

## 21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY TECHNOLOGY IMPROVES

quality control in readymix transit



Quintin Booyesen

A first-of-its-kind moisture measurement system that combines Bluetooth, GSM, Windows, smart phone and microwave technology is now exclusively available in the local market through Pan Mixers South Africa (PMSA) – the largest supplier of a complete range of quality concrete equipment, machinery and technology in Africa.

The FL-MOBI-MIC Inspector, developed by German-based moisture control expert Ludwig Moisture Control, utilises a combination of advanced technology that secures the technical status of readymix concrete in transit, from the supplier's batch plant, to handover or delivery at the construction site.

PMSA sales and marketing manager Quintin Booyesen notes that the system consists of a microwave moisture measuring probe and a consistency measuring bar with transmission unit mounted on the truck's rotating drum, which in turn communicates via Bluetooth to a receiver module in the cab.

"This signal is then forwarded on the GSM network via a Windows-based smartphone or compatible device, thereby enabling the data to be available in almost any location. What's more, an industrial standard for the Bluetooth connection ensures reliable data transfer at long range even under challenging conditions, which is particularly important in the harsh African environment," he states.

In addition to the transmission of product moisture data, the FL-MOBI-MIC Inspector



system also sends other crucial process parameters for real-time monitoring. These include; product temperature, consistency, slump, residual water, filling level, rotating direction and speed of the mixing drum. Booyesen reveals that this ultimately puts the supplier in full control and able to monitor the concrete whilst in transit, for the first time.

"Throughout the entire transit phase, the supplier is aware of any change introduced to the readymix product. This eliminates various risks – such as water being added

onsite to speed up the load discharge – to fully guarantee the quality control of all readymix deliveries," he concludes. Pan Mixers SA is a leading manufacturer of a wide range of concrete block, brick and paving machinery, turbine and counter-current pan mixers and batching plants for the Concrete, Refractory and Ceramic industries. Pan Mixers have been servicing the needs of local and overseas customers since 1976. PMSA brick-making machinery, in the Johannesburg area alone, produces 2 000 000 bricks per day. 🌐