

BKW, Inc.

Portable Trench Box

BKW announces another advancement in buoyancy control for pipelines. The most efficient means for buoyancy control on large diameter pipelines has been the use of auger anchors. On 36" pipelines an auger anchor set will replace five 9,000-pound weights or sacks. The problem has been men in the ditch to install the anchors. This has caused the ditch cost to increase as a result of providing a FERC ditch.

BKW has developed a Portable Trench Box to provide a safe environment for the men in the ditch. It consists of a fabricated box designed to straddle the pipe and equipped with a walkway and gang plank (see picture1). This allows the men to go into the box from the bank and climb down to do the anchor installation. The box is transported from anchor site to anchor site by the anchor installation backhoe.



Picture 1



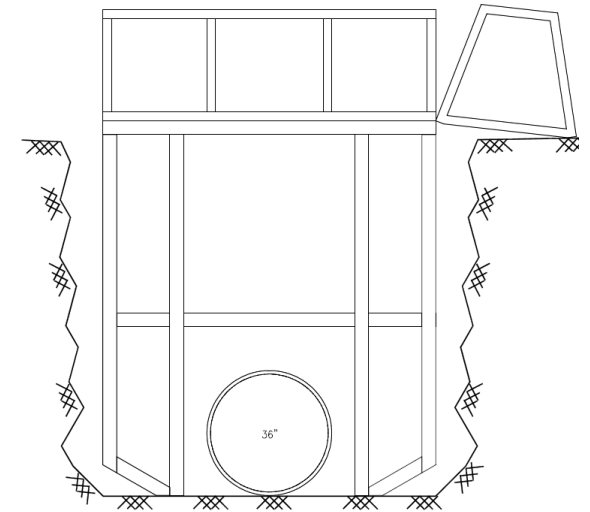
Picture 2

The particular box shown was designed to install anchors on a 30" plastic pipeline located in a swamp. The box was equipped with a 30" strap to sink the plastic pipe to the bottom of the ditch (see picture 2 & 3). Divers were required to attach the strap to the anchors. All anchors were pull tested and recorded using the BKW patented anchor installation tool mounted on a swamp buggy. Since divers were required, the walkway and gang plank were removed.



Picture 3

Sketch 100 shows the portable box on dry land. The width of ditch is equal to or less than the ditch required for sacks or weights and ditch depth is the same as cross country pipeline requirements.



Sketch 100

If you need buoyancy control,
please give us a call.

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