STEVE VICK INTERNATIONAL

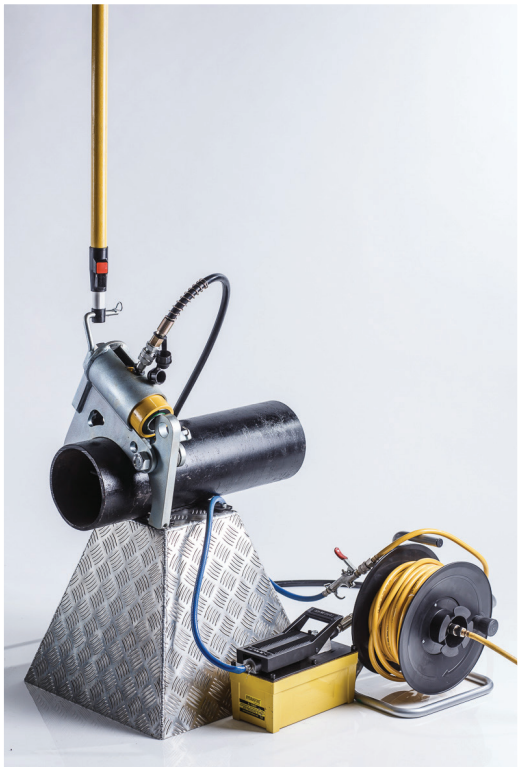
THE CRACKERJACK™

GAS WATER NUCLEAR CONTRACT SERVICES

The fast, safe and affordable way to break out cast iron mains up to 6”

Breaking out redundant or inserted cast iron mains has always been a risky business using traditional tools such as a podger bar or sledge hammer to smash the pipe. Such tools are labour intensive and have been long associated with causing injury to the workforce.

Alternative, mechanised methods of pipe cracking are available but expensive. Steve Vick International has found an affordable solution in the Crackerjack™. A compact, hand-held mains cracker which is powered by a standard site compressor to combine performance with easy handling and low cost.



Crackerjack™ complete with air over hydraulic foot pump

The Crackerjack’s™ pump converts pneumatic air from the compressor to 700 bar of hydraulic power delivering 20 tonnes of break out force, plenty of power to crack cast and spun iron mains up to 6” in diameter in a couple of minutes.

The operator uses a foot pedal on the converter pump to operate the galvanised steel break-out ‘beak’ on the cracking unit, delivering just sufficient controlled force to break the main. This control means that the Crackerjack™ is safe to use even on inserted mains and is therefore ideal for Live Mains Insertion projects.

One unit fits all sizes up to 6” diameter

The converter pump is operated from the top of the trench whilst the cracking unit is lowered onto the pipe using a handle and steadying strap, making it a one person operation and avoiding the need for the operator to enter the trench. The unit comprises a hydraulic ram, fixed beak and a pivoting break-out beak. The Crackerjack™ fits all sizes from 3” to 6” diameter. It is only necessary to select one of two size location holes and use the adjuster bolt to achieve a close fit around the main.

In operation, and on completion of cracking a section of 4” cast iron main

The fast, safe and affordable way to crack redundant or inserted cast iron mains

BENEFITS

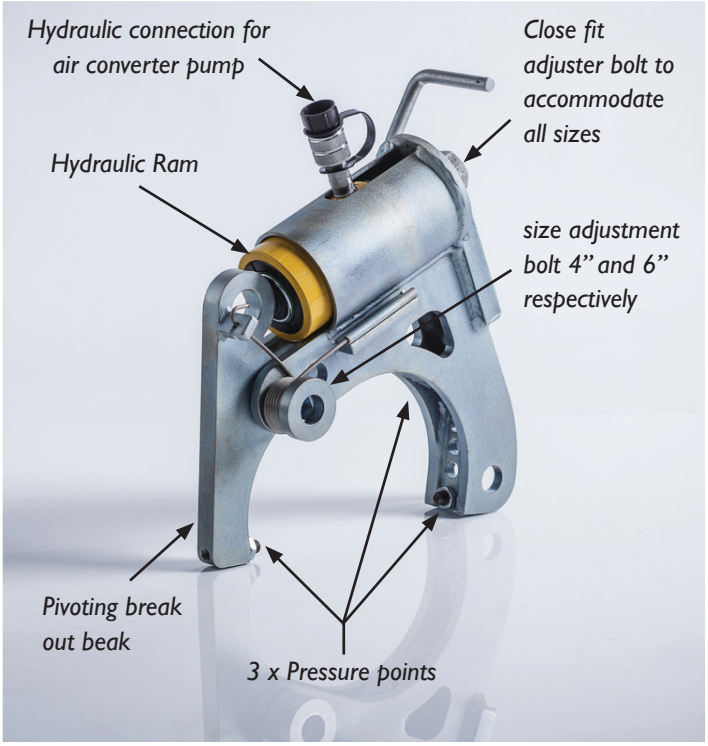
- Fits all diameters from 3" to 6" with a simple adjustment
- 20 tonnes of break-out force cracks a 6" main in minutes
- Low cost compared with existing mechanical tools
- Safe for use on inserted mains – controlled break out avoids damaging internal PE
- Lightweight (15kg) and easy to handle
- Set up takes moments – no need to enter the trench
- Avoids the safety risks of using podger bars or sledge hammers
- Minimum excavation required – needs only 75mm either side of the main
- Ideal for Live Mains Insertion

DESCRIPTION

The Crackerjack™, including the main cracking unit and the converter pump, weighs in at just 15kg, making it an easy lift for one person. It is fitted with integral hose lines for air intake and hydraulic output. A two metre pneumatic hose is supplied to attach to the site compressor hose. A further 20 metre extension airline hose reel is included with the kit which allows the Crackerjack™ to be operated up to 30 metres away from the compressor.

The Crackerjack™ is highly robust to withstand rugged conditions on site and is designed to be relatively maintenance-free.

The Crackerjack™ is powered by a standard compressor via a converter pump which delivers a powerful hydraulic force of 20 tonnes. The operator controls the force applied so that the cast iron pipe is broken out safely and quickly, even with inserted mains.



Overview of the Crackerjack™

You may also be interested in our range of Macaw and Mini Macaw Mains Crackers which are attached to and operated by a mini excavator.

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