

■ **Betonsteinwerk Huxol, 59846 Sundern-Hagen, Germany**

Concrete spheres playing with light

The Huxol precast concrete block plant, based in the Sauerland region of Germany, is a small family business specialising in special components. While larger companies increasingly rely

on high production runs for concrete products, Huxol almost exclusively produces high-quality products for special applications.

The standard product range of the concrete block and terrazzo plant run by Norbert Huxol includes round steps, benches, palisades, and embankment elements. The characteristic feature of the components is the special surface treatment. The visible surfaces are often treated and bossed by hand, leading to unique exposed concrete surfaces.

Huxol can produce components in any colour, using materials from different suppliers and in different delivery forms. The cement is supplied by the "Portlandzementwerk Wittekind Hugo Miebach & Söhne" Portland cement plant based at Erwitte, Germany. While this cement is not white, it is light enough to make it ideally suitable for concrete components. Colouring of the products is often supported by the aggregates from InterMinerals, who supply Huxol with products in a wide range of shapes and colours.

Perfectly round precast elements

Concrete spheres with diameters between 25 and 90 cm are one of the specialities offered by the Huxol precast concrete block plant. The breakthrough for the "Classic" spheres came in 2002, the year the German Ministry of Education and Research had dedicated to geosciences. The coloured spheres from Huxol were used as special decoration and also as play objects for several large events. At the end of 2004, Huxol supplied around 100 spheres for the Hundertwasser House in Essen.

Since early 2005, Huxol has been offering the spheres, which have no visible mould edges whatsoever, with a special "Nightglow" aggregate that has a phosphorescence effect and makes the spheres luminescent for several hours after exposure to light.

The latest Huxol products are "Flash Reflex" spheres with a special glass granulate that is fully integrated into the concrete mix. The surfaces are subjected to a special treatment that exposes the glass granulates, so that it reflects incident light. The spheres can thus be used as reflective boundary or design elements, e.g. for roads. They not only offer an appealing appearance during the day, but also safety at night.

The production process of the "Flash Reflex" spheres involving special glass granulate has been patented. However, Huxol is very interested in marketing the "Flash Reflex" spheres in collaboration with local distribution partners throughout Europe.



"Flash Reflex" spheres® during the day – and illuminated at night



Concrete spheres are a speciality of the Huxol precast concrete block plant

Further Information:

Betonsteinwerk Huxol
Selbecke 9
59846 Sundern-Hagen, GERMANY
T +49 2393 704
M +49 171 6275659
F +49 2393 704
info@betonwerk-huxol.de
www.flash-reflex.de