

Bell adds cold planers to its Bomag road construction range

Bell Equipment has extended its offering of Bomag road and construction compaction equipment in southern Africa to include the Bomag range of cold milling machines.

Bomag, already recognised as one of the world's leaders in compaction technology, has also made advances with its cold milling equipment by establishing new technical standards in the important areas of milling technology and maintenance. Bell Equipment believes that the range can bring real benefits to the southern Africa market by delivering in the key areas of durability, efficiency, performance and productivity as well as operator comfort and ease of maintenance.

Bell Equipment's Product Marketing Manager: Bomag, Johan Hanekom, said that the Bomag cold milling range comprises of seven machines and Bell will offer the five larger models, representing the machine sizes most prevalent in the southern African region. These range from the compact BM1000/35 with a working width of 1 000mm up to the powerful BM2200/60 with a working width of 2 200mm.

Across the range Bomag cold milling machines are the most powerful machines in their class, enabling torque to be transferred efficiently to the milling drum through variable milling and travel speeds. An advantage of the Bomag range is that they average working depths of 330mm in one cut.



The range has a compact design which, together with their manoeuvrability, makes them an ideal choice for the removal of road and floor pavements under confined conditions and equally capable on arterial roads.

In addition, the planers are equipped with a long, powerful conveyor belt that is height adjustable and can be pivoted left and right by 45 degrees to provide high flexibility in combination with the truck. The conveyor belt is hydraulically folding for easy transportation while inner and outer conveyor belts can be quickly disassembled to make maintenance easier.

Churning up asphalt is a tough job and Bomag has ensured their planers are up to the task by incorporating robustness into the design with features such as external cooling and filtration of the gear oil. Similarly utilising high quality materials maximises the life of the machines and the components.

Extended crawler tracks improve traction and stability in combination with low wear. Bomag cold planers also have a market leading transport speed of 7,5km/h to reduce unproductive time.

Ease of maintenance

Longevity and low maintenance are two key Bomag design principles that are geared towards reducing service costs and non-productive time. This has been achieved through highly visible markings on service points and by ensuring that all components for servicing are well positioned and freely accessible. This applies to tanks, service points in the engine compartment and work on the milling drum.

“The Bomag design engineers have thought of everything,” says Johan. “Tanks for water, diesel and oil are not welded to the frame to reduce mechanical loads and make them easier to replace. The power belt cover is divided into two parts so that it can be serviced by one

person, the engine oil level is quick to check, the air filter is quick to change and the water system is easy to access. The practical arrangement of components also make the planers quick to service and there are large stowage compartments for tool boxes close to service areas.

“One of the major advantages of the Bomag machines is the speed and ease with which tool holders on the milling drum can be changed compared to competitor machines. The Bomag drums are also interchangeable with other similar OEM products,” he adds.

Operator comfort

Effective noise insulation helps to eliminate work fatigue. The machines are designed to reduce dust, noise and vibration. The swivel seat can be slewed 45 degrees to provide excellent visibility of the site, cutting edge and haulage vehicle. A ergonomically designed control panel supports the driver with automatic functions and operating aids, with controls that have been arranged for easy operation.

An operator is able to change between three application-specific settings for the milling speed by using a control on the front panel. Set for the required milling depth, the milling drum always works in the optimum torque range and travel speed is automatically maximised to deliver the best surface quality, fastest possible work rate, reduced consumption and minimised wear.

“Since launching globally in 2013, Bomag has over 100 cold milling units working world wide, and the introduction by Bell is in direct response to our customers’ needs. We are excited by the opportunity to broaden our road construction product offering and thereby strengthen our commitment to our customers to improve their operational and maintenance costs in a highly competitive market,” says Johan.



The Bomag cold milling machines were introduced to customers during a two-day presentation and demonstration at the Bell Jet Park facility in Gauteng earlier this year.