

WASA AG, 64293 Darmstadt, Germany

Better compaction results and consistent stone quality – Georg Huber company from Germany relies on fibre-reinforced solid plastic board

Georg Huber Betonsteine GmbH can look back on a long and extremely successful history. High-quality concrete products have been manufactured at the only site in Altomünster, Bavaria, Germany, since 1905. Mr Georg Huber now leads the fortunes of the traditional family-owned company in the sixth generation. At just 21, he took over the company from his father. Until the takeover, Huber mainly produced concrete hollow blocks and form-work blocks with a multilayer machine. After the takeover, Georg Huber had invested in the first static board machine for concrete blocks. The way was paved for a broader product variety for the company and it was prepared for the constantly growing market requirements.

Today, 13 permanent employees work in one shift, producing approx. 130 different variations of concrete products for Huber customers. The product variety ranges from paving stones to terrace slabs, sewage systems for road construction, kerbstones, masonry blocks etc. in first-class quality. As a rule, customers are supplied within a radius of approx. 150 km from the Altomünster location. A delivery beyond the borders of the Federal Republic of Germany is also not uncommon at Huber.

Georg Huber himself stands at the machine every day and tries to produce the best possible quality for his concrete products every day. He apparently succeeds very well in that.

Mr Huber does not call his daily business work, he calls it hobby or passion; with a great deal of tradition and family he is a master of his trade.

At Georg Huber Betonsteine GmbH, the owner has all the fortunes in his hands. To the delight of Mr Huber the next generation is already in the starting blocks with his son and daughter.

Georg Huber is currently producing with modern plant technology from Hess. He constantly invests in plant technology in order to modernise it and keep it up to date. Thus, the production processes are constantly optimised to meet the high

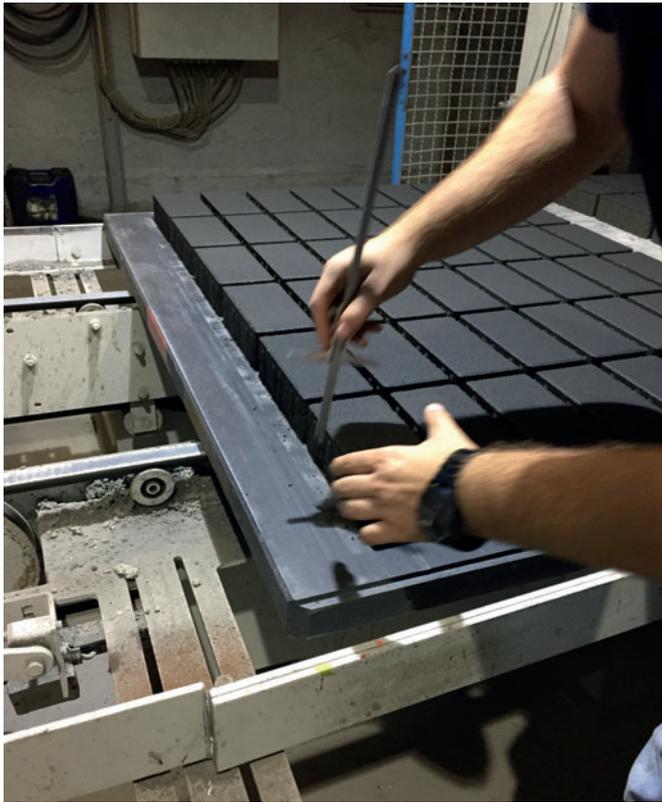


Section of the model garden at Georg Huber Betonsteine GmbH

quality demands of the customers and, of course, those of the company.

Mr Huber estimates the capacity for production boards in the drying chamber at approx. 4,500 pcs. Production is carried out with approx. 4,000 production boards. Since the commissioning of the first block making machine, Huber has been producing on a softwood board as a production base.

Since plant technology offers ever more far-reaching possibilities, Huber has recognized that a classic softwood board limits the production of high-quality products. The production boards also had to be brought up to the state of the art in accordance with the modern plant technology currently in use. Mr Huber has frequently had different production boards, which are available on the market, running as well for test purposes.



The glass-fibre reinforced solid plastic boards convince in the test through excellent vibration transmission and better compaction results.

Only the glass-fibre reinforced Uniplast Ultra solid plastic board from Wasa convinced him in every respect.

"The excellent and even vibration transmission of the boards demonstrably brings us a better compaction of the blocks - this means a higher strength of our products", says Mr Huber after the test phase with the glass-fibre reinforced solid plastic board.

After the meaningful and positive test, Mr Huber decided to replace the softwood boards in use and in future to use the Uniplast Ultra quality board, which has been proven in the market for years.

In June 2018 the new Wasa production boards were delivered as agreed. The machine settings were adapted accordingly to the new production boards after commissioning of all boards in order to achieve the best possible production results. An optimum setting of the machine parameters can also have a positive effect on the cycle times - it is not unusual to see a reduction compared to wood and plastic-coated composite boards.

After one year of operation, Huber is completely satisfied with the production boards. The constant and uniform vibration transmission that the homogeneous and glass-fibre reinforced material brings with it is a major production advantage. Furthermore, the surface of the boards is very impact resistant.

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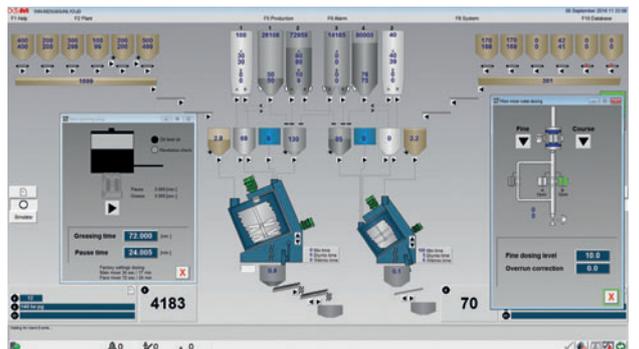
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Delivery of the new production boards to Georg Huber Betonsteine GmbH in Altomünster.

In order to maintain and protect the surfaces of Wasa Uniplast Ultra in the long term, Georg Huber pays close attention to cleaning the boards.

With the delivery of the new boards, the existing cleaning brush made of nylon was exchanged for a cleaning brush with corrugated wire recommended for glass fibre reinforced solid plastic boards. The cleaning brush is an indispensable component in board care. The functionality of the brush must always be guaranteed. If the brush does not work or is worn out, the production boards will not be properly cleaned. Consequently, residues of concrete products may remain on the surfaces of the boards. When the mould is lowered and placed directly on adhering residual concrete, it is permanently pressed into the surface of the production board by the strong pressure of the mould clamp and the vibration.

In addition to the cleaning brush, Huber has also installed a scraper unit in front of the cleaning brush. The scraper unit, equipped with spring steel elements, removes a part of the concrete residues on the surfaces of the production boards before the actual brushing process. The scraper unit was adjusted to the correct height according to the production boards.



Insight into production - Wasa Uniplast Ultra has been in operation for a year now.

The functionality of the two cleaning units should always be checked and monitored during the daily visual inspection of the system technology. A clean board surface is the prerequisite for a smooth stone underside.

Georg Huber has opted for the glass-fibre reinforced Uniplast Ultra solid plastic board from Wasa, a board that has proven itself worldwide on the market and is a reliable partner.

The excellent and consistent performance and longevity of the production board convinced Mr Huber.

Furthermore, the option of regrinding the production boards after some years in use offers a further, not inconsiderable advantage.

Huber in Altomünster is very happy and completely satisfied with the decision it took. The company is looking to the future with great confidence and is well prepared for the growing market requirements. ■



Functional board cleaning at Georg Huber Betonsteinwerke GmbH

- (a) Cleaning brush with corrugated wire
- (b) Scraper equipped with spring steel

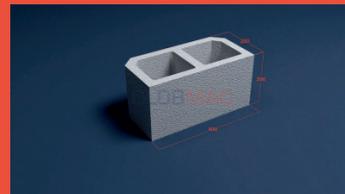
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