

The bed mortar came out of the screw mixer



750 t of bed mortar for 6000 m² cast stone was mechanically "consumed" in the bank and administration centre of the Südwest LB Stuttgart.

A "filet" of Stuttgart's downtown area has a new face: On the approximately 20 ha area of what was the Güter underground station area, directly at Hauptbahnhof station, the Südwestdeutsche Landesbank commissioned the building of a new bank and administration centre. It is now the workplace of about 2500 employees, a workplace which was created with ecologically sound materials.



The PFT HM 2 with volume-increasing interchangeable hopper and injection hood with ventilating filter fully automatically supplied up to 30 l of mortar per minute.

The building procedures were subject to a number of restraints. The restricted space of the construction site, located between track installations and busy streets, demanded ingenuity on the part of the builders.

This also affected the Bayer Betonsteinwerk GmbH, Blaubeuren, which was responsible for the creation, delivery and laying of 6000 m² of cast stone plates. No less than 750 t of bed mortar was required.

Machine power instead of manpower

Traditionally, for cast stone handwork bed mortar is mixed awkwardly by hand, or at best with a primitive mixer, and "transported" to the construction site in buckets or wheel barrows by straining workers.

Cast stone foreman Richard Bayer searched long and hard for ways to make the work easier, cleaner and more efficient, and at the same time to increase productivity. It was clear to him that the Südwest LB

project could only be dealt with economically with the use of efficient machinery: "Just the sight of mortar being transported in buckets was enough to make me see red!"

In close co-operation with the PFT plaster and conveying technology team and the mortar suppliers, various system types were tested. The winner of this contest, a work-dry bed mortar from the Ila mortar company out of the silo, which was set in such a way that it could easily be conveyed dust-free over long distances and mixed to a consistent water-cement ratio on site in the PFT HM 2 horizontal mixer.

Major work-reduction

The laying work in the remaining 26 staircases of the building complex continued from 1993 to the middle of 1995. The introduction of the new machinery was hailed as a tremendous relief by the workers. Naturally, the goal of a higher quality



standard was also reached. Bayer: "The material is quality-controlled; we are building drilling cores, and are now sure about the high quality of everything that gets installed." In his role as chairman of the Baden-Württemberg cast stone trade association, Richard Bayer encourages his colleagues to take leave of building methods "from the times of the Pyramids". In the meantime, he has obtained a total of 10 PFT SILOMATs and a PFT HM 2 screw mixer for his firm.

The advantages at a glance

Time-saving of about 25%

Relief for workers

Material containers can be placed almost anywhere on the construction site

Construction sites remain clean

(no more sand piles)

Reduced material loss (no more "missing" cement bags)

Consistent mortar quality

Work is possible in all weather conditions, even below freezing

Drastic reduction in claims resulting from cracks in the cement stone