Engineering
Excellence
Underwater

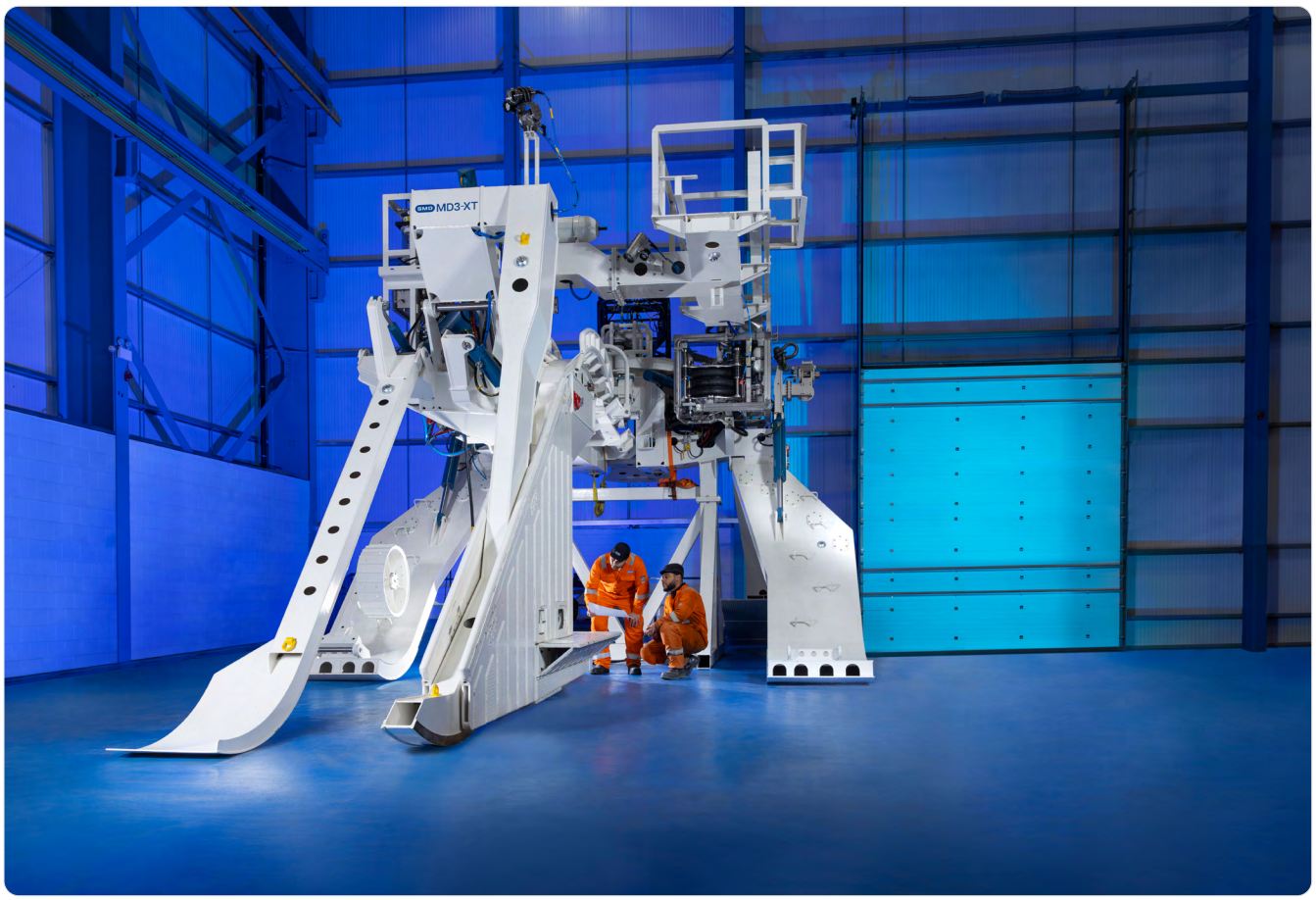
SMD MD3®

Maximum plough stability and minimum cable handling

Minimal vessel fuel consumption

Flexibility to prioritise fuel consumption or speed

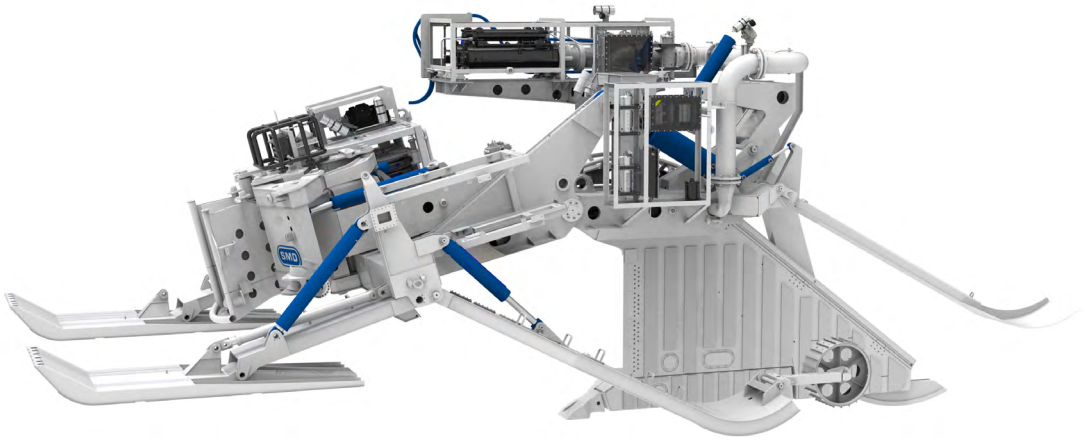
True 3m burial for maximum cable protection



The industry standard cable plough.

As the original subsea cable burial tool the SMD MD3 plough range is recognised globally as setting the standard in cable ploughing. Approximately 90% of the world's subsea telecoms cables have been buried using SMD equipment.

- Maximum plough stability and minimum cable handling afforded by the unique multi-depth hinged chassis design
- Minimal vessel fuel consumption due to low friction share design
- Choose to further minimise vessel fuel consumption or maximise ploughing speed in a wide range of soils with jetting feature
- True 3m burial for maximum cable protection



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SMD MD3®
Product Specifications

GENERAL	MD3®	MD3-XT®
Type	Telecoms	
Depth rating	2000 msw	
DIMENSIONS		
Length	9.1 m	9.5 m
Width	5.1 m	5.5 m
Height	4.4 m	5.1 m
Weight in air	22.0 Te	23.5 Te
Submerged weight	19.0 Te	21.0 Te
Max continuous tow load	80 Te	80 Te/65 Te
PERFORMANCE		
Trench depth	3 m	3.3 m
Max cable diameter	Up to 160 mm	
Cable bend radius	1.5 m	
Max repeater diameter	380 mm	
MECHANICAL		
Construction	High strength steel chassis	
Wear parts	Replaceable wear-resistant steel	
Other	Stainless steel fittings and housings	
TRENCHING SYSTEM		
Configuration	Asymmetrical narrow share with repeater burial flaps to temporarily widen trench	
Front jet tool	For use in specific soil conditions	
Aggressive share tip	For operations in harder ground	
XT share extension	N/A	3.3 m trench depth designed for 3.0 m cover
Jetting	Up to 2× 265 kW as required	
TOOLING		
Cable cutter	Yes	
Cable clamp	Yes	
Cable grapnel	Yes	
INSTRUMENTS		
Instrumentation suite available	Yes	
Surveillance Suite available	Yes	
CONTROL CABIN		
Standard	Vessel integrated or housed in A60 containers	
Umbilical system	Non-buoyed umbilical cable on a rendering winch	
DECK EQUIPMENT OPTIONS		
Typical LARS System	Wide-angle A-Frame 35 Te SWL. Allows handling and towing of plough on a single wire	
HPU	2× 150 kW	
Tow winch	80 Te render, 35 Te lift	
Umbilical winch	8 Te render	
SMD ARTEMIS™ CABLE TRACKING		
Detection Range		
Passive	Up to 10 m	
Active	Up to 5 m	
Vertical measurement accuracy	+/-5% plus 5 cm	
Depth rating	2000 m	
OTHER		
Best for	Reliable trenching in most soils including clays and sands	
SMD Horizon® ready?	Yes	

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SMD Customisation Service

In order to meet your specific requirements SMD can customise our vehicles using our range of standard components to suit your preference and performance requirements.

24/7 Support

Our world-class product range is backed by 24/7 support from our best-in-class SMD Support Services team, because our commitment to you doesn't stop when our product is delivered.
Our end-to-end support system optimises the performance of our products giving you confidence your SMD kit will perform. For more information on our support services click here.

Turnkey Solutions

We offer turn key solution for all products, get in touch to find out more.

Sets the standard in reliable cable trenching.

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