

Wopfinger Transportbeton invest in efficiency improvements at Eggendorf

An investment in a new sand washing plant by Wopfinger Transportbeton Ges.m.b.H. at their Eggendorf site in Lower Austria has resulted in a 60% increase in gravel production (from 135 t/h to 220 t/h).

Before the new Evowash sand washing plant was installed Wopfinger were working two shifts at Eggendorf to meet the capacity requirements of the ready mix concrete plant located at the sand and gravel pit. This has now been reduced to one shift as a result of both the quality and quantity of the washed gravel now being produced.

"Our previous sand production system was a real bottleneck for us and resulted in us having to work two shifts in order to ensure we had enough gravel to meet our concrete production requirements" explains Mr Franz Denk, Technical Director at Wopfinger Transportbeton Gges.m.b.H. "By addressing this issue we have introduced significant efficiencies into our production processes at Eggendorf."

The decision to invest in the new Evowash system was made following a visit to the Eggendorf site by CDE Sales Manager for Austria, Mr Stefan Hunger and CDE Sales Director, Enda Ivanoff. This was part of a programme introduced by CDE to work with existing customers on strategic cost saving

initiatives. "We visited the Eggendorf site following an invitation from Mr Denk and conducted a full audit of their existing processing plant" explains Enda Ivanoff. "It was clear that by introducing the Evowash they would eliminate the loss of quality fine sand, which would make a significant contribution towards optimising performance."

The new Evowash 101 sand washing plant produces 100 tons per hour of washed 0-4mm sand which is exclusively used in on-site concrete production. The Evowash receives material from the existing wet screening plant directly to the sump where it is then pumped to the integrated 625mm cyclone. The underflow from the hydrocyclone is discharged onto the Evowash dewatering screen and stockpiled while the waste water containing the 0-63 micron fraction overflows the top of the hydrocyclone and is sent to settling ponds.

Wopfinger Transportbeton have manufactured concrete at Eggendorf since 1990 and the plant was upgraded in 2011 to support the construction of the

A2 Motorway for which Wopfinger supplied more than 25,000m3 of concrete. The Eggendorf production facility is located just off the A2 approximately 50kms south of Vienna and is one of 4 gravel plants operated by Wopfinger Transportbeton in Lower Austria. In total the company has 14 concrete production facilities in East Austria.

"We have developed a reputation as technical leaders in the production of ready mix concrete in Austria. The production of a consistent washed sand product is crucial to maintaining quality and performance across the range of concrete products they manufacture and the introduction of the Evowash system has ensured delivery of a washed sand which meets these strict quality requirements.

This project by Wopfinger Transportbeton is indicative of a renewed focus from the construction materials industry on the identification of areas for investment that will create efficiencies and reduce costs within existing processes. "The feedback we are getting from our customers indicates that there is an industry wide recognition that investment in new equipment as a means of reducing costs is not only viable but essential" says CDE Sales Director, Enda Ivanoff. "Our project at Eggendorf is a good example of the benefits to be gained from this approach."

ENDS

Notes for editors:

- Wopfinger Transportbeton is part of the Schmid Industrie Group with comprises over 70 companies and pan-European strategic investments.
- Schmid Industrie Group employs 4,800 people in Austria and 14 other countries.
- Wopfinger Transportbeton are the largest ready mix concrete supplier in Southern Austria and employ 200 people at 12 concrete plants and additional distribution centres. The company operates a fleet of 60 vehicles.

 Wopfinger Transportbeton are leading players in the Austrian construction materials market and are members of a number of trade associations including GVTB (The Austrian Quality Association for Ready Mix Concrete), BRV (Building Materials Recycling Association) and BetonMarketing Austria.

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