

The Schweizerischer Maler- und Gipserunternehmer-Verband (SMGV) is the industry / employers' association of the Swiss painters and plasterers. The SMGV currently represents the interests of approx. 2,000 painting and plastering businesses in Switzerland.



Swiss School Swears by PFT RITMO

The establishment of the training centre in Wallisellen (near Zurich) in 1971 can be considered an important milestone in the history of the SMGV. In terms of both quantity and quality, the centre offers a wide range of training options, from basic and advanced training to specialist courses.



PFT construction machinery trader Werner Wälti (right) during the demonstration, together with instructor Remo Bischofberger.

Tailor-made courses are available for both painters and plasterers. The training courses for apprentice plasterers take five days and are designed for revision. Most of the participants are in the third year of their apprenticeship and intend to deepen their basic knowledge in certain fields before their final exams. These courses

are also attended by apprentices who have not yet been able to go to an "external training course". This kind of off-the-job training is obligatory in Switzerland; cantonal regulations require every apprentice to take such courses.

New Training Machine

The SMGV has recently purchased a PFT machine for practical training. The centre always had to hire machines and equipment for demonstration purposes - now it has its own PFT mixing pump, a PFT RITMO.

Urs Huber, master plasterer and instructor at the training centre, asked the construction machinery supplier Wälti Baumaschinen, Bern, about a small plastering machine that would meet the following requirements: It had to be flexible, well-adapted to the school's needs, quickly ready for operation and easy to clean. Manager Werner Wälti recommended a PFT RITMO plus M mixing pump, firstly because it is supplied with 230 V AC, which is available in all the classrooms at any time, and secondly because the PFT RITMO plus M version includes several extras, i.e. a compressor and the complete basic equipment for mortar application, so that the user can get

started immediately.

Mr. Wälti and Konrad Steffen-Kohler, PFT Consultant for Switzerland, first gave Mr. Huber detailed theoretical and practical instructions in the use of the PFT RITMO plus M. Then Mr. Huber was able to teach his pupils how to work with the machine.

Now Mr. Huber trains 12-15 pupils per week in the use of plastering machines, so that they are optimally prepared for daily work after their apprenticeship.



The SMGV pupils are familiarizing themselves with the use of the new PFT RITMO plus M mixing pump.