

Press Release from Atlas Copco Mining and Rock Excavation **Technique**

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Atlas Copco's new rugged PowerROC T50 drills the efficient point home

Atlas Copco South Africa sets the benchmark in the large top hammer market sector with the introduction of the PowerROC T50. High performance and penetration, quality holes, fuel efficient, durable, easy operation, safety and comfort - this drill rig ticks all the boxes and is the real deal in providing end-to-end drilling solutions to the African market.

The T50 has been specially built to meet the unforgiving conditions of the African continent head on. "Uncomplicated surface drilling technology meets Atlas Copco's superior quality design and engineering standards in this drill rig," states Hedley Birnie, Business Line Manager - Surface Exploration Drilling (SED) for Atlas Copco Mining and Rock Excavation Technique. "And the result of this perfect combination is a high performance, rugged and reliable machine that drills bigger holes faster, requires very little maintenance and maintains high production levels for lowest overall cost of ownership."

The straight forward modular design includes simplified hydraulic and electrical systems for easier operation and maintenance. "What makes the drill rig particularly attractive, especially in this tough economic climate, is its extremely fuel efficient capability," continues Birnie. The machine's effective management system allows for low fuel burn at full production, giving fuel burn as low as 27 litres per hour on large holes which, according to Birnie, "is unmatched by machines of similar size in the industry."

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The machine's Tier 3 diesel power pack delivers 261 kW at 1800 rpm and provides more tons per litre of fuel which has a direct and positive result on productivity "We have found a seamless balance between efficient operation and high performance while also caring for the environment by conforming to emission standards," notes Birnie.

The drill rig's high penetration capability comes from the powerful COP 3060 30kW hydraulic rock drill, a proven high performance unit in the Atlas Copco range. While output is dependent on mineral type and location, the drill rig/rock drill combination's output capabilities are extremely impressive, ranging from 200m/hr in medium rock (coal) to 70m/hr in hard rock. "Even in the most extreme environments and the hardest of mineral, the machine is capable of a remarkable 40m/hr," adds Birnie.

In terms of hole diameter, the machine is capable of remarkable power and output, drilling holes that range from 102 to 152mm in size and 35m in depth. When it comes to hole quality, the PowerROC T50 turns the large top hammer market on its head. The motor driven aluminium feed delivers a maximum feed rate of 0.7 m/s and achieves straighter and more consistent holes compared to a steel feed. The double dampening system ensures constant hole bottom contact. Hole quality is further assured by the constant and sufficient supply of air delivered by the Atlas Copco screw type air compressor. Furthermore, the optional COP Logic system gives antiplunging, anti-jamming, collaring, etc. for optimum hole quality.

Safety and comfort go hand in hand and here too, the PowerROC T50 does not fail to impress. A comfortable operator is a safe and productive operator; the ergonomically designed ROPS- and FOPS-certified cabin provides added operator comfort with great visibility and extra vibration dampers. All vital functions are at the operator's finger tips for excellent drilling control.

Weighing only 22.8 tons (without consumables), the compact drill rig's high ground clearance and tracks ensure easy maneuverability and transportation. The extendable boom system aids quick positioning. "All factors that contribute to keeping uptime to the max," adds Birnie.

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Delivering everything the customer, fleet owner or end user wants from a drill rig namely high performance, efficiency and availability, the T50 is designed to work anywhere in any industry to meet even the most demanding of drilling applications: Road building, trenching, construction, open pit mines as well as limestone, cement and aggregate quarries.

"Building on the quality and success of Atlas Copco's previous large top hammer range, the new PowerRoc T50 will enable us to secure a strong foothold in this lucrative market and gain significant market share to complement our other areas of business," concludes Birnie.

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Atlas Copco is a world-leading provider of sustainable productivity solutions. The Group serves customers with innovative compressors, vacuum solutions and air treatment systems, construction and mining equipment, power tools and assembly systems. Atlas Copco develops products and service focused on productivity, energy efficiency, safety and ergonomics. The company was founded in 1873, is based in Stockholm, Sweden, and has a global reach spanning more than 180 countries. In 2014, Atlas Copco had revenues of BSEK 94 (BEUR 10.3) and more than 44 000 employees. Learn more at www.atlascopco.co.za.

Atlas Copco Surface Drilling Equipment is a division within Atlas Copco's Mining and Rock Excavation Technique business area. It develops, manufactures, and markets rock drilling equipment and mobile crushers and screeners for various applications in civil engineering, quarries and open pit mines worldwide. The division focuses strongly on innovative product design and aftermarket support systems, which give added customer value. The divisional headquarters and main production center is in Örebro, Sweden.