



Frankenallee in Frankfurt

A drinking water pipeline: NRM-Netzdienste decides in favour of BLS® pipes

In Frankfurt am Main, there is a 17.4 kilometre long DN 700 drinking water pipeline of gray cast iron pipes that was laid between 1920-1940 that needs to be replaced section by section. During the preliminary planning, the hydraulic calculations revealed that optimum operation could be ensured by reducing the nominal size to DN 400. The background to the outcome of the preliminary work is as follows: In Germany, the consumption of drinking water by the population and industry is falling. For this reason, a reduction in the hydraulic cross-section of a pipeline is often advantageous to operators because the speed of flow of the water is raised and the time for which the drinking water remains in the pipeline is shortened, which often prevents hygiene problems. As part of this overall operation, a 1,300 metre long section of the old pipeline is first being replaced on the Frankenallee, which runs parallel to the Mainzer Landstraße in Frankfurt's Gallus district. The customer, NRM-Netzdienste Rhein-Main GmbH, decided to use ductile BLS® pipes for this. "The main reason for this", Heinz-Jörg Weimer of BGW's sales office in Frankfurt tells us, "was that in previous operations the experience that NRM-Netzdienste had with our drinking water pipes had been good. Added to this was the fact that the preference was to use the relining technique for the Frankenallee section as, incidentally, it had also been for other laying operations on the Alleenring road. For all pipelines that do not have many changes of direction or lateral connections, replacement by this technique is always more economical than relaying in open trenches. This is particularly true of runs of pipeline below paved or macadamized surfaces or in built-up areas, as is the case here on the Frankenallee. Another 800 metres of DN 400 pipes are by the way shortly going to be laid on the Friedberger Landstraße."

