Kobra Formen GmbH, 08485 Lengenfeld, Germany

New hollow block moulds have already proven themselves in practice

In the mass production of hollow blocks, the concrete block manufacturer is reliant on reliable machines and tools in order to meet the market's high quality requirements and at the same time to be able to produce economically. Numerous companies all over the world rely here on the high-quality standard and special moulds from Kobra Formen GmbH, which has been implementing its customers' requests with innovative and practical solutions for almost 20 years. Kobra moulds are characterised by their easy-to-repair designs and high resistance to wear.



Technicians from the FCP company (Fujairah Concrete Products, UAE) examine the handy core bolting system



The innovative bolted connection of the core subassemblies makes mould maintenance and service much easier for National Tiles & Blocks Ltd. in Ras-Al-Khaimah, UAE

The manufacturing methods are constantly being developed and optimised. The employees from the Stone & Design, Construction Engineering and Sales departments are thereby in close contact with one another in order to pick up on current market trends and to implement them constructively. For instance, strongly abrasive aggre-

gates are used for the manufacture of hollow blocks in some markets, which can increase the wear of the tools. A concrete block mould must therefore be characterised by a stable design and particularly high surface hardness.

Kobra Formen GmbH has taken up both approaches and has developed innovative

solutions for hollow block moulds. In the field of hardness technology, alongside the classic »nitroTM« hardening, the company offers develops the new »Optimill carboTM« process for products with a height over 150 mm, with which a hardness depth of 1.2 mm is achieved all round, hence doubling the otherwise usual market standard. The



No visible wear could be found at the hollow block mould with »carbo™« – hardness after over 50,000 production cycles



Sturdy bolted connections on the core holder bar allow the exact fitting of the CNC-machined, exchangeable individual cores in the cavity

demand for hollow blocks has risen enormously for the company since the bauma 2010 in Munich. Feedback from the customers involved in product tests is thereby thoroughly positive.

Moulds with "carboTM« hardness have already been tested successfully since the beginning of 2009. The service life is verifiably extended by between 20% and 50%. Thanks to a constant surface hardness of 64 HRC, the moulds are considerably more resistant to wear. The high dimensional accuracy is achieved by the proven "OptimillTM« milling technology.

Kobra moulds are further characterised by their easy-to-repair design, which allows individual subassemblies to be exchanged quickly and uncomplicatedly. Losses can thus be avoided by short tooling times. These subassemblies include not only the bolted cover plates, which are manufactured from particularly wear-resistant steel, but also a further Kobra innovation – the bolted core subassembly. Thanks to its innovative bolted connection, this is integrated firmly in the lower part of the mouldmould bottom and is thus highly loadable.

This design offers several advantages at once in the case of repair. On the one hand, individual cores can be exchanged in each case, as opposed to the usual market standard. On the other, repairs can be carried out by the customers themselves. The customer can initially enquire to the respectively responsible sales employee regarding the necessary spare and wearing parts via a catalogue. In the case of an initial order, sample parts matching the mould are provided.

The high product quality of the moulds is revealed in the details. All cores are "carbot" - hardened. The high fitting accuracy of the cores is ensured by doing without welding.

Kobra is presenting its modern mould construction at the following forthcoming events:

- The Big 5 Show 2010 in Dubai (Zabeel 1123)
- bauma China 2010 in Shanghai (E1/215)
- ICCX Russia 2010, St. Petersburg (Booth 20)

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of Kobra Formen GmbH, the company is holding an in-house exhibition in spring 2011, at which concrete block manufacturers can see at first hand how the mould around their block is manufactured.

FURTHER INFORMATION



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