



BREAKING NEW GROUND



REGION:

Alvarado, Texas

SCOPE OF ENGINE USE:

Cat® C9.3B U.S. EPA Tier 4 Final Industrial Engine

DEALER:

Holt Cat

WEBSITE:

tesmec.com



FEATURED TOPICS:

Industrial Engines

LAYING IT ON THE LINE

Oil and gas pipelines. Telecommunications networks. Energy cables. Fiberoptic lines. Sewer and drainage pipes. What do contractors working on such a diverse set of projects have in common? They all perform “linear excavation” — or in layman’s terms, trench digging. And many rely on high-powered Tesmec tracked trenchers to get that job done safely and cost-effectively.

Tesmec launched its first trencher, the TRS 1000, in 1984. Equipped with a chainsaw attachment, it quickly became the tool of choice for operations digging through everything from soil to hard rock, everywhere from the desert to the frozen tundra. That’s because a trencher performs two jobs: cutting the trench and removing the material. And that saves time and money compared to bringing two different machines on site.

Over the years, Tesmec expanded its trencher fleet and added different digging attachments. The original chainsaw delivers a wide cut ideal for pipelines, while the rocksaw attachment is better suited for narrower fiberoptic or cable line projects. A bucket attachment works best in dirt and generally is used on larger, cross-country pipeline jobs.

Most of Tesmec’s trenchers feature Cat® industrial engines, and in 2020 the company transitioned its 1075 model, a high-productivity trencher popular for pipeline construction in dirt and light rocky soils, to the Cat C9.3B U.S. EPA Tier 4 Final engine.

ROCK SOLID PERFORMANCE

At the top of a pipeline or utility contractor’s must-have list is durability. Ground conditions on site are tough and variable with dust, dirt and loose rock flying. If a trencher goes down, the job grinds to a halt. Tesmec prides itself on offering trenchers — machine, attachments and engine — that outlast the competition. “We promote ourselves as the best on the market, so we only use the best components. That’s why we’ve chosen Cat engines for most of our equipment for 30 years,” says Matt Ecord, Tesmec’s service manager.

Punching above its weight. Another priority for pipeline and utility contractors is keeping hauling costs down. They prefer a lightweight machine that's easy to transport from site to site but aren't willing to sacrifice power to get it. With the Cat C9.3B powering the Tesmec 1075 trencher, they don't have to. "This machine offers the perfect combination of power and weight," says Inessa Kisin, project engineer at Tesmec. "It's powerful enough at 375 horsepower and lightweight enough to be transported in one piece."

The right solution under the hood. Maintaining that power-to-weight ratio while making the transition to a Tier 4 Final engine was critical. Because the 1075 is more compact than Tesmec's other trenchers, space inside the engine compartment is limited. The engineering team originally spec'd the C9.3, but when Cat dealer Holt Cat introduced them to the newer C9.3B, which features a smaller emissions module, they quickly made the switch. "They're dealing with under-hood restrictions, and the C9.3B was a better option as far as size, weight and air flow," says Chris Cox, Engineering Sales Representative with Holt Cat.

Support that sets the standard. The first 1075 trenchers with C9.3B engines rolled off the factory line in 2020, and reports from the field are positive — with every machine hitting its expected production targets. And Tesmec knows they can count on the Cat dealer network to respond fast if questions or issues do arise. "Everybody is happy when they open up the hood and see a Cat engine inside, because they know support is never far away. We have had no issues with downtime due to Cat support," Ecord says.



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LET'S DO THE WORK.™

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