

MCT Italy S.r.l., 06084 Bettona, Italy

# New ready-mix batching plant installed in the French Alsace region

**Well recognized producer of ready-mixed concrete in the Alsace/Lorraine region of France Pfordt Beton relies on a new batching plant from leading manufacturer of machinery MCT Italy S.r.l. The plant includes amongst other things a fast and precise component dosing system with four storage hoppers for four different kinds of aggregates and a twin shaft mixer with a capacity of 3,750 (2,500) litres. With this investment Pfordt Beton ensures a higher production capacity, high concrete quality, and the possibility to serve a bigger distribution area including the region along the French border with Germany.**

After the economic crises of 2014, France experienced a continuous growth in the construction industry, thanks, first of all, to steady growth in the housing and residential markets.

France, in fact, benefits from tax incentives applicable to housing investments which has strongly encouraged the recovery of this industry. In addition, people can benefit from financial aid granted for the purchase of their first home with relatively low interest rates. According to the FFB ("Federation Française du Batiment", the French Building Federation), in France, the building and public works sector is once again growing, this increase is mainly due to a 7.4% increase in the housing construction segment.

The latest delivery of a batching plant by MCT Italy S.r.l. to PFORDT BETON in France fits into this context.

Pfordt Beton was established in 1998 and today is a very well recognized producer of ready-mixed concrete in the Alsace/Lorraine region. Thanks to its fourth batching plant and its large fleet of vehicles, Pfordt Beton has a global production and delivery capacity of over 1,000m<sup>3</sup> per day and can serve more than 350 municipalities. Adaptability and versatility are the keywords that can best describe Pfordt Beton; indeed, thanks to a wide range of more than 400 different recipes and its know-how, the company can guarantee its customers very high quality concrete in all areas of application, certified according to national standard "Norm française" (NF), and delivered as soon as possible.

## High production rate, excellent concrete quality

After a careful selection of concrete plant suppliers on the international scene, Pfordt Beton engaged MCT Italy S.r.l. to deliver its latest concrete plant, located in the Reichstett site. With this batching plant, Pfordt Beton wanted to ensure a higher production capacity and a greater geographic coverage, with the possibility of serving, in particular, the German market along the border.



Complete overview of batch plant



Truck mixer feeding point

As the two companies share similar business philosophies the first contact was established easily: both enterprises are family-run businesses and the customization of solutions and services offered are the keys to the companies' success.

MCT Italy followed Pfordt Beton in this new challenge, starting with the preliminary design of the concrete plant adapted to the customer's production site, with particular attention to the logistic vehicle traffic. With its technical office, MCT Italy S.r.l. has developed a plant that combines the requested high production rate with excellent quality of the produced concrete. The plant is able to guarantee a production rate of 100m<sup>3</sup>/h of concrete with four different aggregates and a mixing time of less than 35 seconds thanks to the speed and precision of the component dosing systems, to the high performance of the aggregate conveyor belts and to the presence of an aggregate holding hopper above the mixer which allows multiple production cycles.

An automatic aggregate loading system with a receiving hopper with a capacity of 25m<sup>3</sup> includes a massive and robust drive-over grid which allows to minimize the truck ramp to unload the aggregates.

An inclined conveyor belt and a reversible belt guarantee the distribution of aggregates into the four different storage hoppers.

Four storage hoppers with a capacity of 40m<sup>3</sup> each are equipped with an extraction system by pneumatic gates for gravel and an extraction belt for sand with moisture sensor to check the humidity of the aggregates.

The dosing belt weights the right quantity of material and a high-speed conveyor belt minimizes the emptying time: in this way a cycle time of 90 seconds is guaranteed for any kind of recipe.

### Homogeneous concrete with excellent hydration of cement

A twin shaft mixer 3,750/2,500 produces a very homogeneous concrete with excellent hydration of the cement in a reduced mixing time and an extremely fast discharge is also guaranteed. The large number of blades along with their orientation guarantees a perfect combination of rotation and movement of the material. The lining is made of Ni-Hard cast iron tiles with a hardness of 530 HB. The mixing arms have a reduced profile to avoid accumulation of product during mixing and are made of spheroidal cast iron. The blades are made of Ni-Hard cast iron with a hardness of 550 HB which ensures durability with very low maintenance costs.

An automatic high-pressure washing system (120 bar) with four rotary retractable washing heads positioned inside the mixer 3,750/2,500 ensures very efficient and rapid cleaning with limited water consumption. In accordance with its green philosophy MCT Italy is always taking care of environmentally friendly solutions and supply equipment allowing the customer high savings of power and water as well as the reduction of noise and dust emissions.

Four cement silos with a capacity of 80 tonnes each ensure efficient cement storage in terms of quantity and flexibility as four different types of powder can easily be stocked.

In accordance with the company's policy, the technical department of MCT Italy S.r.l. paid particular attention to plant reliability and low maintenance costs: all electromechanical components are oversized, the steel structures are hot-dip galvanized and the hoppers are protected with a bolted second layer made of Hardox 500.

MCT Italy's technical and commercial manager for France, Eng. Luca Cellini affirms: "France is an absolutely strategic market for MCT Italy S.r.l., which has strengthened its presence in all areas of the construction industry, whether it is BPE, prefabrication or the production of special concrete elements. The partnership with Pfordt Beton, a family owned business of great reputation and very well known in the region, strengthens our commercial presence in France, a strategic market in the history of MCT Italy. Another success for MCT Italy has been achieved in a true partnership with the customer".

Steve Beck, manager of Pfordt Beton says: "The MCT concrete plant is now operating since August 2018 and has already produced more than 50,000m<sup>3</sup> of concrete. Along this time-frame we have realized the robustness of the installation which experienced no major breakdown. We were also able to test the after-sales service of MCT Italy, operating 24/7, which has always been able to follow up our technical requests with prompt reaction. Today we would recommend MCT Italy without any hesitation as we are completely satisfied with our installation". ■

#### FURTHER INFORMATION



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