

# Roof-tile Machines

A range of concrete roof-tile machines developed specifically for start-up businesses and climatic and operating conditions in Africa is available from Pan Mixers South Africa (PMSA). These machines also take advantage of the fact that concrete roof-tiles are a far more environmentally-friendly product than clay roof tiles.

These important facts led to PMSA entering into a partnership with world-leading Swedish roof-tile expert ABECE to distribute its equipment in Africa.



PMSA Marketing and Sales Manager Quintin Booyesen highlights that the two companies have been collaborating successfully since 2005, and have worked on fully automated roof-tile plants in South Africa with capacities of up to 140 tiles a minute.

The SPS semi-automatic extruder can manufacture up to 5 000 concrete tiles in a nine-hour shift, depending on the specific plant configuration. This equates to about ten tiles a minute. The main benefits of this extruder are that it is easy to install, operate and maintain, which are important considerations in remote project sites in Africa.

Concrete is fed from a conveyor into the concrete hopper above the slipper and roller unit. Aluminium pallets are placed manually on the support rails that guide the pallets through the extruder. A hydraulic cylinder pushes the pallets through the release oil spray system and the making head in order to shape the concrete tile.

Thereafter the automatic knife unit cuts and shapes the tile. This knife unit is kept clean by a water-spray system. The manufacturing process only requires three to five labourers, depending on the level of automation and the skill level of the staff.

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