

Kobra Formen GmbH, 08485 Lengenfeld, Germany

## Hands-on technology at bauma trade show stand

Kobra Formen GmbH, manufacturer of moulds for the concrete block industry, enjoyed great success at bauma 2010 in Munich, the world's leading construction industry trade show. Kobra's international sales team served a number of professional visitors who came from more than 70 countries and was available to give advice on many of the exhibits, services and new products. Kobra, which manufactures standard and special moulds, presented the latest technologies in conjunction with tried and tested construction methods. The wide range of exhibits was directed towards the market-specific requirements of international concrete block manufacturers and provided a comprehensive overview of modern mould manufacture.

The main aim of the research and development work at Kobra is to constantly improve the quality, wear resistance and service life of its moulds. New products and features have been developed and were presented to the international audience at the Kobra stand.

These include the »Longlife™« mould, which can be used in combination with both bolted and welded frame variants and has bolted-on cover plates. The critical areas of wear for mould bottom are better protected by selectively arranged cavities between the mould insert and the frame. The resulting reduction in weight produces improved vibration behaviour on the mould. The strength properties of the mould insert are also preserved by doing away with welds

in and around the mould insert. The life of the mould may be extended depending on the particular production conditions. Visitors were shown innovations in mould construction using the »Longlife™« mould as an example – the development of everything from the fully welded design to today's modular bolted design illustrates the high standards which Kobra places on mould construction.

In the project sector, entirely different demands are placed on an innovative and high quality mould and Kobra offers the appropriate technology for this as well. Within any one project, different block sizes are often needed in small amounts. Typically for this is the narrow time frame in which concrete block manufacturers have

to provide the different products. »Evoline™« is designed specifically to meet these requirements since the mould can be made available at short notice and used in different ways. The stone cavities are »Optimill™« machined so the high standard of quality is maintained. The mould frame and tamper head of the project mould are reusable while mould inserts and tamper shoes can be exchanged. With »Evoline™«, Kobra is offering a high quality tool for the short-term production of individual blocks along with special solutions for all types of blocks.

Kobra also has something to offer in terms of mould hardness properties. With the »Optimill carbo 68 plus™« hardening process for paver moulds, it is possible to achieve a homogeneous hardness of 68 HRC. Tamper shoes have a hardness of more than 64 HRC. Kobra products meet the highest quality requirements – which is why the advanced technology of the new Kobra hardening standard for paver moulds is available to the customer at no additional cost. »Optimill™«, a proven and tested milling technology, is used to achieve precise geometries and smooth surfaces in the mould insert.

During the launch of »Optimill carbo 68 plus™«, all concrete block manufacturers deciding on a paver mould with the new Kobra hardness standard had the opportunity to win a trip to South Africa for the FIFA World Cup final. The winner was chosen on 2nd June 2010 at the headquarters of Kobra Formen GmbH in Lengenfeld, Germany. Being a Saxon company, Kobra employed the most beautiful woman of the Free State, the acting Miss Saxony, Julia Kari, to choose the winners in an official lottery. Before the draw, more than 350 paver moulds had been ordered since the launch



Kobra Formen GmbH sales team on the exhibition stand at bauma 2010

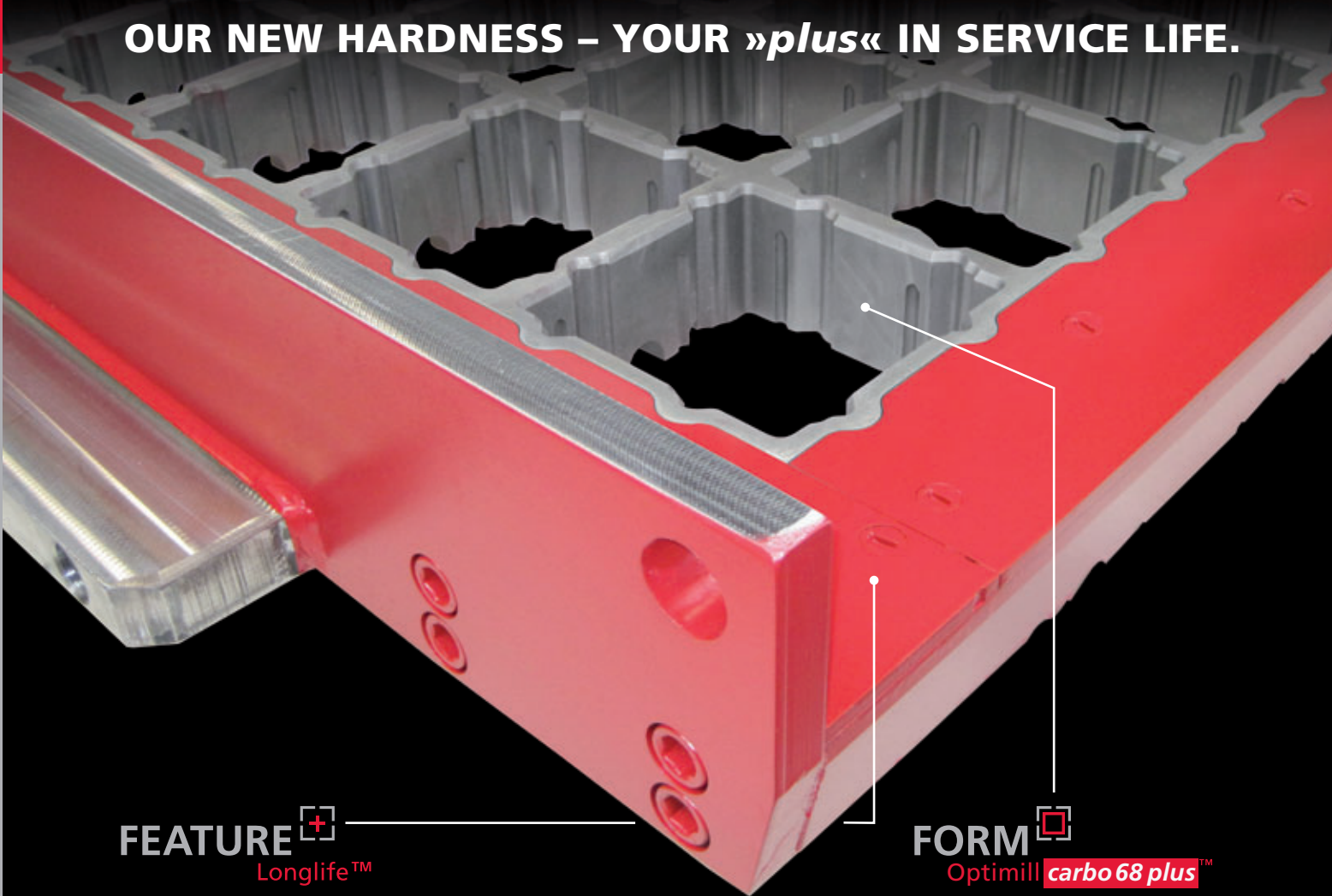


➤ VISION TO REALITY

**KOBRA**

# »Optimill carbo 68plus™«

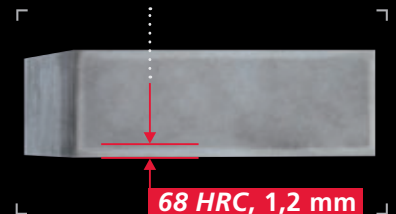
OUR NEW HARDNESS – YOUR »plus« IN SERVICE LIFE.



**FEATURE**   
Longlife™

**FORM**   
Optimill **carbo 68 plus™**

- Maximum quality level in hardness, dimensional accuracy and wear resistance due to »Optimill carbo 68 plus™«
- Standard hardness 68 HRC
- Homogenous hardness depth 1.2 mm
- Cavity tolerances +/- 0.3 mm
- No weakening welding seams in the mold bottom



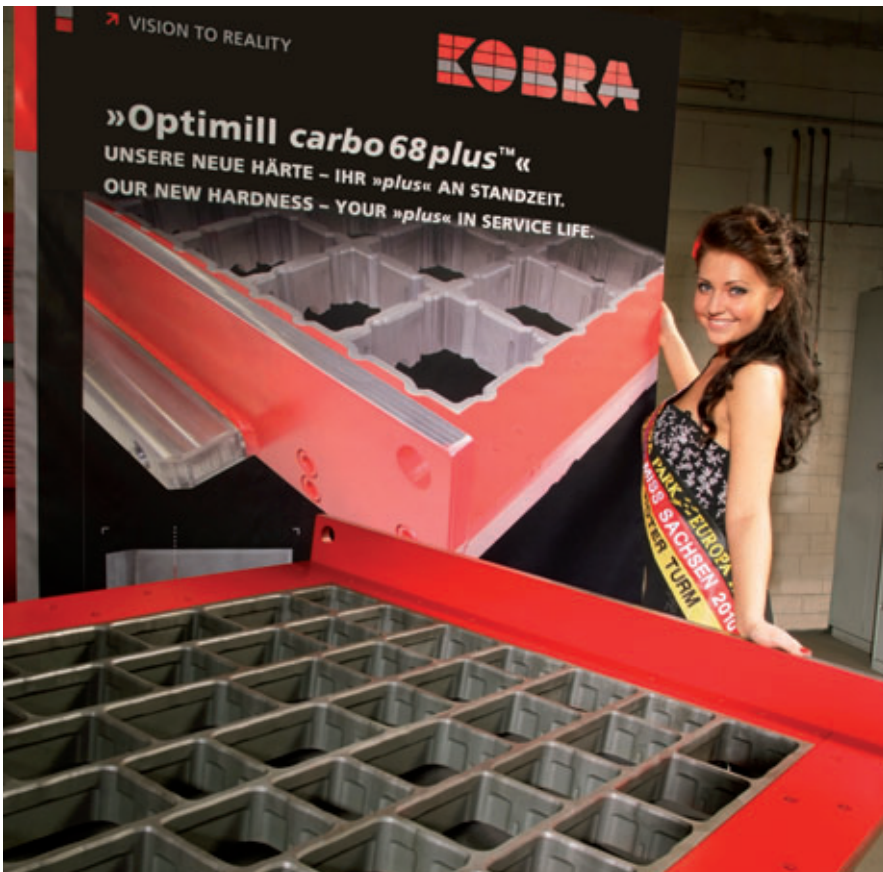
KOBRA. We make the mold around your stone.

Detailed information can be obtained from our sales team:  
[www.kobragroup.com](http://www.kobragroup.com) | [kobra@us.kobragroup.com](mailto:kobra@us.kobragroup.com)





*Drawing the winner of a trip for two people to the World Cup Final in South Africa (the current Miss Saxony, Julia Kari, with Kobra managers Holger Stichel and Joerg Rasbieler)*



*Current Miss Saxony, Julia Kari, promotes the durability of Kobra's new concrete block moulds*

at bauma. The winner of the trip, a company from Kuwait, will have the chance to attend the final at Johannesburg's Soccer City Stadium.

The improved hardness properties of hollow-block moulds were also demonstrated at the Kobra stand. With the »Optimill carbo™« hardening, the hardness depth is doubled to 1.2 mm in comparison to the classic »Optimill nitro™« hardened moulds. This hardening process has already been successfully tested since the beginning of 2009 and the life of the moulds has been extended by 20 to 50%. The mould's constant hardness profile makes it significantly more wear resistant.

International visitors were also interested in Kobra's new »Dynamic Head«, a device for mass-decoupling the tamper head, and the »Magnetic Tamper Head Adaptor« quick-change system. »Dynamic Head« describes a device which can be installed in the tamper head and, because of its vibration behaviour, centres the shoes when lowered the head into the cavities. This has two significant advantages. Firstly, it reduces wear on the tamper shoes and top edge of the mould. Secondly, it produces a higher quality block. The »Magnetic Tamper Head Adaptor« works because high-powered magnets are built into the basic tamper head of the mould. With this investment, the concrete block manufacturers can keep the costs down since the basic tamper head does not need to be ordered with when purchasing additional new moulds. Moreover, since it is simple to change the mould tops, setup times are minimised and production times optimised. Both projects are patented and have passed through practical tests since their launch at bauma 2010 – and with the seal of approval from concrete block manufacturers. ■

FURTHER INFORMATION



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