

Wasa GmbH, 64756 Mossautal, Germany

Investment in new wetcast and drycast lines pays off for Austria Beton Werk

As one of the most important manufacturers of concrete block products in Slovakia, Austria Beton Werk (ABW) from Kráľová pri Senci decided in summer 2012 to increase the quality of its products still further. It was clear to the owner and managing director, Mr Josef Lasak, that this step could only be achieved using new boards: "We had already made a good choice with our Hess RH 1500 concrete block machine and were able to attain high accuracies in the formwork block product range. However, in order to further reduce these already small block height tolerances, we decided to replace the softwood boards that we had been using up to now. After tests of the most diverse types of board, our choice fell on the product that was best for us: the Wasa Uniplast® Ultra glass fibre reinforced plastic board."

This solid plastic board produces very good compaction results and stone qualities, which were noticeable immediately after putting the Wasa Uniplast Ultra into operation. Martin Lasak, production manager and brother of the managing director, confirms: "We could not achieve the very high acceleration values and the perfect compaction of the concrete with any other board that we tested. These are trailblazing glass fibre reinforced boards."

Apart from the very good production characteristics, ABW has also made a long-term economic investment with the Wasa Uniplast Ultra. Since they are made of solid material, the boards can be reground after many years of use, presenting the user with perfect board surfaces once again – and that for only around 10 percent of the costs of new boards. ABW also chose the solid

plastic board because regrinding is not possible with wooden boards that are only plastic-coated. Concrete blocks and slabs of the most diverse types are manufactured on the boards, which measure 1,400 x 1,100 x 50 mm.

ABW similarly chose Wasa for the wetcast production line

However, not everything that ABW would like to produce and offer its customers can be produced in a conventional way. Where the classic block making machine reaches its limits, ABW has built up an impressive range of special products from the wetcast area. ABW has also availed itself of Wasa's services here. Both the polyurethane casting resin moulds and the stack carrier system for the moulds come from Wasa's own production.

Unlike the boards for the block making machine, the carrier boards of the stacking system are not made of glass fibre reinforced plastic, but rather of polyurethane-coated boards with a pine wood core. This solution offers a torsionally stiff and very sturdy board with a low weight – ideal for wetcast production where the board not only needs to have a low deflection but also a low weight. The Wasa Woodplast® combines both these properties.

Wasa supplied a complete package of 500 stack carrier systems with Wasa polyurethane casting resin moulds. ABW's range of wetcast products encompasses five different types of coping stones and a stone series with a natural surface called Slate Jura. The products were designed in close co-operation with ABW.



Wasa Uniplast® Ultra plastic board in use at ABW



Concrete blocks and slabs of the most diverse types are manufactured on the boards, which measure 1,400 x 1,100 x 50 mm.



Wetcast production at ABW with the new wetcast moulds from Wasa



FURTHER INFORMATION

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The Wasa stack carrier system is delivered fully pre-assembled.

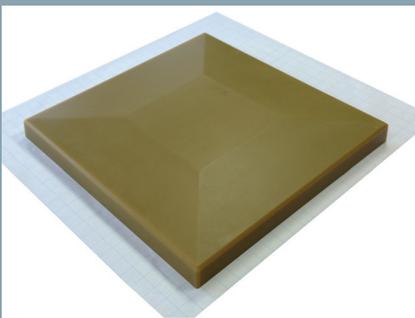
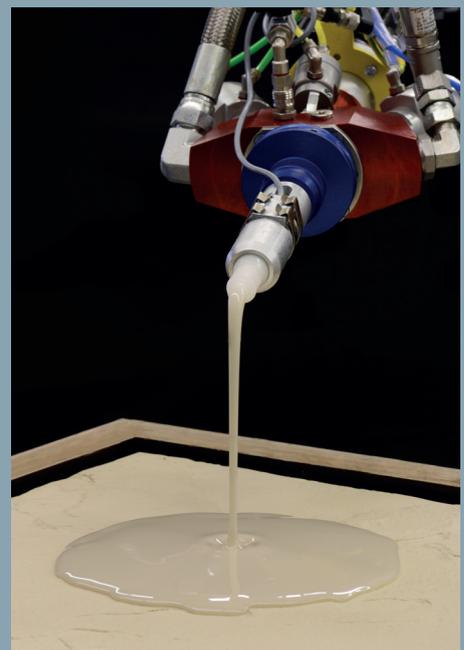
With the investment in the Wasa wetcast moulds ABW has sufficient development possibilities on a long-term basis for both for the extension of the current product range and for the adoption of further products into the range. ■

Wetcast moulds from Wasa

With the components manufactured in the Neubrunn works, Wasa offers customers an all-in-one solution of wetcast moulds and carrier systems that forms a self-contained unit. Wasa uses state-of-the-art tools for concept development. Drawings and 3D models are conceived on the computer using SolidWorks (CAD). On basis of the CAD data, dimensionally accurate models are produced with the aid of CNC milling technology.

Wasa has invested in the optimal conditions for the processing of liquid polyurethanes for the production of PU moulds. Using the state-of-the-art plant, liquid polyurethanes are processed with a permanently identical mixing ratio. The PU is passed through special vacuum tanks that enable optimum deaeration of the material. From there the flow-regulated pumps convey the polyurethane to the ultramodern mixing head. This unique machine moves on a rail system through the 40-metre-long production building.

Wetcast forms from Wasa are manufactured with very high mould stability and high mechanical strength.



Product examples: The true-to-detail CNC master can be reproduced any number of times with the high-quality polyurethane moulds.



Cast concrete slab manufactured with self-compacting concrete; Dyckerhoff Flowstone

View inside the wetcast mould production workshop at Wasa.