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ENGINEERS' CONNECTION

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EAGLE LOC 900 USED IN HDD PROJECT

Eagle Loc 900, JM Eagle's internal joint restraint product, reached new highs—and lows—recently when it was installed in a challenging horizontal direct drilling project.

The West Point, Iowa, sanitary force main job called for 2,800 feet of 4-inch Eagle Loc 900, as well as a high tolerance for less-than-perfect conditions. Heavy rains leading up to and including the project's first day made for wet and muddy soils.

"The job site was just a mess," says Brian Lang, JM Eagle area sales manager, who witnessed the installation. "But even in the adverse weather conditions we had to deal with, the pipe installation went incredibly smooth and fast."



The contractor attached an 8-inch reamer directly to the pulling head and pipe.

The Eagle Loc 900 was a material substitution on this project, replacing a specified product with external joint restraint.

"This was the first time I'd seen Eagle Loc 900," says Project Manager Jack Pope, of Gardener & Associates in Oskaloosa, Iowa, the engineer on the job. "Based on the specs I was provided, it appeared it would meet the requirements of the project."

The contractor buried the pipe 5 feet deep in 400-foot sections using an 8-inch reamer attached directly to the pulling head and pipe. The contractor chose not to pre-ream the hole due to the silty, sandy conditions with no visible rocks.

"The contractor said how easily the pipe seemed to pull and said he would be more than willing to reuse the product," says Lang. "He thought it was much easier than fighting the couplings and splines of the pipe originally specified."

Although the HDD application is fairly new to Eagle Loc 900, which was introduced in March, it is not new to the BullDog technology that provides the internal locking system. S&B Technical Products, the manufacturer of the BullDog, reports that internal joint restraint has been successfully used in HDD applications since 2006.

More installations of Eagle Loc 900 are underway throughout the country. For more stories about Eagle Loc 900 in the field, photos and video of projects, and video testimonials, keep checking back at www.jmeagle.com/eagleloc900.



The 4-inch Eagle Loc 900 was installed in 400-foot lengths.

To watch a video about Eagle Loc 900 or inquire, visit www.jmeagle.com/eagleloc900, or e-mail eagleloc900@jmeagle.com.