

For the toughest terrain

Dando Drilling International's surface drilling fleet is fit for harsh conditions and remote areas

A Mintec 12.8 used for coal exploration in Indonesia

Dando has designed and sold its surface drilling machinery in the UK and throughout the world, particularly in Southeast Asia, Africa and South America. Its drilling rigs have been designed and built to operate in harsh conditions, hostile environments and areas where access can be very difficult.

Adaptability

Dando's range includes the Multitec 9000, Mintec 12.8, Watertec 40, Dando Terrier and, most recently, the Coretec 9000. Each has features that promote efficiency and safety. These include guards, remote-control tracking, automatic rod handlers (except the Terrier) and a drop in rotation torque when the guard is open.

Dando also seeks to utilise components that have local support, exemplified by use of CAT engines and Ingersoll compressors.

The multipurpose Multitec 9000 has been designed for use in mineral exploration, water-well, geotechnical investigation and geothermal drilling projects. It is capable of performing various techniques including RC (reverse circulation), RAB (rotary air blast), conventional mud, auger, diamond wire-line coring and SPT (standard penetration test).

With a pullback of 9000kgf, this rig incorporates new features such as remote umbilical tracking for easy tracking and control of the machine, a detachable and foldable mast section that can be fitted for the pulling of 6m drill rods, SPT swing in hammer attachment and an automatic rod handler.

Dando's rigs are designed to fit varied geological conditions. Its drilling engineers recently returned from a commissioning trip in Zambia. Purchased



for copper exploration, the Multitec 9000 was conducting wire-line core drilling using HQ rods in the Zambian bush. Mounted on tracks and with a small footprint, the Multitec 9000 is meant for drilling in remote areas of difficult access.

Dando Mintec rigs are used in different parts of the world to provide samples and data that will assist in the extraction of various mineral resources. The Mintec 12.8 has been used in Indonesia for decades.

Here the customers are typically completing 300-400m boreholes in a 20-hour shift. The Mintec 12.8 is a medium-sized multipurpose mineral-exploration drilling rig capable of different techniques, including RAB, deep wire-line coring and reverse circulation.

The rig is also available as a compact version that has smaller tracks and no compressor, or a heavy-duty version that has an increased pullback of 16,000kgf.

The Watertec 40 range of water-well drilling machines is used by aid agencies, government departments and contracting companies; several have lately been bought for major projects in west Africa.

Another rig available for surface drilling applications is the ultra-small, compact and versatile Dando Terrier.

The crawler-mounted Dando Terrier can be used for soil sampling and testing for geotechnical and environmental analysis. It has the option of rotary (for coring, open-hole, augering and DTH hammer applications) and percussive drilling, for undisturbed sampling duplex drive system, SPT and dynamic probe testing. The new features include a sampling hammer, front-mounted drilling controls, blow counter (only for the percussion mast) and quick-connect circuit.

Dando Terriers have been sold to two in Uganda and Namibia to conduct sampling

on open-pit uranium mine sites. The machines were equipped with drive-sampling masts to take window samples from 1-8m deep.

In Latin America, this rig is being used for blasting and undisturbed coring with DTH 3½in (88.9mm) tools. Other projects in the region include seismic drilling with auger or DTH equipment, geotechnical investigation and SPT. Dando has Terrier rigs operating in areas as diverse as Southeast Asia, South Africa, Greenland, Australia, Canada, South America and Europe.

The latest innovation

The Coretec 9000 is the latest machine in the mineral exploration range of rigs. This model, with a pullback capacity of 9000kgf, has been created for surface wire-line core drilling to depths of 1,500m (BQ).

Managing director of Dando Drilling International Martin Fitch-Roy says: "The Coretec 9000 has been launched as a lightweight, compact and cost-effective solution for core drilling to great depths in remote areas of limited space."

The Coretec 9000 is a further addition to Dando's range of 9,000kgf pullback capacity drilling rigs, which are designed to be robust, reliable and powerful while having a small footprint.

Dando drilling rigs have been used in a wide range of sectors, from coal exploration in Borneo to off-shore geotechnical in Venezuela, from mineral exploration in Zambia to core drilling and water-well drilling in Indonesia, and geotechnical investigation in Eritrea.

"Dando continues to work hard on the water-well and mineral exploration drilling sectors as well as putting more effort in the UK construction market which is growing at its fastest pace for six years," he says. ▽

"The Coretec 9000 is the latest machine in Dando's mineral exploration range of rigs"

A Dando Terrier used for site investigation in Oregon, US

