

Equotip Piccolo 2 / Bambino 2

## Hardness testing on ancient UNESCO listed Mogao Caves

The ancient oasis city of Dunhuang used to be a trading center along the Silk Road linking China and Central Asia. The city has many ancient sites including the UNESCO World Heritage listed Mogao Caves. A group of recognized researchers studying the conservation of these ancient sites tried to use rebound hammers for testing the condition of the ruins. The impact energy of the hammers was, in this case, considered to be too high. A non-destructive testing method with lower impact energy was requested.

A solution was found in Proceq's Equotip Piccolo 2 / Bambino 2 hardness tester using less impact energy and a smaller impact body. The device worked perfectly for this application and the researchers complimented the high portability of the instrument. [More details in the PDF report \(Chinese\).](#)



*Leeb hardness values taken on an ancient wall of the city corresponded to users findings i.e. wall hardness gradually decreases from bottom to top.*

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