

Electrical Case Study

METRO installs Super Duct® DBII pipe and fittings and Scepter® Rigid PVC conduit for state-of-the-art automated distribution centre

More than \$1M worth of IPEX piping used in new Terrebonne, QC development

Product

Super Duct® DBII Pipe
Scepter® Rigid PVC Conduit

Municipality

Terrebonne, QC north of
Montreal

Contractor

Tri-Tech Electric



The Challenge

METRO is one of Quebec and Ontario's leading food and pharmacy retailers, with over 950 stores and annual sales of more than \$16 billion.

In 2020, the grocery giant announced plans to build a 600,000-square-foot automated distribution centre for its fresh and frozen products in Terrebonne, QC, just north of Montreal. The project would cost \$420 million and take five years to complete.

This supply chain modernization and investment in technology upgrades across the business are essential for METRO's growth strategy. The grocery giant is also adding an additional 50,000 square feet to its Laval, QC, distribution center to manage increased fresh produce volume.

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This state-of-the-art development in Terrebonne will help METRO continue to grow its operations in Quebec and meet the demands of both current and future customers.

Constructing this ultra-modern distribution centre would require top-tier contractors, suppliers and materials. Given that the entire distribution centre will be refrigerated, the electrical workmanship had to be exceptional.

The Solution

METRO hired veteran Quebec-based electrical contractor, Tri-Tech Electric, for the job. With clients like IKEA, Ericsson, Agopur and Bell, the team was well-versed in working on high-profile, large-scale commercial projects like the METRO distribution centre.

Tri-Tech has been working with the IPEX team on projects throughout Quebec for over 15 years. And when it came time for them to choose an electrical supplier, IPEX was the clear choice.

Given the requirements for this project, 100% PVC piping products had to be used within the new refrigerated distribution centre. PVC is incredibly easy to work with and can be cut and joined without the usual pipe vices, cutters, threading equipment, and reamers associated with metal conduits.

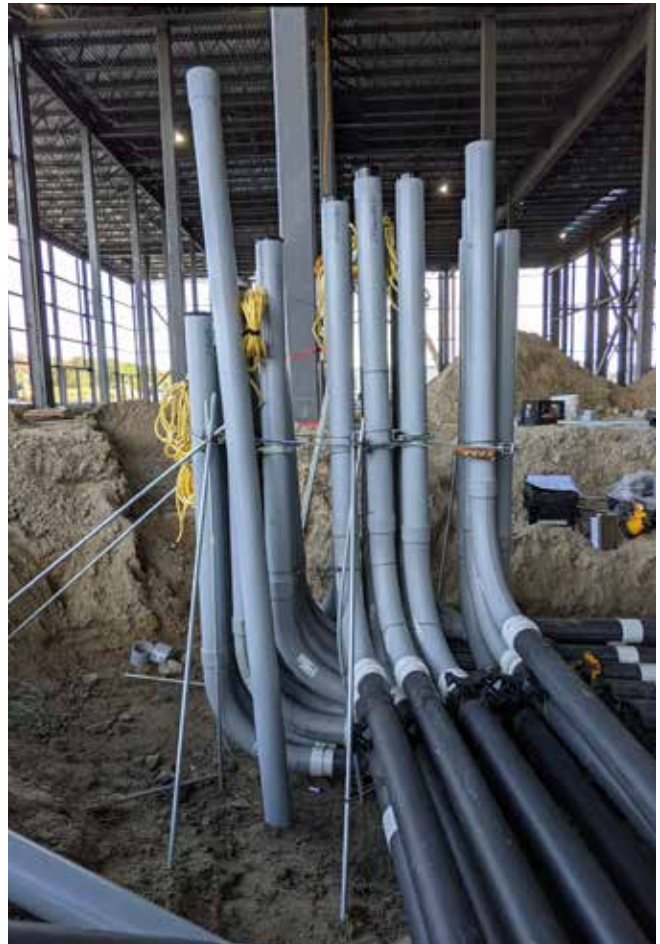
Tri-Tech chose IPEX's Super Duct® DBII pipe and fittings and Scepter® Rigid PVC conduit fittings for the METRO project.

Designed to tackle underground ducting applications, Super Duct pipe and fittings are engineered to deliver the high-impact and crush strength today's utility companies demand.

Likewise, electricians choose Scepter Rigid PVC conduit fittings for their easy installation, ability to perform in demanding environments and labour savings on a typical job by up to two-thirds.

"We will improve service to our store network with increased accuracy and reduced handling time, in both the distribution centres and the stores. For consumers, these new facilities will result in even more variety and freshness. We will be in an excellent position to pursue our growth in Quebec."

Eric La Flèche, President and CEO,
METRO



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Whether exposed, concealed in walls, encased in concrete, or directly buried, these nonmetallic conduit fittings offer high impact and tensile strength, are nonconductive and are resistant to a wide range of chemicals such as acids, alkalis and salt solutions.

Due to industry-wide supply chain issues, the Tri-Tech team was dealing with significant PVC shortages. With a reputation for getting their work done quickly, the team wanted to avoid any delays which would cause them to miss deadlines.

Thankfully, IPEX was able to supply all the PVC piping that was needed and deliver it on time to keep the project on schedule.

In total, more than 200,000 feet of Super Duct DBII pipe and fittings and Scepter Rigid PVC conduit fittings totalling over \$1M were used for the project.

The Results

Tri-Tech was impressed with the ability of the IPEX team to get the products on-site within a tight timeframe. Although IPEX was coordinating several other projects in Quebec at the time,

through meticulous planning, the team was able to guarantee that the METRO project had all the piping products they needed exactly when they needed them.

"It was very important to us to deliver this project in the required time frame. IPEX is known to deliver the best products, on time. With their excellent service, they were the best solution for a huge project like the METRO warehouse."

**Martin Lemire, Superintendent,
Tri-Tech Electric**

The IPEX team was also on-site to provide quality assurance support and ensure the installation was running smoothly and the project was progressing on schedule.

The new METRO automated distribution centre is scheduled to be completed in 2023.

