

Hess Group, 57299 Burbach-Wahlbach, Germany

Weber renewed the concrete block making machine in Borge

The Weber company has a long tradition in Norway and has shaped the market for Leca lightweight concrete blocks for many years. The Weber Group has belonged to Saint Gobain since 2007 and operates in 47 countries. Weber employs over 300 employees at 6 locations in Norway. On account of increasing market requirements, the Weber company, located in Borge to the south of Oslo, decided to renew the concrete block making machine and parts of the circulation.



Hess RH 1000-2 high-performance machine with electric mould change carriage



Integration of a board buffer in the existing plant

The main criteria for the selection for the new machine were high production performance, optimum quality with regard to the height, strength and appearance of the stones, fast mould exchange, low mould costs, ease of maintenance and good after-sales service. In addition there was the challenge of integrating the machine into the existing localities and placing it on the existing machine foundation without a pit in such a way that maintenance is easy.

Hess was able to offer the machine technology for Weber's requirements as mentioned above as well as a convincing over-

all package, the choice fell on the high-performance RH 1000-2 from Hess. A further reason for the decision was the good experiences had by Weber's Swedish affiliate, which had successfully put an RH 1000-2 into operation previously.

The machine was delivered on schedule in winter 2012-13 and put into operation. In order to increase the availability of the entire plant a sheet buffer was additionally installed for the production sheets measuring 1,090 x 550 mm. With regard to maintenance, care was taken to ensure sufficient ground clearance due to the absence of a pit. In addition, the vibrator bearings are equipped with a special bearing whose longevity is guaranteed by Hess.

Weber draws a throughout positive conclusion following the first year of production. The very demanding installation of the RH 1000-2 went without a hitch and was completed on time. The machine is capable of producing blocks with a cycle time of less than 10 seconds. Improvements in the quality of the products were also achieved. Thanks to a special drawing sheet device a new production series and special stones can be manufactured in Borge. The mould

exchange time for complex moulds has been reduced from several hours to just 10 - 20 minutes.

With the new machine technology and the new block range the Weber company is optimally equipped to further strengthen its leadership in the Norwegian block market. Using the RH 1000-2 the Weber company can now also produce complex block contours with a horizontal and vertical tongue and groove system, which represent an innovation in the Norwegian market.

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Complex blocks with a horizontal and vertical tongue and groove system

FURTHER INFORMATION



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