End Pipe	P114/6.3-3.0-END PIPE		8092420168	
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P114/6.3-2.95-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420066	
6.3	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/6.3-3.0-3B-EXT PIPE	16.8	8092420067	
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/6.3-3.0-3B-END PIPE		8092420169	
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P114/6.3-2.95-10B-STARTER PIPE		8092420068	
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/6.3-3.0-10B-EXT PIPE	16.8	8092420069	
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/6.3-3.0-10B-END PIPE		8092420170	
	Starter Pipe Complete	P114/7.1-2.95-STARTER PIPE		8092420070	
	Extension Pipe	P114/7.1-3.0-EXT PIPE	18.8	8092420071	
	End Pipe	P114/7.1-3.0-END PIPE		8092420145	
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P114/7.1-2.95-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420074	
7.1	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/7.1-3.0-3B-EXT PIPE	18.8	8092420075	
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/7.1-3.0-3B-END PIPE		8092420146	
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P114/7.1-2.95-10B-STARTER PIPE		8092420076	
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/7.1-3.0-10B-EXT PIPE	18.8	8092420077	
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/7.1-3.0-10B-END PIPE		8092420147	
	Starter Pipe Complete	P114/8.0-2.95-STARTER PIPE		8092420078	
	Extension Pipe	P114/8.0-3.0-EXT PIPE	21.0	8092420079	
	End Pipe	P114/8.0-3.0-END PIPE		8092420148	
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P114/8.0-2.95-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420082	
8.0	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/8.0-3.0-3B-EXT PIPE	21.0	8092420083	
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/8.0-3.0-3B-END PIPE		8092420149	
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P114/8.0-2.95-10B-STARTER PIPE		8092420084	
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/8.0-3.0-10B-EXT PIPE	21.0	8092420085	
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P114/8.0-3.0-10B-END PIPE		8092420150	
	Injection Cap with 1" ball valve	P114/INJECTION CAP BV		8092420094	
	Injection Cap with 1" connection	P11/INJECTION CAP		8092420154	

Wall thickness (mm)	Part	Designation	Pipe Weight (kg/m)	Product Number
max 10.0	Symmetrix Pilot Bit	P140/10-100-T45		8092402164
	Starter Pipe Complete	P140/7.1-1.3-STARTER PIPE		8092420102
	Extension Pipe	P140/7.1-1.5-EXT PIPE	23.2	8092420103
	End Pipe	P140/7.1-1.5-END PIPE		8092420155
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P140/7.1-1.3-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420104
7.1	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/7.1-1.5-3B-EXT PIPE	23.2	8092420105
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/7.1-1.5-3B-END PIPE		8092420156
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P140/7.1-1.3-10B-STARTER PIPE		8092420106
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/7.1-1.5-10B-EXT PIPE	23.2	8092420107
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/7.1-1.5-10B-END PIPE		8092420157
	Starter Pipe Complete	P140/8.0-1.3-STARTER PIPE		8092420114
	Extension Pipe	P140/8.0-1.5-EXT PIPE	26.0	8092420115
	End Pipe	P140/8.0-1.5-END PIPE		8092420158
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P140/8.0-1.3-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420116
8.0	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/8.0-1.5-3B-EXT PIPE	26.0	8092420117
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/8.0-1.5-3B-END PIPE		8092420159
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P140/8.0-1.3-10B-STARTER PIPE		8092420118
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/8.0-1.5-10B-EXT PIPE	26.0	8092420119
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/8.0-1.5-10B-END PIPE	1	8092420160
	Starter Pipe Complete	P140/10.0-1.3-STARTER PIPE		8092420120
	Extension Pipe	P140/10.0-1.5-EXT PIPE	32.0	8092420121
	End Pipe	P140/10.0-1.5-END PIPE		8092420171
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P140/10.0-1.3-3B-STARTER PIPE		8092420122
10.0	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/10.0-1.5-3B-EXT PIPE	32.0	8092420123
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/10.0-1.5-3B-END PIPE		8092420172
	Starter Pipe Complete with Injection Valves	P140/10.0-1.3-10B-STARTER PIPE		8092420124
	Extension Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/10.0-1.5-10B-EXT PIPE	32.0	8092420125
	End Pipe with Injection Valves	P140/10.0-1.5-10B-END PIPE		8092420173
	Injection Cap with 1" ball valve	P140/INJECTION CAP BV		8092420126
	Injection Cap with 1" connection	P140/INJECTION CAP		8092420161

## **Drill rods**

Depending on the diameter and thread of the shank adaptor, the determined pipe diameter and length, suitable drilling rods can be selected.

Suitable SPEEDROD for pipe roofing						
Description	Length (m)	Product code	Part number			
R32 SPEEDROD with Wrench Flat	3.1	203-2531-90-MF-C,02	90510130			
T38 SPEEDROD with Wrench Flat	1.8	235-2718-MF-C,02	90003065			
T38 SPEEDROD with Wrench Flat	3.1	235-2731-MF-C,02	90500630			
T38 SPEEDROD with Wrench Flat	3.7	235-2737-MF-C,02	90502628			
T45 SPEEDROD with Wrench Flat	1.5	236-2915-MF-C,02	90503039			
T45 SPEEDROD with Wrench Flat	3.1	236-2931-MF-C,02	90502249			

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