

Masa AG, 56626 Andernach, Germany

# Concrete blocks for Romania

At the present time, the Romanian economy is in a continual process of growth but needs to be built on a solid foundation. Prefabricate Vest from Bucharest is making a considerable contribution to this in close cooperation with German engineering wisdom. In this up and coming land of Romania, Prefabricate Vest is one of the major concrete block manufacturers. Thanks to more than 35 years experience, the company can guarantee professionalism and reliability when dealing with its customers' wishes. Expertise and competent support are supplied from Andernach, Germany. Masa AG has delivered high-tech plant for manufacturing concrete blocks, paving stones, gardening and landscaping products, which fully lives up to the high expectations of Prefabricate Vest.

Right from the preliminary cooperation in drafting the plant's layout, Dumitru Manolescu, general manager at Prefabricate Vest, and Dragos Cozma, project manager, were absolutely convinced of its superior class.

A batching and mixing system with batching scale, aggregate dosage device and two mixers (Masa HPM 1500/2250 and HPM 500/750) generates first-class concrete, at up to 20 mixes per hour, which is transported to the block making machine by means of a combined 2 X 3,200 bucket conveyor system.

A special version Masa R 9001 VB has been put into operation here instead of the conventional one. The double, 3-unit, coloured silo design (core and facing concrete) with expanded machine frame ensures the best possible multicolour colorations. Concrete of various colours can be stored in both core and facing concrete silos. Individual colour combinations can be concocted according to product requirements. Particular care has been given to batching smaller quantities of facing concrete by



Mesh dispenser

using a shaking grate and a special batch filling box. A frequency controlled vibration unit is employed in the compaction process. In

line with rotation speed, the vibration force can be varied by changing frequency and can be pre-programmed according to product for the preliminary, intermediate or



Production facilities in Bucharest



Bucket conveyor system

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### Masa Aktiengesellschaft

Masa-Str. 2  
56626 Andernach  
Germany

Phone: +49 (0) 2632 9292-0  
Fax: +49 (0) 2632 9292-12  
e-mail: [info@masa-ag.com](mailto:info@masa-ag.com)  
[www.masa-ag.com](http://www.masa-ag.com)

### Masa Henke Maschinenfabrik GmbH

Osterkamp 2  
32457 Porta Westfalica  
Germany

Phone: +49 (0) 5731 680-0  
Fax: +49 (0) 5731 680-183  
e-mail: [info@masa-henke.com](mailto:info@masa-henke.com)  
[www.masa-henke.com](http://www.masa-henke.com)

Office Dorsten  
Barbarastr. 70  
46282 Dorsten  
Germany

Phone: +49 (0) 2362 9516-0  
Fax: +49 (0) 2362 9516-16  
e-mail: [info@masa-dorstener.com](mailto:info@masa-dorstener.com)  
[www.masa-dorstener.com](http://www.masa-dorstener.com)



### Branch offices

Moscow – Russian Federation, [info@masa.ru](mailto:info@masa.ru)  
Dubai – UAE, [masa\\_me@emirates.net.ae](mailto:masa_me@emirates.net.ae)  
Green Bay – USA, [sales@masa-usa.com](mailto:sales@masa-usa.com)  
Bangalore – India, [maniaraja@yahoo.com](mailto:maniaraja@yahoo.com)  
Tianjin – China, [masacno@public.tpt.tj.cn](mailto:masacno@public.tpt.tj.cn)  
Daegu – South Korea, [mh@masa-handuk.co.kr](mailto:mh@masa-handuk.co.kr)





*Control unit and Powertainer*

main vibration period. The individual data items stored can be reproduced on any occasion.

Prefabricate Vest exploits all these advantages in manufacturing a wide range of products on the Masa machine. Both rustic and modern, realistic and decorative concrete blocks can be found in their programme as well as elements for natural habitat terrain and garden landscaping.

Masa has achieved all this and much more by means of a sophisticated circular production line layout. After their manufacture, the blocks – still fresh – are forwarded without vibration to a double washing plant where they obtain their characteristic surface finish. Product curing takes place in a pallet rack, where Masa's typical large chamber principle is utilised. In this process, the chamber is completely insulated and kept at a constant temperature at all levels through well-regulated ventilation. Loading the pallet pack is carried out with a Masa lifting mast or a forklift with a 180° rotating device. A total of more than 5,000 production pallets can be lodged in this way.

The dried blocks are automatically extracted from the pallet rack and the product prepared for further careful transport. Just after the centring device, a mesh dispenser and a horizontal strapping machine have been built into the transportation system for this purpose.

Following this, the packaging unit positions the finished products together as block packages which are then additionally strapped around vertically to be conveyed on transport pallets on a belt out of the circular production line. The production pallets are cleaned, rotated by 180° and returned to the production process, with the objective of increasing the pallets' operational life.

The individual plant components are managed by a Siemens S7 programmable logic controller and can be visualised on a user interface based on Windows.

The Masa Powertainer combines tidiness and usefulness. Every power supply cabinet for the plant has been integrated into a 40' container and is arranged in a clearly laid out and space-saving way.

Prefabricate Vest had already made a name for itself as the manufacturer for aerated concrete on the Romanian market. Now that the firm has commissioned the Masa concrete block manufacturing plant, it has now gained an ideal position for launching into the sector for paving blocks, kerbstones, landscape blocks, artistic stones and garden materials – all, of course, made of concrete.

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

Prefabricate Vest  
B-dul Preciziei nr. 24  
Sector 6  
Bukarest, Romania  
T +40 21 3190479  
F +40 21 3190487  
[www.pv.ro](http://www.pv.ro)



MASA AG  
Masa-Straße 2  
56626 Andernach, Germany  
T +49 2632 92920  
F +49 2632 929211  
[info@masa-ag.com](mailto:info@masa-ag.com)  
[www.masa-ag.de](http://www.masa-ag.de)

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