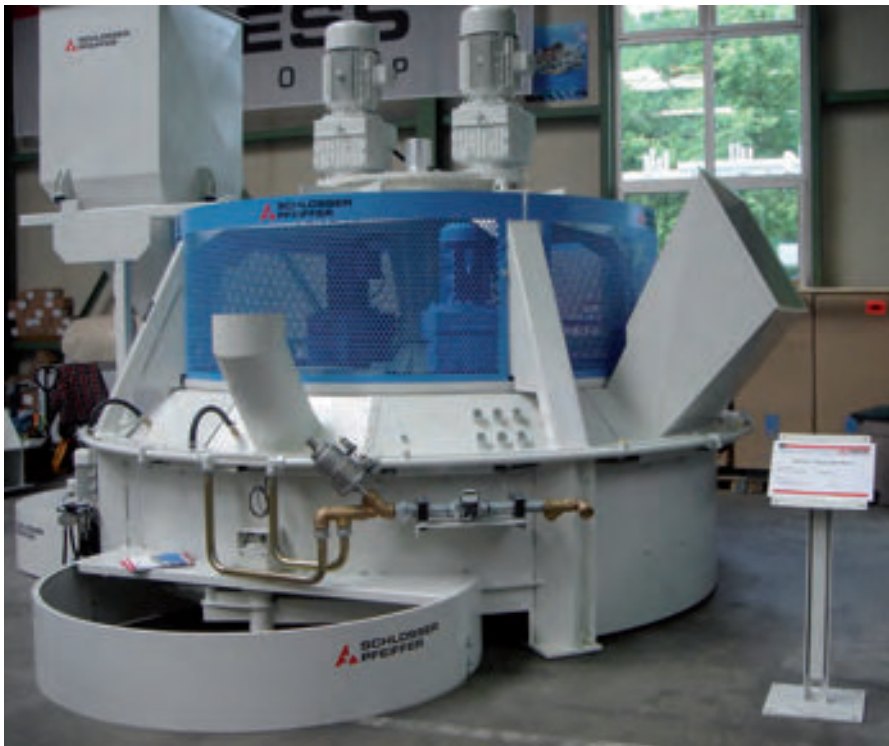


Hess Group, 57299 Burbach-Wahlbach, Germany

Presentation of the new Cutmaster – a calibrating machine for concrete masonry blocks

On the occasion of its annual in-house exhibition on 13 and 14 June 2008, the Hess Group presented its current product portfolio and the new Cutmaster for masonry blocks with perfectly flat surfaces. A record number of more than 500 guests from Germany and abroad attended the event.

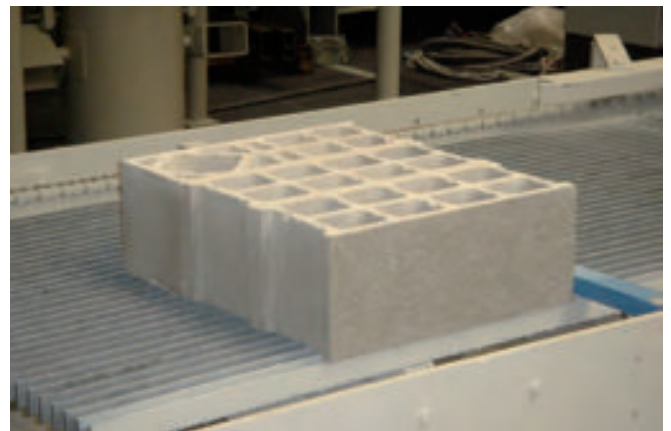


At the in-house exhibition the SM 3000-2 mixer model was presented with a new, modularized design that enables shorter delivery times and even more attractive prices.

Walter Hess and Roland Krause expressed their satisfaction with recent developments: "We now deliver more than 50 complete concrete block production systems per year, and our other divisions also operate very successfully. A particular highlight was the integration of Hess AAC, resulting in an expected record turnover of over 200 million euros for the Hess Group in the current year."

This year was the first time we used the new extension for the annual event, which offers a 30 % increase in production area at the Burbach site of the Hess Group. Block making machines from the standard Hess Group range in different sizes and with different optional features were on show, including an RH 600, an RH 600 A, an RH 600 VA, an RH 1500-VA and the top of the range RH 2000-SVA. All systems were fully operational and visitors were able to see them in dry run mode.

Packet assemblers in different sizes and with different speeds and two vehicle groups for transporting concrete blocks to the shelving systems were on show in the



The highlight at this year's event was the Cutmaster presentation. A detailed report will follow in the next edition of CPI. The Cutmaster can make masonry blocks perfectly flat, so that they can be laid in a thin-bed adhesive without a mortar layer, making the construction more energy efficient.

new extension, in which the Hess Group invested around 3 million euros last year. Various concrete block moulds from Hess Formen, a subsidiary of the Hess Group, were also on show.

Further exhibits included parts of a radial press from Schlosser-Pfeiffer and the revised SM 3000 mixer, which is now available with in an attractively priced modular design offering shorter delivery times.

Equipment from the Hess AAC subsidiary was also on show for the first time, specifically a cutting system with different cutting and milling options for the production of porous concrete blocks.

Cutmaster presentation

The highlight of this year's event was the presentation of the new Cutmaster that can make masonry blocks perfectly flat. This new system is particularly significant in view of worldwide increasing energy efficiency requirements in the construction sector. Masonry blocks with perfectly flat surfaces can be bonded with a thin-bed mortar with-

out the need for a thick mortar layer that can act as a cold bridge.

The new, patented Hess product line was developed by the Hess Lorraine subsidiary in France.

The machine measures 3 x 3 x 2.4 metres and weighs approx. 6 tons. In the standard version the Cutmaster 1000 is equipped with six 5.5 kW cutting motors.

The cutting motors are used for dressing the top surfaces of the stones, immediately downstream of the lowerator after the freshly produced concrete masonry blocks have hardened. The aim is an inline system for producing blocks with absolutely exact height. Steel support boards are used for the block production.

The calibration principle is based on the application of cutting discs with very high rotational speed. This enables the concrete blocks to be processed just 24 or 48 hours after they have left the drying chamber. The inline calibration process ensures that the masonry block production runs at absolute-

ly uniform speed, producing exactly identical stone heights.

The scope of delivery includes the machine with acoustic enclosure, the extraction system and all required components and a conversion kit for integrating the machine into an existing block production line.

The machine can, of course, also be used in an offline system and is available with various options and accessories for this purpose. ■

FURTHER INFORMATION



Hess Group
Freier-Grund-Str. 123
57299 Burbach-Wahlbach, Germany
T +49 2736 49760, F +49 2736 497620
info@hessgroup.com, www.hessgroup.com

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poyatos

e-mail: poyatos@poyatos.com
Web: www.poyatos.com
Telf.: 34 - 958 46 69 90 Fax: 34 - 958 46 71 18

Poligono Industrial Juncaril
PELIGROS - Granada
(SPAIN)