

# Owner Responsibilities in the Selection of TBMs

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## Presentation will cover

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- *Owner responsibilities*
- *TBM Procurement Approach*
  - Prescriptive vs. Performance
- *Survey of North American TBM rail projects*
  - Procurement methodologies
  - Review of 6 major rail tunnel projects
  - Characteristics of Project TBMs
  - Trends in North American TBM procurement

## TBM Contracting approach

- *Prescriptive*. Owner defines TBM type, defines major TBM characteristics, requires specific means and methods for tunneling
- *Mixed* - Some TBM and tunneling methods are defined by owner, but contractor has significant options to meet required tunneling performance
- *Performance*. TBM characteristics selected and machine procured by contractor. Performance requirements specified in contract documents

## Owner - Responsibilities

- Satisfy Public Policy
- Operate an Efficient System
- Plan for the Future
- Design & Construct New Facilities
- Manage Effectively - be Accountable



## **Owner - Resources**

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- **Owner's Managerial & technical staff**
- **Planning and Environmental Consultants**
- **Consulting Management Engineers**
- **Consulting Design Engineers**
- **Consulting Construction Managers**
- **Construction Contractors & Suppliers, including TBM manufacturers**

## **Owner - Management Approaches**

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1. **Owner's staff performs all management, engineering and construction management,**
2. **Active and expert Owner staff, supplemented by expert / production consultants,**
3. **Owner performs only oversight of consultants who execute all program management, detailed design and construction management**

## Owner - Considerations for TBMs

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- **Defined Baseline** - including Scope, Schedule, Budget, Quality and Public Policy statements
- **Tunneling sequences and drives**
- **Assessment of impact** - adjacent settlement
- **TBMs - Types and Characteristics**
- **TBMs - Procurement Strategy**
- **TBMs - Operational means & methods**
- **Risk analysis, management and mitigation**

## TBMs - Types & Characteristics

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- *Basic machines* - Open or with some face support such as tables, breasting plates or doors, mechanized material removal
- *Intermediate machines* - Fully adjustable face support capability, integrated/mechanized erection and grouting systems
- *Advanced* - EPBM, Slurry, closed and/or convertible TBMs, automated operations

## TBM Procurement Strategy

- *Risk strategy*
  - Owner assumes most risk or,
  - Shift most risk to contractor
- *Design Capability*
  - Level of technical expertise, for the owner and consultants
- *Market history*
  - Contractor expertise and cost, schedule, quality performance
  - Prevalence of disputes, claims and litigation



## Key factors in TBM selection

- *Risk strategy*
  1. *Owner takes risk - more Prescriptive Approach.*  
Minimize bidding unknowns to lower bid cost.  
Owner substantially involved in construction.
  2. *Owner shares risk - Balanced approach.*  
Decisions made by most capable party
  3. *Owner moves risk - Performance Approach.*  
Places trust in technical capabilities and goodwill of engineers and contractor

## Goals & Objectives

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- *Owner.*  
Project is completed on time, within budget, and satisfies all performance and policy requirements
- *Engineer.*  
Good design, controlled costs, satisfaction and recognition, reputation enhanced, future work
- *Contractor.*  
Trouble-free and profitable job, no claims or litigation, project leads to future work

## Management Factors

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- *It is very difficult to to satisfy the goals and objectives of all parties*
- It is necessary to achieve fairness and equity
- This requires good, well thought-out, strategic and risk management plans
- This is the owner's responsibility
- The underground industry is not good at early pro-active long-range strategic planning

## Survey Intent, Rail TBM Projects

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- Review project characteristics
- Review TBM types
- Review TBM sophistication
- Identify trends in North American TBM tunnel projects
- Categorize issues and best practices for future rail TBM tunneling projects

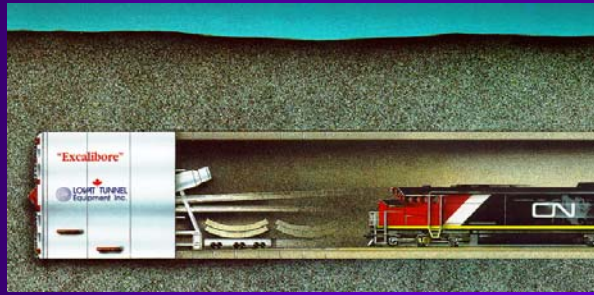
## Survey Covered

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- Characterization of 6 major North American rail/transit TBM projects
- Level of TBM definition
- Procurement Methodologies
- Trends - North American TBM procurement

## St. Clair River Tunnel

- Railroad Tunnel under St. Clair river between Sarnia Canada and Port Huron USA.
- Minimum cover under river 4.6 m
- 9.5 m EPBM



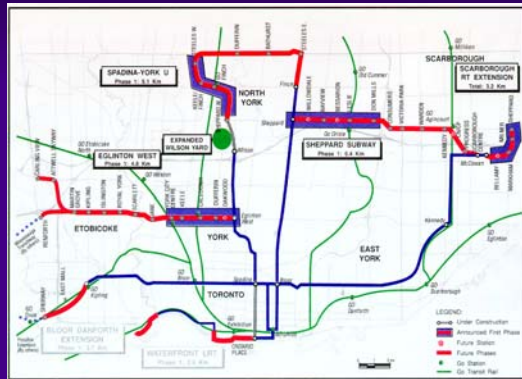
## St. Clair River Tunnel

- Full Prescriptive Approach - TBM defined by owner with design consultants.
- Owner directly procured TBM and tunnel liners, with anticipated spares for problems
- First Negotiated Compressed Procurement process in the United States/Canada
- Adopted to save time and manage risk
- Contractors had TBM design input, tendered for TBM operation and liner installation



## TTC Toronto - RTEP

- Total program \$5 BCn
- Initial phase \$1.5 BCn
- Includes Sheppard, Eglinton and Spadina extension.
- Strong management planning and local economic initiative



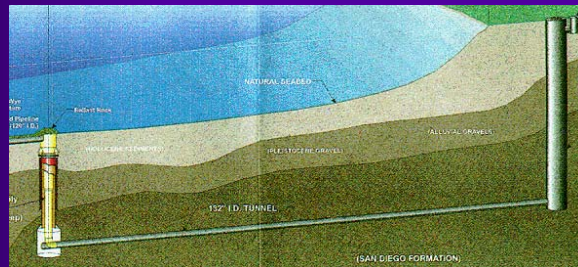
## TTC Toronto - RTEP

- Full Prescriptive Approach - machine and tunnel liners defined and procured by owner
- Owner is Toronto Transit Commission
- Includes strong local economic stimulation
- Approach used to save time, reduce unit cost of machines over multiple projects, ensure TBM availability, boost local economy



## San Diego Outfall Tunnel

- 5.8 km long 3.3 m diameter outfall tunnel under the Pacific Ocean south of San Diego
- Strong seismic area, 15 active faults
- High internal and external water pressure, (7 bar)



## San Diego Outfall Tunnel

- Mixed procurement - high level of detail specified by owner / consultants with significant input from world-wide TBM manufacturers
- High external water pressure
- Partnering used to refine TBM and liner design
- Sophisticated EPBM with extensive provision for grouting / ground control

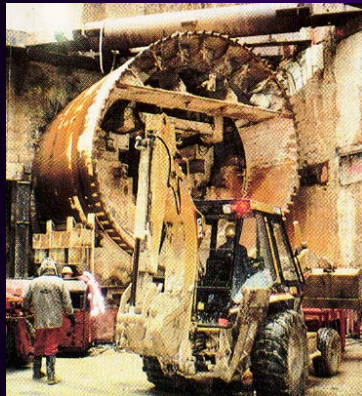


## Washington Metro - WMATA

- 165 km mile transit system, 48% underground
- Many ground conditions, and tunnel types - digger shields, EPBMs, NATM
- Performance approach, with specific requirements including grouting, TBM basic characteristics



## Washington Metro - TBMs



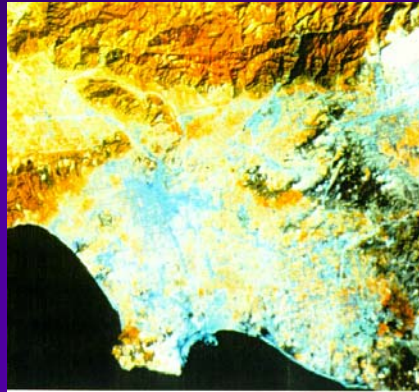
Elgood-Mayo open-face digger shield



6.45m Open/EPB TBM - Contract F6c

## Los Angeles Transit Program

- \$72.4 Billion / 150 km transit program
- 41% tunnel - 61.5 km
- Alluvial sands, silts and gravels, rock tunnel thru mountains
- Significant hydrocarbons
- High seismic levels



## Los Angeles Transit Tunnels

- Segment 1 tunnels completed without significant tunneling problems
- Segment 2 problems in contract B-251
- Segment 3 will specify more sophisticated positive face control machines



## Los Angeles - Previous Approach

- Standard North American industry practice - Performance based approach, specifying some TBM and some ground protection requirements
- Award to lowest responsible bidder
- Few settlement problems until contract B-251
- Eisenstein/Parker/Martin study found tunnel performance “equal to or slightly better than worldwide performance”
- Tunnel costs low compared world-wide

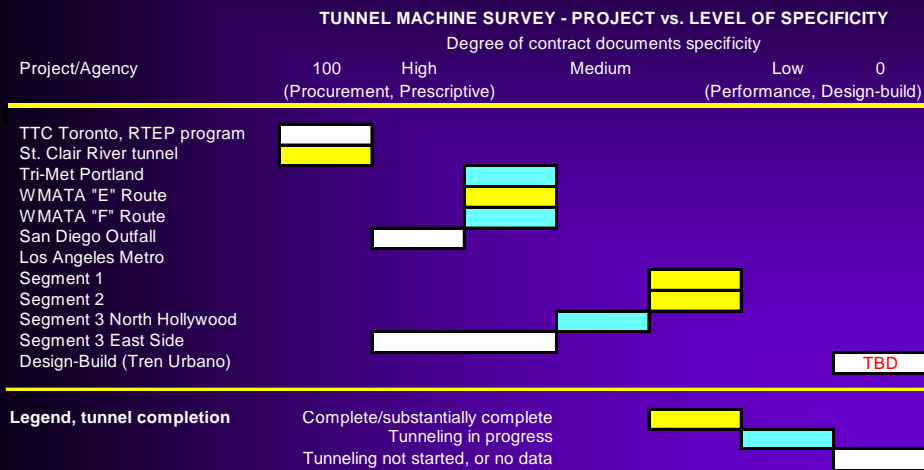
## Los Angeles MRL Segment 3 East Side - Recommendations

- Require TBMs with positive face control
- Machines should be capable of operating in open mode for competent ground (Puente formation) and closed in less-competent alluvial soils
- Decision to operate in open or closed mode decided by MTA considering risk
- Ground control established as the governing design and construction criteria
- Defined monitoring / interpretation requirements

## Survey / project summary

- *Full prescription approach, with direct procurement of TBMs and tunnel liners:*
  - *St. Clair, RTEP Toronto*
- *High level of detail specified by owner, TBM and linings procured by contractor:*
  - *San Diego, Washington, Portland*
- *Mixed Approach - Los Angeles*
- *Performance approach - all others*
- *Design-build - Tren Urbano Puerto Rico*

## TBM Survey - Summary



## Advantages / Disadvantages

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- *Prescriptive.* Owner defines TBM type, defines major TBM characteristics, requires specific means and methods for tunneling
- *Performance.* TBM characteristics selected and machine procured by contractor. Performance requirements specified in contract documents

## Advantages - Prescriptive

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- Schedule gain possible, perhaps 6-12 months if machine is procured by owner in advance
- Reduced contractor contingency on TBM
- TBM reflects all owner/engineer requirements
- More time to define machine requirements
- Ground stabilization defined by owner
- Responsibility clear for changed conditions
- No uncertainty about owner's responsibility

## **Disadvantages - Prescriptive**

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- **Owner is responsible for all TBM problems**
- **Contractor claims difficulties - “its the Owner’s TBM”**
- **Contractor must maintain Owner’s TBM**
- **Owner most clearly responsible to all parties**
- **Owner more responsible for claims / litigation**
- **Specifications must deal with maintenance, tunneling methodologies, production issues**

## **Advantages - Performance**

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- **Owner has less responsibility for TBM operation**
- **Owner procurement of TBM not required**
- **Contractor chooses TBM to suit his operations**
- **Project cash-flow reduced**
- **Number of TBMs can be decided by contractor**
- **TBM maintenance and production trade-offs are determined by contractor**
- **TBM removal and disposal by contractor**



## Disadvantages - Performance

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- Owner has reduced input to TBM type, design and operating characteristics
- TBM is “low-bid” - satisfies minimums only
- May get unsuitable machine for ground conditions - adds cost and delay
- Owner usually still “approves” machine - takes some responsibility for selection
- Disagreements result in job problems, including more disputes, claims and litigation

## TBM Survey - Conclusions

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- Public “Low-bid” requirements cause contractors to select lower technology TBMs
- Owners are now more sensitive to settlement, tunneling rates and public, media and politics
- Owners move to more sophisticated TBMs if they consider risk/cost trade-offs and litigation
- Trend to more detailed specifications by owners, with consultants. Contractor must be responsible for “means and methods”
- More teamwork / strategic approach required