



The Buzz

E-Newsletter

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Recently, in Chofu City (a satellite of Tokyo), a sonic drill was used in a test program to check the effectiveness of a geothermal installation that would be used to heat and cool an outbuilding near the main facility of the American School in Japan (ASIJ).

Officially founded in 1902, the American School in Japan was started by a dynamic group of women who recognized the need for a school amongst a growing foreign community. Today, with 15,000 students hailing from approximately 40 countries, the vast majority of ASIJ enrollees and their families find themselves in Tokyo on temporary assignment.

The school community provides a multicultural haven – one rich in the arts, athletics, and academics – with classes conducted in English and following a curriculum largely drawn from the United States. Japanese host culture also enriches the school and provides opportunities for learning, both in language classes and through academic and experiential learning opportunities.

In the ASIJ project, the sonic drill, licenced by the Sonic Drill Corporation and manufactured by its Japanese partner, Toa-Tone Boring Co. Ltd., was used to drill to 100 meters (330 feet). In addition, quad geo loops were installed in each hole. By installing two 1" geothermal loops per hole, the equivalent of drilling two holes for a total of more than 600 ft. was achieved on each hole.

Throughout this project, the sonic drill performed superbly and the client was delighted with the results.

The World's Largest Reserves

According to a recent Reuters new story, Japan is sitting on enough untapped geothermal power to replace all its planned nuclear stations over the next decade. But, it has no plans to harness its estimated 23.5 gigawatts (GW) in geothermal potential -- other than to develop hot springs.

Geothermal energy, which in Asia struggles under limited government and funding support, is likely to attract future interest as the country rethinks nuclear power following the crisis at Fukushima.

Straddling the seismic Pacific Ring of Fire, Asia's geothermal reservoirs are among the world's largest. Indonesia alone holds 40 per cent of the world's total reserves but less than four per cent is being developed, leaving the sector wide open for growth.

Extreme Drilling Project — Siberia



Award-winning sonic drill rigs, patented and built by the Sonic Drill Corporation, have worked efficiently and profitably on thousands of drilling projects around the world.

Take a look at one extreme project below that put sonic drilling technology to the test!

Extreme Project Snapshot

Who: Kondyor Mine, Russia

What: A platinum mine that has been in operation for more than 20 years.

Where: Sonic drill shipped into Vladivostok port (Russia) and then transported 1400 km north into Siberia.

Why: Continuous sampling program to 100' maximum in extreme permafrost.

Job Outcomes

- Produced large 8" diameter core samples
- Drilled and sampled six holes in six days.
- Geologists very happy with samples and quality.
- Platinum discovered at six meters (never done before).

Challenges

- Extreme cold
- Limited water supply
- Cracked and freezing support equipment
- Extreme ground conditions

2011 NGWA Ground Water Expo — Nov. 29 to Dec. 02

View a sonic drill up close in Las Vegas!



Want to get your hands on a sonic drill? Here's your chance! Come visit booth #1229 at the 2011 NGWA Ground Water Expo, held in Las Vegas from November 29 to December 02.

The Sonic Drill Corporation will have one of its latest models — the SDC-390 — on display for the first time. Take advantage of this opportunity to see a crawler rig up close, ask questions from the manufacturer and learn how this technology can increase your business and profit margins.

SDC-390 Specifications

With its agile smaller size, lighter footprint and lower price, the launch of the SDC-390 has created a buzz with buyers who previously thought a sonic drill rig was out of reach.

The SDC-390 has the same award-winning patented technology but applied to a crawler rig that easily fits within a 20 ft. container which reduces the cost of shipping by two-thirds.

The new model quickly drills through a variety of formations to more than 250 feet, using water for flushing. It can handle drill tooling up to 12" in diameter and tilt up to 60 degrees.

Powered by a Caterpillar 6-cyl. diesel engine, the SDC-390 produces 225 HP [168 KW] @ 2200 RPM. With its smaller size, the SDC-390 can be towed behind on a variety of platforms, remain street legal and, in most cases, be driven by someone with a lower class driver's licence.