

ADVERTORIAL

Success is all about service

The success of Pan Mixers SA is testament to what the combination of quality equipment and unmatched customer service will do. Brothers Walter and Robert Ebeling – both directors of the company – expanded their father's already successful business in the late 1980s and turned it into the largest turnkey manufacturer of brick and block-making equipment in the southern hemisphere.

Pan Mixers caters to local and international clients and is the leading manufacturer of concrete block, brick and paving machinery; turbine and counter-current pan mixers; and batching plants for the concrete, refractory and ceramic industries.

'We represent a number of reputable global brands in South Africa,' says Walter Ebeling. 'We're also a single-source supplier for many different types of concrete product manufacturing machinery.'

Pan Mixers recently launched the super-strong Fiori self-loading concrete mixer range that is equipped to handle South Africa's toughest terrain and batch quality concrete in the most remote areas.

Ebeling says that his company signed the deal for the Fiori agency on 1 March 2010, believing the plant to be a top-quality offering for the local building and construction industry, as well as certain applications in the mining sector.

These hydraulically operated, standalone machines are able to scoop, load, mix, transport and place concrete independently, while being operated by a single person. They are also easy to manoeuvre, making them suitable for the concrete lining of canals and tunnels, road works, building construction sites, low cost housing sites and other infrastructure projects.

The advantage of small equipment like this is that concrete can be batched immediately, eliminating down time spent waiting for deliveries. To assist in job creation for small projects and in rural areas, Pan Mixers also



Pan Mixers SA's flagship machine, the RE-1400 during manufacture

offers its locally manufactured Universal (UNI) & RE600 machines which can also be supplied as mobile plants which are trailer mounted for the manufacture of concrete bricks, blocks and paving products. What's more, Pan Mixers recently became the local distributor of leading British machinery supplier Wil-El-Mil Engineering, which boasts over 30 years experience in the wet press design and manufacture arena, particularly for the production of slabs and kerbs. As part of the deal, Pan Mixers will offer local support on machinery and spare parts.

The three-stage rotary presses compact concrete densely without vibration. A 400 ton hydraulic cylinder squeezes the concrete into the form, while pressing out excess moisture. 'This process is far quicker than the traditional method,' explains Ebeling.

While the equipment is available in both single- and three-stage, Pan Mixers have imported two three-stage models, due to their high production capacity. Walter says that the presses are capable of manufacturing up to 1.8 km of kerbing in a 9 or 10 hour shift.

Besides kerbstones, the presses are also used to manufacture high quality paving slabs and tiles for the construction industry. 'They're ideal for mass production, which is often required in

construction. Quality assurance is made simpler by the fact that it's a single batch of concrete being used for a large number of tiles or slabs,' says Ebeling.

Pan Mixers has a stock of R17 million in spare parts for customers' equipment; around 110 employees; and 18 000m² of property in which it operates, with some 5 000m² under roof. Annual group turnover is R140 million.

From its massive 4 500t mixing and batching plant for mixed concrete to P-25, 10-25t laboratory pan mixer, Pan Mixers has developed solutions for a variety of client requirements.

'We also provide turnkey operations for complete concrete block making plants to suit customer requirements, from manual chain conveyor and gantry systems to fully automatic handling plants with pallet stackers, de-stackers, curing chambers and product packer heads.'

With its large product base and ability to integrate its systems with imported equipment, Pan Mixers truly is a one-stop shop, and both directors are personally involved in the business.

'It has been our lives,' says Ebeling. 'We've grown up here and have worked in all areas of Pan Mixers. We have a vested interest in the future of this business and, therefore, in the future of our clients' businesses.' **AD**

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