

Project Berchtesgaden:

New sludge pressure pipeline in salt mine



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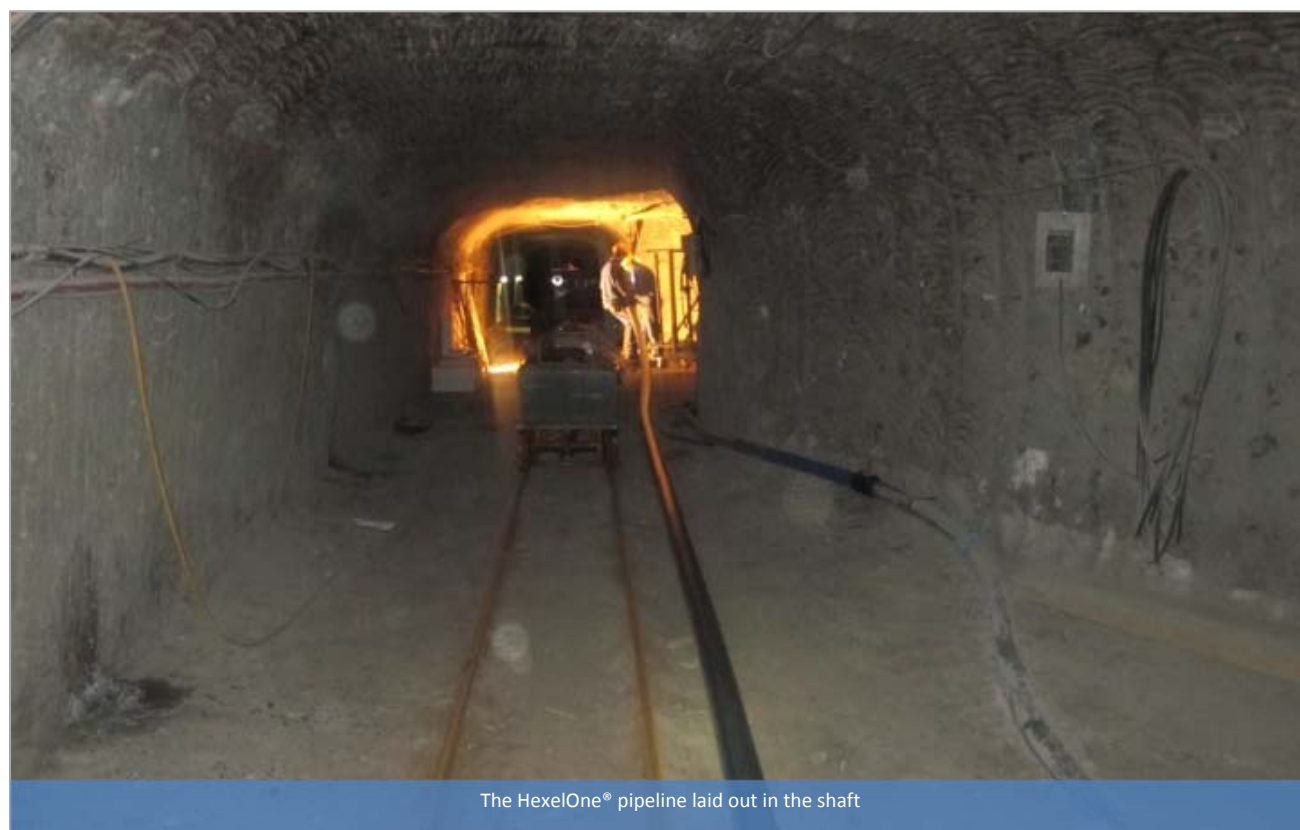
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Project data:	
Project description:	Replacement of a steel pipeline damaged by corrosion used to transport saline sludge at operating pressures of up to 40 bar
Challenges:	Economical, fast installation that prevents future corrosion damage
Solution:	HexelOne® drinking water pipes in coils up to 100 m
Installation:	Free installation in the utility shafts
Pipe material used:	HexelOne® TW 110 x 10.0 in coils
Parties involved in the project:	Südsalz GmbH, Maintenance Department, Berchtesgaden salt mine



Welding the HexelOne® coils

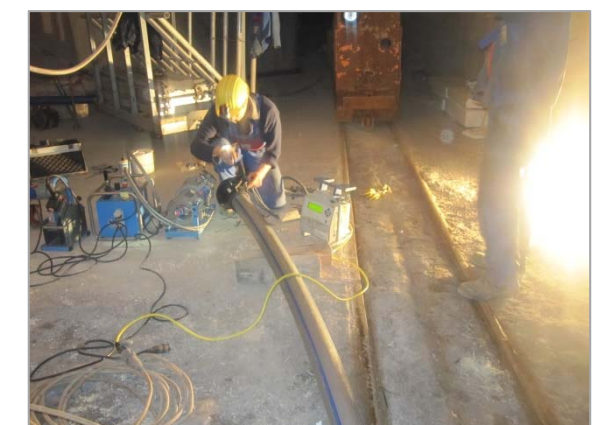


The HexelOne® pipeline laid out in the shaft

The Berchtesgaden salt mine has been operating continuously since 1517. Salt deposits have been found up to 300 m below the valley floor in the area of the salt mine.

Here salt is not found in a pure form, but is enclosed in a salt rock called "Haselgebirge". This hybrid rock contains an average 50% salt. It is dissolved from the rock with the aid of freshwater using a wet mining procedure. Currently 20 modern so called drill rinsing plants are in operation on five mining levels. Around 600,000 m³ of brine are conveyed annually for which 1,700 m³ freshwater is required every day.

The salt mine employs approximately 100 staff, half of whom work underground. (Source: Südsalz) The brine with its 24% salt content is conveyed to Bad Reichenhall where the salt is leached from the brine. Secondary salts also occur here which are returned to the mine via a pipeline following a treatment process. In order to increase the service life of this pipeline, a HexelOne® pipeline was deployed here for the first time. The high pressure resistance of the HexelOne® pipeline as well as the corrosion-resistance of the PE material make HexelOne® the ideal choice for this very special application. •



Consulting:



The selection of plastic pipe materials and systems for underground installation has extremely long-term implications. Designed for a service-life of several generations, pipelines are scarcely accessible for retrospective modification once they have been installed:

- High-value surface occur
- Building construction follows underground activities
- Repair costs in case of damage can be a multiple of the original investment amount
- Diversion of traffic and blocking of roads is scarcely possible with today's high traffic densities

For these reasons, planners, project clients and operators of piping systems are confronted with the challenge of gathering the best possible knowledge of the potentials and limitations of pipe materials before a decision is made. In addition, the costs for underground engineering must also be taken into account. Actual pipe-system costs rarely make up more than 15 % of total costs, whereas the underground work and restoration of the surface account for 85 % or more. The use of trenchless installation methods thus presents significant cost-reduction potentials.

The egeplast team of consultants will be happy to help you in every decision-making phase.

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