

# GEA SITE INVESTIGATION FACTSHEET

## No 1: Cable Percussion Drilling



Cable percussion, or shell and auger, drilling is the most commonly used technique for drilling and sampling soils where we require geotechnical design parameters and good quality undisturbed samples.

The equipment is simple and relatively easy to maintain and is suitable for drilling in all types of soils and weak rocks. In the hands of a competent and experienced driller the equipment provides a rapid and cost-effective method of investigation to depths of up to 60 m.

The rig is driven by a diesel engine and when erected requires a working headroom of about 6 m and a working area of about 3 m by 8 m. The tripod folds down to form a simple trailer that is towed by a four-wheel drive vehicle, meaning that most positions with reasonable level and clear access can be reached.



The borehole is cased as required to maintain stability and prevent ground water inflows and undisturbed samples and Standard Penetration Tests (SPTs) can be carried out in the boreholes. On completion gas or ground water monitoring standpipes can be installed in the borehole.

As the drilling method is percussive there is some noise during drilling, both from the diesel winch and for example from the driving of casings. The method is relatively tidy and spoil and water can be readily contained within the working area. On completion the 150 mm or 200 mm diameter borehole is backfilled and the surfacing reinstated, leaving little or no disturbance to the working area.

For further information on this or any of our wide range of ground investigation solutions please contact one of our three offices.

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