case study INNOVATION made in Germany





Strong Performance of New Cleaning System in Fair Centre

Rheda-Wiedenbrück - September 2006: Exhibition business is a very fast-paced one. Where today seminars or concerts are taking place, model trains and cars will be exhibited in a few days' time.

The A2 Forum in the heart of Westfalia is a modern fair centre with numerous conference rooms, which is used for all kinds of events: for fairs and exhibitions, for conferences, congresses and general meetings, for training and seminars, as well as for galas and concerts. Often, only a few hours remain for making necessary alterations between events.

Because time is always scarce, a well coordinated organisation and reliable partners are of very high priority. Particular importance is given to the subject of cleaning. The exhibitors and visitors to the fair centre expect to find a perfect environment at all times for the presentation of their company or when visiting any kind of event.

The company responsible for cleaning services in the A2 Forum is JOLMES. For this demanding task the company chose the new cleaning system CONVERT 82 from HEFTER Cleantech.



This is not only convenient; it also provides a very clear view on all sides. Machine reduces cost through multiple purpose application

CONVERT 82 is, as the name suggests, the only convertible floor treatment system, which, due to the flexible use for varying tasks, is meant to contribute to reducing costs. The multiple use are enabled through the exchangeable working heads, which can be changed within 20 seconds.

This means that the machine can be used for scrubbing-drying, polishing, sweeping, sanding and crystallizing, depending on which working head is fitted. In addition, the respective working units can be turned by up to 400°, due to the well-known patented TURNADO technology. In this way, cleaning is even possible in reverse drive in narrow corridors or niches where the machine cannot be turned. The working width is up to 820 mm, the chassis width 600 mm. The tank volume is 100 I each for clean and dirty water; this, together with the battery, which - depending on the type of flooring - can be used for 2-4 hours, ensures long working sessions. If longer cleaning sessions are necessary, the battery can be replaced very quickly with a fully charged battery, due to the Quick-Change battery system. A further highlight: the operator rides in a standing position on the machine and therefore has an excellent view and can get on and off the machine quickly. This is a big advantage, especially when objects and obstacles have to be moved out of the way.

Solutions for special types of flooring

For the moment, JOLMES has decided on the scrubber-drier unit, which is currently supplied as part of the HEFTER standard package. The company plans to buy further working heads by the end of the year. Wilfried Jolmes describes his priorities: "As next steps we are considering the polishing head and then perhaps the vacuum-sweeping head". The various working heads can be fitted easily and quickly. This involves disconnecting a plug socket which connects both the electric connection and the water supply. By means of a lever the working head can then be detached from the machine. Mounting the new aggregate is just as simple, in reverse order.

Wilfried Jolmes stresses: "This new development in machines is particularly interesting for us as a service company, because due to the different types of flooring and the layout of the facilities - various work steps are often necessary. Up to now, this involved using at least two or three different machines".

Due to the new "stand-on" principle, the CONVERT 82 combines the operating efficiency of ride-on machines (area performance, working speed) with the flexibility of a walk-behind system, as the machine has a very compact design, and the operator can step on and off quickly. In addition, this new working position provides a good view of the surrounding surface. From the driver's platform the operator can oversee exactly the cleaning process at edges and corners.

Satisfied with HEFTER Cleantech

JOLMES has been using HEFTER cleaning systems for some time now and sees new areas for application of the CONVERT. "The machine is particularly suited to use on PVC and linoleum flooring, which are wiped clean, but need to be polished once a week or every 14 days, to keep them looking good", the Managing Director comments.

Because the chassis (with a width of 600 mm) is rather small and the working head can be detached in a few seconds, it is ideally suited to particular "problem areas", one of which Jolmes remembers right away: "For instance, we clean a school in which the elevator is only 65 cm wide. But the areas to be cleaned in the corridors are gigantic". Once the working head has been detached, the machine fits into small lifts, but once it has been refitted, it can unfold its strength with a working width of 82 cm. This is an additional effect, which was not a determining factor in the development of the machine, but which is gladly "accepted".

Closing summary from Wilfried Jolmes: "With HEFTER Cleantech we have found a partner who ensures a very high standard of cleaning. This company has the competence to realize technical innovation in such a way that it can actually be put into practice". But small things can also be important: "In addition to the excellent workmanship, which one can only really judge once the machine is in use, there are details such as a quick-start button, which enables starting and switching off all the machine functions with just one button. The brushes on the CONVERT, as on the other HEFTER Cleantech systems, only start moving when the machine starts moving. This prevents damage to the flooring. On the other hand, the suction motor continues working for a few seconds after the machine has been switched off. This prevents puddles of water forming on the floor. Well thought-out solutions like this pay off in practice".

more informationen:

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