

# CASE STUDY

## MICROTUNNELING | SLURRY MICROTUNNELING



**Project Name:**  
Cottonwood & Hackberry Creek WW  
Interceptor Improvements

**Prime/Sub Contractors:**  
Super Excavators, Inc. - Menomonee Falls, WI

**Location:**  
Irving, TX

**Ground Conditions:**  
Clay

**Akkerman Equipment:**  
SL60C MTBM System, AZ-100 Guidance  
System, Lube & Jacking Can, ABIS, MT-K  
Jacking System

**Pipe:**  
60-in. Hobas™ FRP - Jacking Pipe

**Total Length/Longest:**  
2,115-lf. curved (longest) / 4,670-lf (total  
project) - 7 drives

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

Super Excavators, Inc. optimized the microtunnel installation by replacing several shorter tunnel drives with the introduction of a 2,115-LF curved alignment. The curved alignment was continually monitored by the Akkerman AZ-100 guidance system and the exceptional crews successfully completed the long drive on-target with low thrust requirements.

### THE CHALLENGES

- Originally planned with multiple short drives, which would have increased setup time and project duration
- Required maintaining line and grade over an extended curved alignment
- Clay ground conditions demanded consistent performance to minimize downtime and jacking forces
- Navigating a 2,115-LF drive—the longest of seven total drives—required precise control and monitoring

### THE SOLUTION

- Super Excavators, Inc. optimized the plan by replacing several short drives with a single 2,115-LF curved alignment
- Utilized the Akkerman SL60C MTBM System with the AZ-100 Guidance System to accurately navigate the curve
- Integrated Lube & Jacking Can, ABIS, and MT-K Jacking System to maintain low thrust and high efficiency
- The AZ-100 system provided continuous monitoring, enabling crews to stay on target throughout the long drive

### OUTCOME

- Successfully completed the 2,115-LF curved drive with precise accuracy
- Crews maintained alignment and grade throughout all seven drives, totaling 4,670 LF
- Low thrust requirements and efficient jacking reduced wear on equipment and minimized delays
- Project demonstrated the value of combining experienced crews with advanced Akkerman guidance and microtunneling systems
- The streamlined drive plan led to time and cost savings while maintaining high performance

