

# New moisture measurement system improves concrete quality and control

The new state-of-the-art Ludwig FL-Mobimic SlimLine microwave moisture measuring system and wireless Bluetooth transmission system consists of a microwave moisture measuring probe with an integrated temperature sensor, transmitting unit and receiver module.

The system was developed in-house by Ludwig in mid-2012, and is exclusively distributed in the local market through Pan Mixers South Africa (PMSA).



Ready-mix truck with a receiver module (above) and below, ready-mix truck with an external receiver.



Ludwig Moisture Control's MD Manfred Ludwig says: "As the smallest microwave moisture probe of its kind, Mobimic SlimLine is a new generation of wireless measuring. Just 29 mm high with a diameter of 75 mm, the probe can be placed effortlessly into confined spaces. This design breakthrough enables precise humidity monitoring in process flows – something previously impossible with wired sensors."

"Data captured by the probe is transmitted through an industrial-grade Bluetooth connection. The combination of the probe with a transmitting and receiving unit enables the Mobimic SlimLine to be used in stationary mixers with a rotat-

ing mixing drum, ready-mix trucks and moving bulk containers. It can also be used in drying and mixing processes," Ludwig explains.

A major challenge in moisture control is that users are often unaware of the exact water content of their aggregates. "Accurately controlling the water and moisture content facilitates energy savings, increased productivity and improved quality of the concrete products manufactured," he adds.

PMSA's marketing and sales manager Quintin Booysen says the company has been an authorised Southern Africa distributor for Ludwig for several years. "We have worked closely with Ludwig Moisture Control to make the company's range accessible to the local market. We also provide customers with the latest product training, as well as comprehensive after-sales and technical support."

Although the Mobimic SlimLine wireless moisture measuring system is a niche product, Ludwig is optimistic that the company will obtain measurable market share in Africa, because of the expansion of the precast and ready-mix industries locally and also in southern Africa. "Expansion of these industries has prompted an increased demand for better-quality concrete and greater control during concrete manufacture, as well as delivery in the ready-mix sector. The Mobimic SlimLine system has a proven track record internationally for achieving these objectives, and I have full confidence that similar results will be realised in Africa."

Booyesen says PMSA's 2014 strategic imperatives include offering monthly industry-specific training sessions at PMSA's showroom and sales facility. "To add greater value to our existing product offering, we will be hosting various concrete industry experts from our suppliers in Africa and Europe to provide guests with product-specific workshops and training." ■

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