

## **CTC Automotive Delivers Powerful Drilling Rig to the Geological Survey Department**

A state-of-the-art powerful Italian water drilling rig, has been acquired by the Geological Survey Department, following the award of a more than €2 million public tender that included the drilling rig, the drilling tools, operators' training, commissioning and maintenance. The keys of the drilling rig were handed over to the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and the Environment, Costas Kadis, by the Honorary Life Chairman of the CTC Group, Nicos Shacolas, on behalf of CTC Automotive Ltd, which had been awarded the tender. The MI 55 drilling rig was manufactured by Massenza Drilling Rigs, which is based in Parma, Italy and has more than 100 years' experience in the sector. With its systems and equipment, including three separate winches and a wireless remote control, the MI 55 can drill to a depth of up to 1,400 metres, thereby offering new capabilities to the Geological Survey Department. As the Minister noted, "It will make a key contribution to the drilling of water and exploratory boreholes and, through them, to the supply of water to communities and the strengthening of government water projects." The drilling rig is mounted on a special Astra heavy-duty truck and all its systems are operated by a C18 engine by Caterpillar, represented in Cyprus by CTC Automotive.

The drilling rig has already been tested at Stavrovouni with excellent results. The handover ceremony took place on Friday, 19 March 2021 at the Kornos Forest Station and, in addition to the Minister, was attended by Andreas Gregoriou (Permanent Secretary), Christodoulos Hadjigeorgiou (Deputy Director, Geological Survey Department), Charalambos Alexandrou (Director, Department of Forests), and senior managers of CTC Automotive.

22 March 2021

