

KEMROC cutter removes a layer of marl

DIETFURT LIME- STONE INCREASES PROFITABILITY

Franken-Schotter has made significant improvements in the production process for building blocks for walls and embankments at its site at Dietfurt. An excavator mounted milling attachment from KEMROC removes a troublesome layer of marl while profiling the uneven surface of its limestone building blocks in a matter of minutes.

Franken-Schotter GmbH & Co. KG is a medium sized, German manufacturing company employing 360 people with head office in Treuchtlingen-Dietfurt. They have three production plants located in the districts of Weissenburg-Gunzenhausen, Eichstaett and Roth producing asphalt mix, gravel and dimensional stone. Franken-Schotter is a market leader in Germany for dimensional stone and their product is sold world-wide.

At the Dietfurt quarry the rock has a compressive strength of between 60 and 70 MPa. The rock formation consists of several layers and depending on the thickness of the layer, rock is extracted as blocks using either drill and split or cutter saws. When possible, the ideal size of a block is 3.00 x 1.90 m and all blocks are broken out of the quarry wall using a wheeled loader.

Some layers of rock are covered by a 3 to 7 cm deposit of marl. Until now, blocks covered by marl had to be left for up to one year until the troublesome marl layer broke loose. Occasionally, the rock layers have surfaces so uneven that they cannot be used for gardens and landscaping resulting in product with a much lower value.

After a full weeks testing on low value blocks, it was decided in June 2017 to purchase a KEMROC attachment for use on the company's excavator. The most suitable attachment for this application proved to be the ES (Flexator) range of grinders. The ES 60 HD, with 60 cm wide drums fitted with carbide tipped picks, was the model most suitable for the size of excavator at Franken-Schotter.

With the KEMROC cutter mounted on their excavator, it took about one minute to remove completely the deposit of marl and profile the surface of each block of limestone. The Assistant Quarry Manager at Franken-Schotter, Diplome Engineer Sven Kersten said, "After a short period of time our excavator operator got a good feel for the KEMROC attachment. With this grinder, we have made a dramatic improvement to the value of our product in a



A raw block in Franken-Schotter's Dietfurt limestone quarry. The problematic layer of marl on the upper surface is plainly visible.



After testing for one week, the quarry purchased a KEMROC ES 60 HD grinder for installation on their own excavator.



The KEMROC grinder in action. It takes one minute for the excavator operator to completely clean and profile the surface of one block.

very rational way. We have also eliminated the spalling of our blocks in winter and we are confident they can be used without hesitation in any wall". KEMROC grinding attachments are also being used by other German natural stone producers to increase the quantity and quality of their output. ■



The same raw block after grinding with the KEMROC grinder. It now has a clean surface and greatly improved profile.

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