

Conjet breaks the s

Conjet, the well-known Swedish developer of hydrodemolition equipment, has revealed a completely new innovation in the Robot 557 and updated its whole product range with new functions. Jan Hermansson reports

The recent years have been a roller coaster ride for Conjet. An unstable global economy has reduced sales and affected product development. But Conjet has been around since 1990 and has learnt to ride out similar crises. "Humbleness towards clients, the market and competitors is a keyword for us in order to deliver the best possible technical solutions and services to our clients. Dedication is another, dedication to our technology and the industry is what drives us," said Conjet sales and marketing manager Lars-Göran Nilsson.

Developing the product range

Conjet has a comprehensive and wide range of hydrodemolition equipment divided in jetframes, robots and pumps. Their products are sold worldwide and used on advanced concrete repair projects, such as parking decks, hydropower plants, nuclear plants, bridges, tunnels, quays and other concrete structures.

"Although we have not launched any radically new products for a while, we have introduced smaller updates on our machines over the past five years and we have also introduced our compact Jetframe Nalta, which has been very well received by the industry," said Nilsson.

At Bauma in April, Conjet introduced a new hydraulic system and digital control system, which are now incorporated on all models. The new system brings many benefits to their prod-

ucts, such as easier manoeuvring and increased performance and efficiency and a more efficient use of power. And sales of the new models with the new systems have also increased. "We have sold a number of new Jetframes, Robot 327, Robot 367 and Robot 437. The range of pumps has also been extended with two new smaller units of 120kW and 170 kW, suitable for the Nalta, and now have a completely new product range to offer," said Nilsson.

Robot 557, a true innovation

Conjet is now taking a big step forward and releasing the completely new Robot 557, which will be officially launched at World of Concrete in Las Vegas in January. The machine represents a

"Our new Robot 557 will be quite an innovation for the hydrodemolition industry", believes Conjet part founder, owner and sales and marketing manager Lars-Göran Nilsson.

whole new design and technological thinking from Conjet. The machine is built for a variety of applications. The Conjet MPA system is well known and

used on the Robot 367 machine and the Robot 557 with MPA has a reach of 5m. A tower attachment will also be available. Robot 557 is for heavy-duty hydrodemolition jobs with high volume processing, but also for the sensitive operations where reach and positioning, as well as selective removal are more important.

The robot weighs almost 3t and is equipped with rubber tracks that have an adjustable width from 1.2m to 1.9m, making the robot tower very stable. The design of the body and hood makes it easier and safer for the operator. Also the control panel has been remodelled and enlarged. Its placement provides easy viewing and access. Robot 557



silence!

is equipped with the new control system Conjet ONE, which is already incorporated in all current Conjet Robots. The main concept of the new control system is that all configurations can be done from the radio remote control. All parameters programmed in the remote control are simultaneously transferred to the control panel on the machine and vice versa.

Another important feature with the Robot 557 is the robot and pump communication. Now the operator can shut down everything from the radio remote control, including robot and pump. This communication is available as a wireless option, patented by Conjet. The robot is also equipped with a device that enables machine tracking and logging. Reports can be sent directly to the supervisor so the operation can be monitored in real time.

In order to increase the stability of the machine, besides the adjustable tracks, the whole chassis can be adjusted hydraulically, balancing the unit at its centre. This feature is patented by Conjet. A more stable and reliable robot also shortens the setup time of the robot.

The new design has eliminated cables and hydraulic hoses hanging between the machine body and arm. With Robot 557, only four hoses are visible and all hydraulic valves are hidden and protected. The MPA has been re-designed for a smoother movement of the boom system. The first version of Robot 557 will be diesel powered, but an electrical version will be available at a later date. Another big advantage of Robot 557 is its user friendliness. The side hatches of the hood can be opened and lifted like gull wings, or the whole hood can be folded backwards giving complete access to all the inner parts of the machine. Hydrodemolition robots of this size are normally mated to a 500kW pump, but the 557 has been developed to work with pumps with a power range up to 800kW. All new features and technical solutions on the 557 will be incorporated on the existing Conjet robots by spring 2014.

New faces

Two key people involved in the development of the new 557 are

The new Conjet Robot 557 is very versatile and is built for a large variety of applications.



Lars-Göran Nilsson sees the future with confidence with a new updated product range and the new Robot 557 to be launched in 2014.



Conny Tångring explains how the new control system sends alerts through its built in device directly to the service technician or a supervisor.



The Conjet team at their premises in Haninge south of Stockholm. From the left Miguel Paquez, Lars-Göran Nilsson, Sören Janzon, Sven Gustafsson, Johan Fahlström, Robert Lundgren, Conny Tångring, Carl Strömdahl, Carina Ahlberg, Mats Johansson, Kjell Nilsson, Niclas Hindsjö and Ingrid Israelsson. Missing is Manfred Holgersson.



Above, the smallest hydrodemolition system on the market, Jetframe 101 Nalta, launched about three years ago.



A new assembly hall and storage room was recently built at the Conjet premises in Haninge.



Control system Conjet ONE, another novelty from Conjet, which makes controlling the robot much easier.

engineering students Ingrid Israelsson and Manfred Holgersson. The user-friendly hood was designed as part of their masters thesis in technical design at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm. They are staying on at Conjet to follow the project through to its launch at WOC. "Being directly involved in the design process as a part of the development team at Conjet has been challenging and educating. It is rewarding and fun to see one's ideas and methods being implemented," said Ingrid Israelsson. "Having Ingrid and Manfred in our Conjet team is a great asset to our work and bodes well for the development of our existing and future products," said Nilsson.

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