



The Houghton Luxury Apartments Phase 3 construction site

Cutting-edge technology for core drilling

Advanced diamond-based technology ensures pinpoint accuracy in core drilling for plumbing projects and other industrial concrete cutting.

New technology which places diamond grids with precision into three-dimensional patterns on to core drill segments, in order to ensure the maximum performance of tools, has been recently introduced to the South African market by Diamond Products.

Known as ARIX Technology, diamonds are aligned in an almost grid-like system; thereby allowing for consistent drilling speeds. In industry-standard tools, the diamonds are mixed randomly throughout the surface – which results in significant wear-and-tear, owing to the fact that different areas of the surface end up carrying inconsistent workloads. With the alignment of diamonds in separate



ARIX diamond-based technology ensures pinpoint accuracy in core drilling

rows, ARIX Technology ensures that each diamond carries precisely the same workload – which ultimately extends the lifespan of the tool, and allows for quicker and more accurate drilling.

Furthermore, the technology has been proven to increase the lifespan of diamond tools by 400%, while achieving cutting speeds of twice the industry-standard.

South African Builder visited the Houghton Luxury Apartments Phase 3 construction site to meet up with Henry Dippenaar, contracts director for Q&A Coring, Cutting & Scanning. Q&A are using Diamond Products' new offering of ARIX core bit segments for precision drilling of plumbing cores throughout the building.

"This new cutting technology enables us to drill 60 160 mm diameter cores per week," says Dippenaar.

"In total we have about 460 cores to drill on this project, making speed, efficiency and accuracy of the core cutting a critical aspect of the contract."



ARIX cutting technology is the ideal solution in construction projects where steel-reinforced concrete has to be cut

Q&A was established in 2000 and has become a leader in the field of specialised industrial cutting using diamond tools and the latest equipment and application technology.

According to Diamond Products' director Brian Clark, clients are now given the option to re-tip their existing core barrels with ARIX core bit segments. Clark points out that ARIX Technology is only applied to the higher-end of Diamond Products' range of equipment, which is custom-built for the most challenging tasks.

"ARIX Technology is the ideal solution in construction projects, where steel-reinforced concrete has to be cut or drilled for plumbing and HVAC installations. The technology is also ideal for mining applications, where hard materials such as banded ironstone and quartz have to be cut." ■