

Gulf Precast: Redefining efficiency with machine automation in the UAE

Gulf Precast is revolutionizing the construction industry in the UAE with cutting-edge automation and advanced technology. Through its partnership with Progress Group, the company has enhanced efficiency, and elevated quality standards of their mesh production with a brand-new M-System BlueMesh® mesh welding plant.

Founded in 1984, Gulf Precast has grown to become one of the UAE's leading precast concrete manufacturers, playing a pivotal role in shaping the region's skyline. With landmark projects such as the Dubai Mall and Abu Dhabi Airport under its belt, Gulf Precast has evolved from a single plant to a big market name with multiple facilities. Today, the company operates three precast plants in Abu Dhabi and two facilities in Dubai, including one dedicated to hollow-core slab production.

"Gulf Precast is one of the first precaster in the region," explained Valentijn Blonk, General Manager of Gulf Precast. "We have significantly expanded our capacity to meet growing market demands and have invested heavily in innovation and automation."

The role of automation in meeting market demands

The construction sector in the UAE has rebounded strongly after 2020, with a surge in demand for villa construction,

schools, and infrastructure. Gulf Precast has risen to the occasion, producing over 1,000 cubic meters of precast concrete daily - enough to build and erect eight villas per day.

Automation has been central to this success. By streamlining production and reducing reliance on skilled labor, Gulf Precast ensures it remains competitive in a rapidly evolving market. "We always look for ways to improve productivity, quality, and reliability," Blonk noted. "Automation has become the future of the industry. The newest machinery we bought from Progress Group is enabling us to maintain high standards while addressing labor shortages."

Progress Group's technology

A key driver of Gulf Precast's success is its partnership with Progress Group. The introduction of a M-System BlueMesh® mesh welding plant has revolutionized production processes. This highly automated machine is working from coil and integrates panel openings automatically according to plan. Furthermore, it reduces waste and significantly enhances quality and speed.

"The mesh welding plant from Progress Group has been a game-changer for us," said Blonk. "It's not just about reducing labor hours; it's also about minimizing material waste, increasing accuracy, and delivering a superior product. Even in



Valentijn Blonk, General Manager of Gulf Precast: "Our expanded capacity is driven by automation."



Walid Aoun, Senior Factories Manager: "With the automation in place we can plan and produce much more efficiently."



The M-System BlueMesh® revolutionizes Gulf Precast's mesh production with enhanced precision.



Automated mesh welding reduces waste while boosting speed and quality of the products.

the UAE, where labor costs are relatively low, the savings are substantial across the board."

Factory Manager Walid Aoun elaborated on the benefits: "With the automation in place, we can plan and produce much more efficiently. Daily production requirements are communicated directly from our engineering department to the mesh welding plant, which executes them flawlessly."

Efficiency and flexibility

One of the standout features of the mesh welding plant is its flexibility. The system is capable of customizing products to meet specific client requirements. This versatility has proven invaluable for Gulf Precast's diverse portfolio of projects, ranging from villas to infrastructure.

"When selecting this machine, we prioritized flexibility alongside productivity," Blonk explained. "Progress Group's solution met all our criteria, ensuring we can adapt to a wide range of project demands while maintaining high output levels."

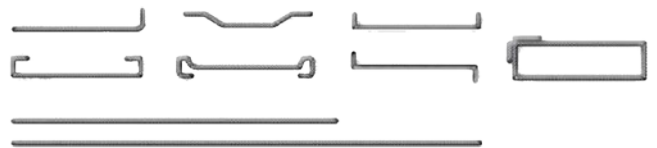


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The MSR line with its innovative rotor straightening system enables numerous types of automation. It offers customized solutions for the processing of large wire diameters off coil.



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*Flexible and precise:
The new mesh weld-
ing plant adapts to
customized require-
ments with ease.*

Transforming operations with support and collaboration

Gulf Precast's longstanding relationship with Progress Group began in 2006 with the implementation of an MSR straightening and cutting machine, which is still operational today. The recent addition of the mesh welding plant represents the culmination of this partnership.

"The installation process was seamless, thanks to Progress Group's professional team," said Aoun. "Their service and support have been exceptional, ensuring we get the most out of the technology. Any technical issues were addressed immediately, which made the transition incredibly smooth."

The training provided by Progress Group was thorough, enabling the staff to fully understand and operate the machinery. This has not only improved productivity but also made the workplace safer and more efficient.



*On the Pre-Storage
Area and Storage
Yard the produced
wall panels are tem-
porarily stored.*





Villa Nova La Rosa, a project completed with precast wall panels.

A future built on innovation

The broader benefits of automation are hereby not only referring to cost savings. Automation allows the company to deliver consistent quality, improve reliability, and create sustainable processes. Looking ahead, Gulf Precast remains committed to leveraging advanced technology to meet the UAE's growing construction demands. ■



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