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Lambson's Hire Establishes A Concrete Surface Preparation Division To Offer Specialised Equipment For Any Flooring Application

Concrete surface preparation is applied to any new or existing concrete surface or structure. After undertaking thorough research into the needs of this sector and what Lambson's Hire now terms the *ever-changing world of concrete*, a Concrete Surface Preparation Division has been established. This is in line with the company's philosophy of offering the latest technology in order to best be able to meet its customers' needs, Devin van Zyl, CEO of Lambson's Hire, says.

Metal-bonded diamond media is used for grinding, ceramic or resin diamond media for polishing and polycrystalline diamond (PCD) tooling for aggressive grinding and coating removal. "Following an onsite assessment by our Concrete Surface Preparation team, we can easily advise a customer on the appropriate equipment and consumables for the given application," van Zyl explains.

The equipment range available from Lambson's Hire's Concrete Surface Preparation Division is aimed particularly at improving the productivity and cost effectiveness of Lambson's Hire's customers. An example of this would be the smaller 125 mm handheld concrete grinder that can be used for concrete stairways. This offers a far more productive option when doing concrete preparation in multi-storey buildings, van Zyl notes.

The range from Lambson's Hire's Concrete Surface Preparation Division at present includes the Meteor 250 single disc electric floor grinding machine, as well as the Satellite 480 triple disc planetary machine which is available in both electric and petrol options. The Meteor 250 weighs 65 kg and has a grinding width of 250 mm, while the larger Satellite 480 weighs 160 kg and has a grinding width of 480 mm.

These versatile machines allow for grinding, polishing, concrete removal, levelling, cleaning, glue removal and resurfacing functions. Easy to use and highly manoeuvrable, these machines are ideal for all concrete preparation tasks.

Van Zyl emphasises that in terms of meeting the requisite OHSAS (Occupational Health & Safety Advisory Services) requirements for South African building and construction sites, it is necessary for

companies to also hire a dust collector. "Not to be confused with commercial vacuum cleaners, these are purpose-built machines capable of catching and collecting even the finest of concrete dust," he says. The dust collectors available from Lambson's Hire were chosen for their performance as well as a special filter shaker feature which allows all dust to be removed from the filter itself after operation.

Two dust collector options are available. A 25 litre unit weighing 31 kg, with a power output of $2.3 \, \text{kW} / 3.1 \, \text{HP}$ and a 50 mm outlet, and a larger 100 litre, 65 kg dust collector with a power output of $3.5 \, \text{kW} / 4.6 \, \text{HP}$ and an 80 mm outlet.

"If used in the appropriate manner, dust collectors will allow our customers to meet the requisite on-site environmental regulations," van Zyl says. The dust collectors are supplemented by anti-static hosing to prevent shock.

Other stalwart products of Lambson's Hire's Concrete Surface Preparation Division include a three headed scabbler that weighs 4.7 kg, with a blow per minute rate of 2 800 and an 11 headed scabbler, weighing 72 kg capable of covering 30 m²/h at a depth of 6 mm, at a rate of 2 200 blows per minute. The smaller scabbler requires an 18 cfm air supply while the larger machine needs 60 cfm.

In order to maximise the performance of this specialised equipment on hire, Lambson's Hire's Concrete Surface Preparation Division also offers customers assistance with on-site commissioning. "It entails much more than a simple understanding of the functioning of the equipment itself," van Zyl says.

He warns that myriad complications can ensue if for example the incorrect tooling and consumables are used. Most of all, he warns that the inappropriate selection or use of concrete surface preparation equipment can have a significant impact on a contractor's bottom line. If the required quality finishes are not being achieved and work has to be redone as a result, this will incur additional labour, hire and consumable costs.

"With the construction industry under pressure to perform and reduce operational costs, it is essential that contractors utilise fit-for-purpose equipment for specialised tasks such as concrete

concrete surface preparation

surface preparation. It is for this reason that we brought in the appropriate equipment for our

Concrete Surface Preparation division at a significant investment to meet this need," van Zyl says.

Lambson's Hire's team regularly visits international exhibitions to stay abreast of the latest trends

and developments. "We have access to our equipment principles overseas in terms of technical

input whenever necessary, while our team undergoes regular training," van Zyl says.

In addition to Lambson's Hire's Concrete Surface Preparation range consisting of quality equipment

with a strong international reference base, it is equally important that such equipment is suited to

the harsh working conditions found in Africa. "Lambson's Hire will continue to make the latest and

best quality products for these applications available to its customers as it strives to remain ahead of

the technology development curve," van Zyl affirms.

"Lambson's Hire has always been at the forefront of progress, and that is our ongoing strategy. It is

our philosophy to offer only superior quality equipment capable of achieving the best results for

hire. Our direction for the future is to be persistently diverse in our thinking and to continue to

create speciality divisions such as our Concrete Surface Preparation and Compact Plant divisions.

"This will allow us to acquire the latest expertise in these specific fields to pass on to our customers,

as well as increase our own service levels and value proposition. Our ultimate aim is to drive down

our customers' costs and boost their bottom line," van Zyl concludes.

SURFACE CONCRETE PREPARATION PIC 01: The Meteor 250 single disc floor grinding machine

available from Lambson's Hire.

SURFACE CONCRETE PREPARATION PIC 02 : The Satellite floor grinding machine has a grinding width

of 480 mm.

SURFACE CONCRETE PREPARATION PIC 03: A specialised 60 litre dust collector, available from

Lambson's Hire will ensure that companies comply with all environmental regulations.

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