

**COMUNICAÇÃO TÉCNICA** 

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Seismic monitoring during the excavation of a shallow NATM tunnel using the plasma blasting method

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# Seismic Monitoring During the Excavation of a Shallow NATM Tunnel Using the Plasma Blasting Method

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### Introduction



#### Densely urbanized environment



Geotechnical monitoring



#### Shallow NATM tunnel



#### Seismic monitoring



# Localization

- Jurubatuba Street
- São Bernardo do Campo
- Metropolitan Region of São Paulo, Brazil



### **The Tunnel**

- 960 m long •
- Circular shape
- Steel ribs, wire mesh, spiles, shotcrete
- Tassometers, piezometers, settlement markers, monument pins



### The Tunnel

• Four fronts and two shafts



Projection, in the plan, of the tunnel and shafts 1 and 2 (red line); the location of fragmentation u plasma technology (black circle); and the RM-16 Reservoir (yellow)



# **Geological and Geotechnical Caracterization**

- Embu Complex
- Alluvial sediments
- Water Level



### **The Plasma Blasting Method**



#### Holes bored in the rock



Capsules triggered by electrical currents



#### Energy accumulator

# **The Plasma Blasting Method**

#### PLASMA TECHNOLOGY vs. BLASTING BY EXPLOSIVES

- Low volume of gases generated
- Attenuation of the peak particle velocity (PPV) as a function of the distance
- High vibration frequency of particles due to the blasting
- Attenuation of the occurance of flyrock fragments and noise generation



### **The Plasma Blasting Method**



### 16 to 18 holes 1.6 m depth



4 channels 20 ms delay



#### Hydraulic breaker





#### SUBTITLE

- IPT'S SEISMOGRAPHS INSTALLED ON THE SURFACE (JURUBATUBA STREET)
- IPT'S SEISMOGRAPHS INTALLED ON THE CAST CONCRETE ARCH (INSIDE THE TUNNEL)
- BOREHOLES LOCALIZATION (INSIDE THE TUNNEL).





Seismograph S-19



Seismograph S-22



Seismograph S-18

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Seismograph S-24

- Trigger value of 0.5 mm/s (perceptual limit by people)
- Technical Standard: DIN 4150, NBR 9653 and CETESB D07.013



### **Results**

Event	Sism.	fT	fV	fL	PVS	D
		(Hz)	(Hz)	(Hz)	(mm/s)	<b>(m)</b>
1	S-18	25.6	(17.1)	30.1	1.39	22.7
	S-19	>100	>100	>100	2.54	7.8
	S-20	>100	>100	>100	1.85	3.2
	S-21	-	~~	-	-	41.3
	S-22	22.3	(18.3)	36.6	0.70	25.4
	S-24	24.4	21.3	25.6	1.46	20.5
2	S-21	22.3	19.7	30.1	1.85	29.0
	S-22	17.1	22.3	36.6	3.11	22.5
3	S-18	46.5	(16.5)	42.7	2.12	21.6
	S-19	17.1	34.1	13.8	7.35	4.7
	S-20	73.1	>100	>100	3.66	8.7
	S-21	32.0	23.3	30.1	1.87	27.7
	S-22	42.7	24.4	51.2	2.09	22.4
	S-24	30.1	25.6	42.7	2.88	20.5
4	S-18	51.2	56.9	56.9	4.03	22.1
	S-19	>100	>100	85.3	6.51	6.4
	S-21	39.4	19.0	24.4	1.48	25.8
	S-22	46.5	26.9	46.5	1.81	22.1
	S-24	34.1	32.0	46.5	2.29	20.3

- unregistered, because particle velocity fell short of the seismograph recording trigger (below 0.5 mm/s) D (m): shortest distance, in meters, between the region of the holes drilled inside the tunnel for insertion of the plasma capsules and the position of the respective seismograph. Was considered, obligatory, the particle trajectory through the tunnel support and the soil/rock mass.



### Results

The prevalance of PVS was between 1.4 mm/s and 2.3 mm/s (64% of monitored events)





### **Results**





### Conclusions

- Plasma blasting technology was adequate for the excavation of shallow NATM tunnel in densely urbanized area
- The limits established in the Project and in Technical Standards were integrally obeyed
- Two main points:
  - The control of vibration frequencies
  - The protection against flyrock fragments
- Adaquate rock drilling machinery
- Constant geotechnical and seismic monitoring during the excavation



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