Benninghoven | First Recycling Priority Plant (RPP) begins asphalt production in Switzerland

The asphalt mixing plant with hot gas generator technology begins production after a construction time of only six months

The new Benninghoven RPP 3000 Plus (RPP = Recycling Priority Plant) is the first asphalt mixing plant in Switzerland to be equipped with environmentally friendly hot gas generator technology. Above all, the plant impressed the customer with high recycling rates, low emission values and clearly defined quality standards.

As a subsidiary of Implenia, Switzerland’s biggest construction company, SAPA (Societe AnonymeDe Produits Asphaltiques) supplies its customers with asphalt mixes of all kinds, mainly for smaller and medium-scale road construction projects. For the Swiss, sustainability and energy-efficiency are high-priority issues. This was also one of the reasons why the owners decided to replace the existing plant in Satigny, not far from Geneva, with a new, next-generation asphalt mixing plant. As Benninghoven asphalt mixing plants set technological benchmark standards in this respect, and in view of ever tighter environmental regulations and increasing demands on asphalt mixing plant operators to realise higher RAP feed rates, they are also a particularly cost-efficient and sustainable solution.

The RPP 3000 Plus enables the addition of up to 100 % recycling material

On average, asphalt mixing plants in Switzerland produce 60,000–80,000 t of material per year; that’s up to 40,000 t less than the quantities produced in other countries. Regulations with regard to recycling, sustainability, conservation of resources, and carbon emissions are nevertheless the same as in the rest of Europe. Asphalt mixing plants must produce qualitatively flawless mix with minimal environmental impact and set their focus on the recycling of the material – and that at every output level. In this project, a minimum proportion of RAP > 60 % was one of the highest priorities on the list. A figure that the RPP 3000 Plus can easily top, as RAP feed rates of up to 100 % are no problem at all for an RPP-type asphalt mixing plant with hot gas generator technology.

Innovative technologies and a comprehensive service portfolio play a decisive role

After the customer had defined the project requirements, Benninghoven developed a concept for a plant of the required size with an end of service life horizon of 30 years. The RPP 3000 Plus proved to be the ideal solution, not least thanks to its high efficiency and cost-effectiveness, new cycling technologies and the local service infrastructure and rapid availability of service technicians and spare parts. As soon as the decision was made, progress began at a rapid pace. The entire process, from plant construction to commissioning, took only six months.

Green technology assures compliance with all legal requirements

In order to fulfil the requirements of the Swiss Revised CO₂ Act and the Ordinance on Air Pollution Control (OAPC) in every respect, the customer aims to use the new plant to reduce CO₂ emissions through the proportion of RAP and the fuels employed and achieve a significant reduction of the overall carbon emissions (Cges) by the use of hot gas generator technology. The use of a recycling drum with a hot gas generator enables compliance not only with currently applicable threshold values, but also those of even more stringent future legal requirements.

Switzerland’s Revised CO₂ Act and new Ordinance on Air Pollution Control (OAPC)

Switzerland is targeting a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by one-half by 2030. In order to achieve this target, the new **CO₂ Act** focuses on investments in climate protection and advanced technologies, and combines these measures with financial incentives.  In addition to prescribing emission limits, the new **OAPC** also requires asphalt mixing plants to fulfil specific constructional and operational requirements, e.g. continuous temperature monitoring of the mineral aggregates and asphalt granulates in the recycling drum.

These criteria were also taken into account in the case of the RPP 3000 Plus asphalt mixing plant in Satigny, where this example of the latest generation of Benninghoven asphalt mixing plants is now producing asphalt for Swiss roads and motorways with minimal environmental impact and maximum efficiency.

**Photos:**



**RPP 4000 SAPA Schweiz\_AIR9831**

Asphalt production has begun at Switzerland’s first Recycling Priority Plant (RPP) with Benninghoven hot gas generator technology.

   
RPP 4000 SAPA Schweiz\_P0003061

The construction of the RPP 3000 Plus HG asphalt mixing plant from Benninghoven not far from Geneva was completed in only six months.

  
RPP 4000 SAPA Schweiz\_AIR9886

Hot gas generator technology from Benninghoven offers high RAP feed rates at every output level and for all batch volumes.

Please note: the photographs shown here are only previews. If you wish to publish them in other media, please use the higher resolution (300 dpi) versions available from the download link provided here.

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