

Vacuum Excavator Selection: Weighing Your Options

Why DOT weight restrictions should influence your equipment purchase

Weighing in on the issue of DOT regulations

- In our last [blog](#), we explored the growing challenge of DOT weight regulations.
- Now that you know what the restrictions are and how they might affect your operation, it's time to choose a vacuum excavator that's best suited for your specific jobsite, employee and application needs.
- Take a look at three scenarios, decide which one best describes your situation, and talk about it with your Vermeer dealer.

Scenario 1

If you ...

- Are on a tight, urban jobsite and need a small footprint
- Are running a 24,000-pound or smaller drill
- Are primarily potholing and spotting utilities
- Are doing minimal mud management
- Want a 4-inch system

You want ... the ECO50

- Select an ECO50-500 to stay under 26,000 GVWR
- No CDL required
- Select an ECO50-800 to stay under 33,000 GVWR and not pay FET tax
- Both options require only a single-axle truck



Scenario 2

If you ...

- Are running a large drill and managing a lot of fluids
- Are over an hour from the nearest dumping site
- Want to stay on the jobsite all day
- Are doing large production potholing

You want ... the MEGA Vac

- Equipped to handle larger quantities of drilling fluid
- Requires a CDL, but eliminates need for multiple trips to dumping site
- Added power increases potholing productivity
- Larger 6" suction hose for difficult soil conditions



Scenario 3

If you ...

- Are working in an, urban environment
- Are digging in soft soil, dirt or sand
- Are able to reuse spoils
- Are facing high dump costs, long distances to dump site

You want ... a vac with air excavation capabilities

- No trips to the dumping site since spoil can be reused
- In ideal soil conditions, slightly slower than water excavation



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