

The Municipal Pipeline

Bionax[®] Impresses After Encounter With A Directional Drill

Last October, a watermain break changed the perspective of a construction supervisor in Southwestern Ontario.

Jason Smith of PV-Ex Construction was hired to oversee and install the site servicing for Lakeshore Ontario's new multi-use Recreational Facility. This complex will include three ice pads, a gymnasium, aquatic center, indoor walking track, seven outdoor soccer fields and an outdoor five-kilometer trail



for walking, running, cycling and skateboarding. In addition, a library, several community rooms and meeting space will help bring the community together. The magnitude of the project required significant upgrades to the existing network of municipal services.

"The job was pretty straight forward. We had a 12" water line to install for fire protection, and a 4" water line to install right next to it for future use. We used IPEX's Bionax PVCO pipe for both lines" said Smith. Unfortunately just 48 hours after PV- Ex's work was

completed and the new watermain commissioned, a 4" gas line was being installed and the contractor drilled directly through the center of the new 12" watermain.

"They hit it head on, and as soon as I got the call, I knew exactly what had happened". Smith rushed over to the site and was immediately met with water gushing out of the ground at the adjacent joints, but only bubbling out of the ground where the conflict was.

"I was really surprised that the Bionax PVCO held together. Had this had been a C900 pipe the damage would have been much more extensive with a bigger mess to clean up". Smith's crew worked fast as they cut out a 6 foot section and tied in the repair with two couplings. "The repair was clean, and easy to complete as the damage was contained within inches of the affected area".



This experience is an example of how Bionax's unique material structure encourages failures to remain local and limits the size of the area to be repaired.

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by aliaxis