



CEMENT & CONCRETE

A cure for dull and unattractive concrete surfaces

Control curing is an essential process in the manufacture of concrete products, as it ensures a more aesthetically pleasing and consistent appearance, while increasing overall durability and minimising cement usage.

Pan Mixers South Africa (PMSA), supplier of concrete brick, block and paving making machinery in Africa, is also the exclusive southern African distributor for German-based Kraft Curing Solutions, a specialist in the manufacture of customised, thermal-dynamic and accelerated concrete curing equipment for precast concrete production.

PMSA sales and marketing manager Quintin Booysen comments that the

company directly imports a Kraft kit, which is assembled by PMSA appointed sub-contractors using local insulation and ducting materials. "This agreement not only makes the equipment more affordable for local precast concrete producers, but also creates new jobs and stimulates the local economy," he explains.

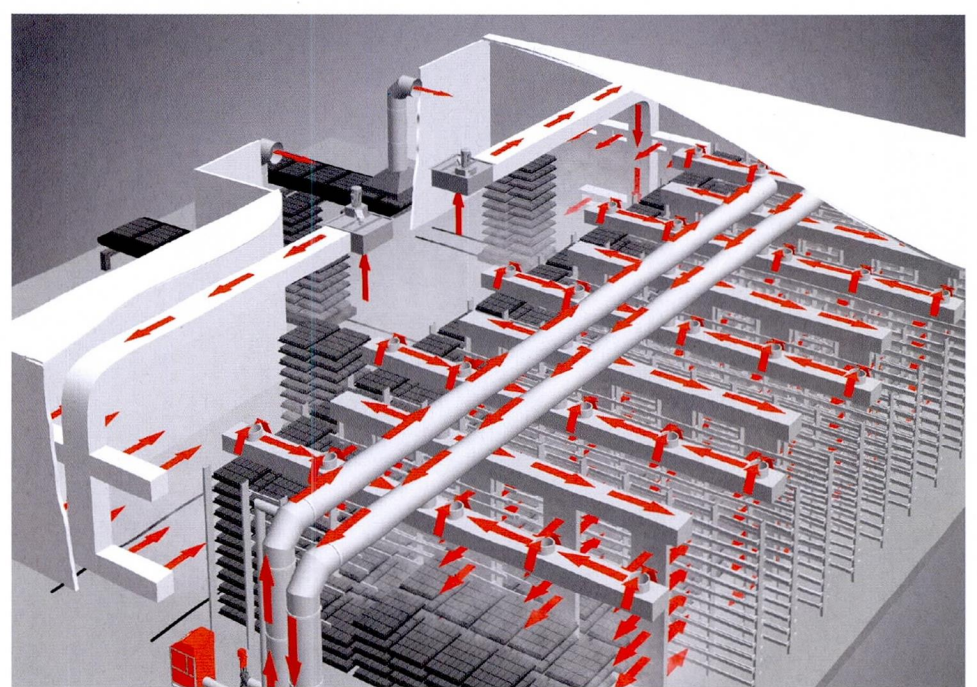
Having designed and installed more than 650 concrete curing systems in 56 countries, Kraft managing director Michael Kraft says that the company is dedicated to making these products stronger, more durable and more aesthetically pleasing while saving the producers time and money.

By making use of control curing, concrete

products will result in less efflorescence and a brighter colour, which will also appear more consistent through secondary processing equipment. This method can result in a reduction of cement costs of up to 10%, as well as a decrease in pigment content. Control curing also makes the concrete product more durable.

Kraft adds that, through the control curing process, the concrete will become more resistant to freeze thaw forces, and will also have a higher resistance to abrasion and chloride penetration. The corners and edges of the product will also be stronger, which will result in less chipping.

Through their partnership, PMSA and Kraft aim to provide the local market with



The Kraft kit is assembled by PMSA sub-contractors using local insulation and ducting material

high-quality equipment that is complemented by a value-added and comprehensive service offering. This is clearly

evident in the fact that the two companies successfully hosted two concrete curing seminars in Cape Town

and Johannesburg respectively in late 2014.

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