

Prinzing Pfeiffer GmbH, 89143 Blaubeuren, Germany

# Betonwerk Kühne modernizes the production of manhole components

**Betonwerk Kühne GmbH & Co.KG is located in the picturesque town of Geretsried, 40 kilometers from the Bavarian capital of Munich. Reinforced and non-reinforced concrete rings, manhole cones, base rings, grade rings, rainwater tanks, small wastewater treatment plants and separators are manufactured in the plant. Special products are also commissioned according to customer requirements. The production is carried out by means of automatic and semi-automatic machines. For the production of larger manhole rings and manhole cones in medium quantities, the company recently invested in a Variant 2000 C production plant from Prinzing Pfeiffer.**

Betonwerk Kühne has been in existence since 1958. In 1964, the company founder Karl Kühne and his son Michael Kühne laid the foundation stone for the new production hall. The production site is still located at the same place in Geretsried today. Since 2002 the son-in-law Gerhard Knill, the daughter Angelika Knill and Michael Kühne have been managing the concrete plant together. The granddaughter Daniela Lang and her husband Alexander Lang also work in the family-owned company. Mr. Knill speaks of "a really great team", by which he means his 34 employees. Around 75,000 precast concrete elements are sold annually, which corresponds to a total weight of approximately 31,000 tonnes.

Kühne does not require a fully automatic machine for the production of manhole rings and manhole cones with nominal widths over 1,000 mm. So far, these have been produced on a Pfeiffer VRF 1200. This machine has been in use for over 50 years and has performed its duty until this very day. This Pfeiffer system has accompanied the Kühne company throughout its long industrious history.

As part of the company's 60th anniversary celebrations, the new Variant 2000 C from Prinzing Pfeiffer was inaugurated in 2018. After the success story of the Pfeiffer system so far, there was no doubt who would become the supplier when the machine was replaced. The track record of proven quality and reliability spoke volumes.

The new manhole ring and cone production on the Variant 2000 C was configured according to the same principle as the existing machine: medium quantities with nominal widths up to 2,000 mm and transport of the products in the mould jacket to the curing station. Heights are specified with a maximum of 1,000 mm for this Variant.

The swivel-type feeding unit fills the mould with concrete. Compaction is carried out by a central vibrator, where the mould core is placed above. The pressing portal, which swivel in, presses the upper area and forms thereby the spigot end. Here, components are used that have been installed in many hundreds of machines and thus represent a mature technology. Remote access to the Siemens control system via modem is of course possible. Everything was implemented with a manageable budget and adapted exactly to the production requirements at Kühne.

With short changeover and cleaning times, the system also meets the requirements in this area. High demands on product quality are met and enable Betonwerk Kühne to offer unparalleled value to its customers as usual.



*The Variant 2000 C from Prinzing Pfeiffer at Betonwerk Kühne*



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The Prinzing Pfeiffer Variant is an individually adaptable machine concept for the production of concrete or reinforced concrete pipes (round and non-circular, with or without base), inliner pipes, jacking pipes, box culverts, etc.



The new manhole ring and cone production on the Variant 2000 C was configured according to the same principle as the existing machine: medium quantities with nominal widths up to 2,000 mm and removal of the products in the mould jacket to the curing station.



The 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the company was celebrated in 2018 on a grand scale with over 400 guests. In addition to the former Bavarian Minister President Edmund Stoiber and his wife Karin, District Administrator Josef Niedermaier, the Mayor of Geretsried Michael Müller, Member of the State Parliament Martin Bachhuber and other representatives of business associations and banks were also present.

FURTHER INFORMATION



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