



UZER MAKINA POISED FOR BIGGER GROWTH

By PTA News Bureau

Uzer Makina, Turkey's leading manufacturer of tyre curing presses and moulds, has entered 2013 with strategic expansion plans in Europe and elsewhere, equipped to serve tyre industry in its new phase of sustainability challenges. The company is poised for bigger growth, creating opportunities at a time when European tyre business is fighting against odds.

The company has its eyes on expanding its operations to new markets, particularly in Asian markets where automobile and tyre sectors are more stable than in the volatile West. This is driven by a comprehensive quality excellence programme to help boost its products' competitive edge in the market.

Having a state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Izmit, the Turkish tyre capital, has helped Uzer Makina make use of its logistics advantage to the maximum. The city hosts most of the world's top tyre makers, such as Bridgestone, Goodyear, and Pirelli.

Not only tyre plants but also raw material producers have also chosen Izmit also has several leading raw material producers such as Kordsa, producers of tyre cord fabric, and Beksa, makers of steel wire for belt and body ply.

Uzer Makina's major competence lies in the design and manufacturing of sophisticated tyre moulds, tyre curing presses and related container mechanisms for the past several decades. It has been continually investing millions of dollars in upgrading its operating systems and skills of its engineers and workers so that it can deliver world-

class products in accordance with the requirements of tyre companies.

At every stage of production, Uzer Makina applies quality management processes and is proud to say that it has ISO 9001 since 2002 for all the manufacturing operations that are under the same roof. Also, since Uzer Makina works closely with its customers, any specific demands from them could be executed in a timely manner to their full satisfaction. For the company, integrating such requirements into the new design in the shortest possible time has become possible, he said.

Uzer Makina currently caters to thriving markets in the Americas, Europe, Middle East, and Far East, where the qualitative edge of its products helps maintain the company's frontline position.

It made a timely entry into the Asian market when the tyre and auto industry started opening up to major global presence.

Moulds and presses

The company followed direct engraving method in mould making through its state-of-the-art software and modern 5-axis CNC machines. Technological advancement has also helped Uzer Makina reduce the manufacturing time for moulds upto even four weeks.

According to the company, direct engraving method also helps in selecting a greater range of materials. Both aluminium and/or steel materials are used for manufacturing of segmental type of moulds.

The company's tyre curing mould product

range covers PCR, LVR, LTR, TBR sizes in segmental type of mould construction with either aluminium or steel tread segments. And sidewall plates are made of steel. Full circular type AG, AGR, OTR and bladder moulds are also made.

Among its main products are bladder moulds, where the technology adopted includes forged or cast steel, vent sets engraved or acid etching. Pebble design vent sets are also applied with acid etching. Either transfer type or injection type moulds are manufactured with hard chromium plating on the cavity surfaces. Uzer Makina has delivered thousands of sets of containers to different clients in different types of constructions all over the world.

Uzer Makina began manufacturing tyre curing presses over two decades ago with the 65" twin BOM dome type mechanical presses. Since then, from mechanical to state-of-art hydraulic presses, the company has delivered hundreds of curing presses worldwide. The presses comply with CE regulations and all pressure vessels are certified and tested by notified bodies like TUV Germany.

With the latest EU regulations, new tyres require to be labelled with tyre performance attributes such as fuel efficiency, wet grip performance and exterior rolling noise. As rolling resistance is strongly related to radial run-out of the tyres, in the company's new generation curing presses these attributes are taken care.

Its machines have better centring of green tyres into the moulds, which guarantees better uniformity values. ▲