

The Hess Group expands its Training Academy

New intensive training courses, models and test equipment complement the course offering

Qualified employees are the key to success. Therefore, the Hess Group established the Training Academy for its customers back in 2016. The courses for successive training and further education are held worldwide and are always practice-oriented and aligned to the daily challenges of the concrete industry. The Hess Group is continuously expanding the training courses and, among other things, has been offering the topics of process engineering and concrete technology as two separate intensive courses since 2020. In addition, the concrete block and mixing plant manufacturer has invested in several models and items of test equipment that make the training courses even clearer, allowing the knowledge gained to be directly applied in practice.

The five-day courses are offered globally, from the USA, Canada, Russia and the Middle East to Australia. The trainers Philipp Anderl, Bastian Eibach, Pavol Dolgos, Markus Groß and Peter Hoffmann are long-standing Hess employees who are experts in their respective fields and pass on both knowledge and experience. Due to the long affiliation with the Hess Group, they know the older machine models just as well as the latest innovations. After the respective courses, the train-

ing documents are passed on to the participants in digital form using tablets, so that they have all the information at hand directly at the machine, even after the course.

The courses are continuously being developed and expanded - in terms of content and by investing in models for the simulation and visualisation of machine functions. For example, the training courses Hydraulics and Mechanics, Control and Concrete Technology were supplemented by new test equipment and the previous seminar Process Engineering and Concrete Technology 2020 was split into two specialised courses.

Basic and intensive training in the Hess laboratory or on site

In most cases, the systematic improvement of employees' skills starts with basic training. It is also suitable for employees with medium to low basic knowledge and conveys the most important focal points of the various specialist areas: The basic program includes the structural design of a concrete machine or plant, an introduction to operating modes, machine functions and settings as well as basics of concrete



Testing of the bladder accumulator for constant performance and safe operation



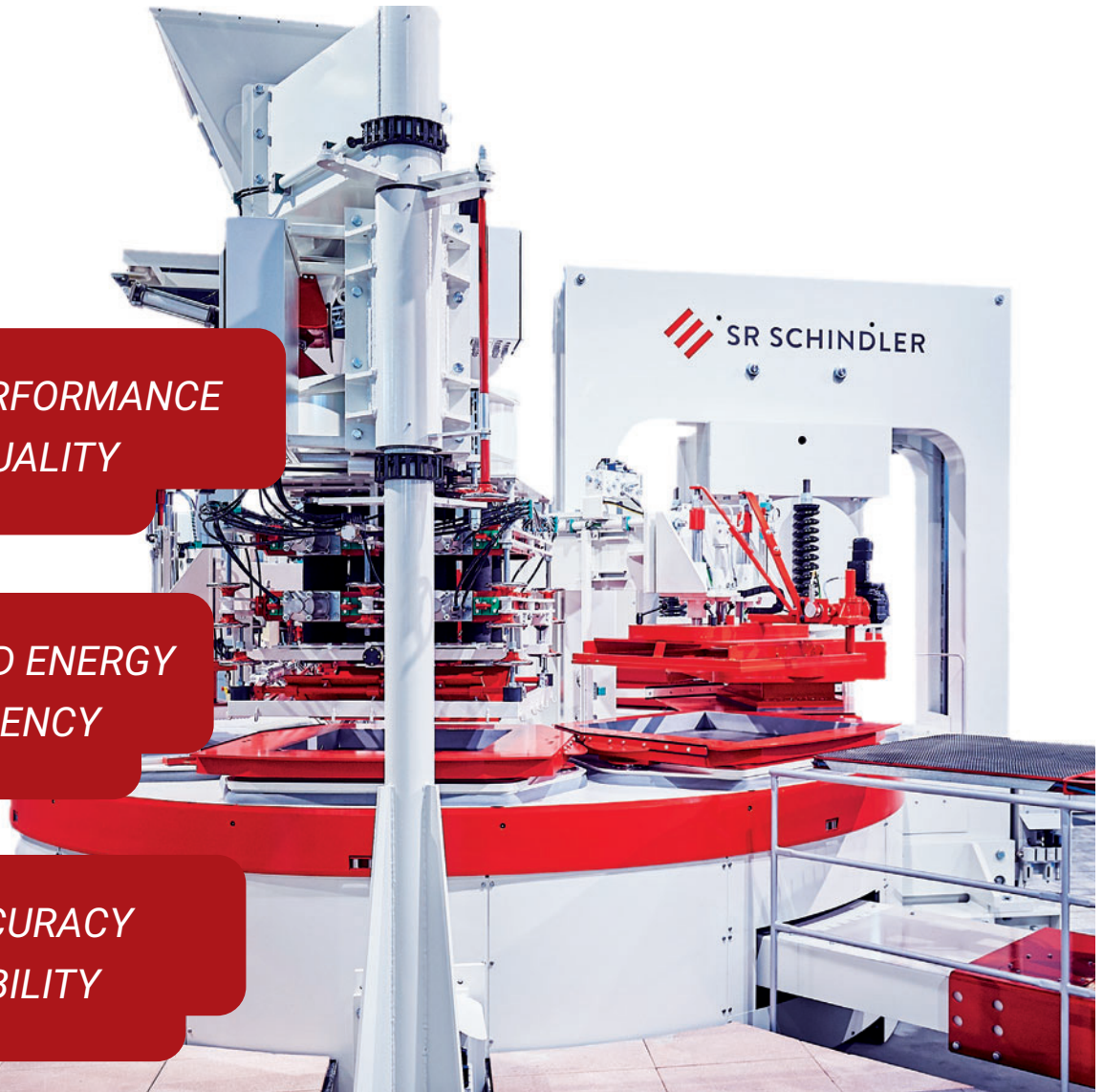
Checking the system pressure

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Introduction to the functionality of the control cabinet

technology. In addition, a comprehensive occupational safety training course is also part of this, which is specifically related to the machine manufacturer's components. The Training Academy courses take place either in the Hess Group's training rooms or, if desired, directly at the customer's premises.

New hydraulic test bench in the Hydraulics and Mechanics course

Every minute that a machine does not produce in the usual, efficient way is lost money. It is therefore essential to find causes quickly and develop effective solutions. In the intensive training on hydraulics and mechanics, therefore, pump stations, valve stations and hydraulic valves, as well as cylinders and pneumatic systems, among other things, are dealt with in greater depth in order to better understand interrelationships. This also includes reading and understanding the hydraulic diagram and using special tools specific to the plant. Oil hydraulics, which has become indispensable in drive and control technology, is also an important topic.

New visualisations in the Control course

The process visualisation should be mastered by the operator with flying colours. Among other things, that is precisely the goal of the intensive course on management. It is therefore planned to illustrate the details of the console on a corresponding model. The participants are also trained in machine parametrisation and learn diagnostic tools using practical examples. Thanks to the profound knowledge of bus systems, electrical components and network systems, the operating modes and processes become clearer, so that error messages can be recognised, analysed and acknowledged more easily.

Hess Group relies on Augmented Reality for digitisation

In the intensive course on the subject of control, the Hess AR glasses are presented, among other things. These smart



Investigation of the chemical properties of aggregates

glasses enable extended support for maintenance and cooperation between machine operator and helpdesk. As if he were on site himself, the Hess Support Hotline employee can analyse the situation and offer possible solutions. Recommendations for action can be communicated by telephone or shown on the display of the glasses. This allows the machine operator to act freely while being instructed.

New intensive course on process engineering

In the intensive process engineering training course, participants sharpen their perception and awareness by deepening their knowledge of the principles of the effects of individual machine settings. The intensive course is individually tailored to the customer and takes place on site in order to analyse exactly those processes that are relevant with the material and machines available there. Instead of just teaching theory, the settings can be made directly here. At the same time, the machine settings are directly optimised, for example to achieve better energy efficiency or less wear.

Extension of the analysis methods in the field of concrete technology

In order to understand the relationships and correlations between the recipe and the everyday manufacturing process, in-depth knowledge of the properties and modes of action of the raw materials is required. The intensive course in concrete technology not only provides the necessary technical knowledge to carry out quality tests independently, but also to subsequently create target concepts for an optimised mix. The training courses are always geared to the standards of the respective country.

The practice has now been extended by an air void measuring pot with which the air void content of the fresh concrete can be measured directly. Another new product is a bio-water analysis kit, which enables the examination of organic and non-organic components of water.



The previous participants of the Hess Group Training Academy were very satisfied.

Satisfied students

With such complex and technically and chemically demanding topics, it is not only important to stay close to the everyday life of the employees, but also to incorporate a lot of practical experience. This not only makes it easier to understand, but also increases the incentive to apply what has been learned in the future.

The Hess Training Academy could hardly be in a better position, as the previous participants were very satisfied with the courses they had completed and awarded top marks. ■



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