

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### STEHR & BROONS SOLVE BUMPY MANHOLE DILEMMA TOGETHER

Australian motorists know only too well the bumping and thumping they experience driving along sealed roads throughout the nation. Much of this is caused by the manholes being damaged, or sitting above or below the road surface, thereby causing considerable inputs to a vehicle's suspension and tyres.

To replace damaged units or re-align existing units is a manual operation in Australia with operators using cutting saws or jackhammers. It's a time consuming, dirty and disruptive operation which usually leaves a square hole in the asphalt surface when the manhole is generally always round.

Broons, who is well known internationally for its compaction and crushing equipment, has joined forces with leading German manufacturer, Stehr, to promote their manhole cutters within Australia.

For close to 25 years Stehr has led the way with innovative ideas throughout Europe, UK, North America and Africa, while Broons has built itself a reputation over 35 years for innovation and quality with its own unique range of compaction and crushing equipment that it also has exported right around the world. So it made sense for the two Companies to collaborate on the Stehr range of quality equipment.

The Stehr Manhole Cutter takes around 1-3 minutes per manhole compared to the 3-4 hours it would take a person to undertake the work manually. This means that approximately 15 manholes could be cut in an hour.

Attached to a skid steer, wheeled excavator or loader, the Stehr Manhole Cutter drastically reduces the work time, increases the quality of the work, has a long life and eliminates the difficulties that can arise from contact with rocks or gravel, and best of all, unlike using a saw, no polluting water cooling is required.

In the case of restoration or repairs, the embedded manhole is first cut free.

Quite often the asphalt surface surrounding the embedded manhole is in bad condition. A Stehr cutting head with side grinder elements can be attached in a matter of minutes and grinds this damaged layer while cutting the hole all in one step, thereby allowing traffic in the area to move smoothly.

Stehr offer cutter heads ranging from 430mm to 1,400mm in size, and three different kinds of side grinders can be mounted on the 885mm





cutting head, viz:

- Exterior flat grinders for grinding and removal of upper asphalt layer surrounding the manhole,
- Exterior conical grinders to prepare for the positioning of conical shaft frames, and
- Interior flat grinders for grinding the top of the shaft in cases where the manhole cover protrudes above the road surface.

Broons Director, Stuart Bowes, said that he has not seen any machine in Australia that can handle this work and that Stehr's reputation for innovative work solutions was clearly on show with their Manhole Cutter.

"The Stehr Manhole Cutter only weighs about 840kgs and can cut to a depth of 300mm."

"With this collaboration, Broons will now be able to offer clients a one-stop shop for their road construction needs," Stuart said. "It is an example of two innovative companies that manufacture and market quality equipment getting together to provide a simple and OH&S-friendly solution to a problem that has plagued motorists and road construction crews for decades", Stuart concluded.

Broons experienced technical staff can provide details on a Stehr Manhole Cutter, as well as their range of soil stabilisers and Broons own range of crushing and compaction equipment. They can be contacted on (08) 8268 1988, by e-mail at [info@broons.com](mailto:info@broons.com) or take a look at their new website. [www.broons.com](http://www.broons.com)

