

A SCREEN LEGEND

PMV goes quarrying in Fujairah and finds ILE's Keestrack reaching new heights



SORTED Keestrack's Frontier in action in Taweeyn.

The hills and mountains that form a quarrying canyon in the Taweeyn region of Fujairah in the UAE feels like the ideal location for ILE Rental to showcase Keestrack's mobile crusher and screen technology *PMV* drives up to the Binlaj quarry hosting the event. Mobile crushing and screening

has been steadily gaining traction in the region postdownturn.

For companies feeding road-laying and infrastructure projects, being able to offer on-site screening and crushing adds flexibility and productivity and can give them a distinct advantage.

Hoping to tap into this well of interest, ILE's Bob de Weerd

has invited *PMV* to an event that may be taking place at a quarry but many of the new, old and potential clients present will be looking at the road when considering its value.

"Quarrying is a nice market but not always for mobile machinery because they may already have their stationary plant," he comments. "So, we have invited road

contractors, general contractors and infrastructure contractors here. They're the ones that have to move their equipment and where the running costs are not as big a factor as having mobility and flexibility.

"Having said that, quarries can increase production by adding a mobile crusher and driving it straight up to the blasted area.



"I do think with demand going up and down for quarrying material, people may opt for a flexible option."

"In the long term, a stationary plant will be more cost-effective if demand and production are well matched".

"I do think with demand going up and down for quarrying material, people may opt for a more flexible option. And that's what you get with mobile machinery."

Like one of its crushers and screens, ILE has taken over one corner of the Bin Lahej quarry but hopes it will bring multiple results. The two-day event serves the purpose of drawing

people into one location, getting them up close to the machinery, letting them network and most importantly see the machines in action.

"We've targeted contractors in the UAE and Oman for the event," he explains. "You know you can go wherever you want with brochures or exhibit at an event, but it's much easier to explain how it works and its advantages over other machines if they can see it in action."

It's also a lot more dramatic. As we're driven up from Bin

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KEESTRACK VITAL STATISTICS

Keestrack was established in 1988 to manufacture mobile aggregate equipment. In 1994, the company was transformed into a shareholders company. This was a big step towards the creation of a production model.

In 1996 the first machine was completed, after years of development. Today, Keestrack produces a full line of tracked mobile crushing and screening machines.

THE FRONTIER'S OWN VITAL STATISTICS:

A hopper of 8 m³, with a feed capacity up to 500t /hr.

8.1 m² effective screen area

Heavy duty steel apron feeder

Sauer/Danfoss Rexroth, load sensing hydraulics

Power Unit

- Deutz BF2012 TCD 90kW/123hp @ 2,200rpm
- Fuel consumption: Approx. 8-10 L/h

Dimensions:

- Length: 12.60m
- Height: 3.18m
- Width: 2.68m
- Weight: 30 tons

THE DESTROYER 1312C IMPACT CRUSHER STATISTICS:

A hopper of 7 m³, with a feed capacity up to 450t /hr.

The feed opening is 900mm high and 1280mm wide.

The Rotor width is 1250mm, with a diameter of 1170mm.

Sauer/Danfoss Rexroth, load sensing hydraulics

Power Unit

- Caterpillar C15 diesel engine, 540 hp @ 2000 rpm
- Fuel consumption: Approx. 50-55 L/h

Dimensions:

- Length: 14.00m
- Height: 3.60m
- Width: 3.00m
- Weight: 47 tons

Lahej's office on the floor of the valley and up one of its vertiginous sides, we're treated to a view of escarpments as far as the eye can see.

Above us, excavators stand on the prows of hillsides knock-

ing boulders away with their buckets and throwing them down the hillside. They smash hundreds of feet below. We're taken up to a platform near the top of the valley and guided towards ILE's Keestrack machines.



QUARRYING FOR A LIVING Blast material is funnelled into a Keestrack Crusher (main); The Frontier kicks up a dust storm.

Dominating the stoney arena is Keestrack's Mobile Screen Frontier, which is attended to by a busy throng of Liebherr loaders and excavators.

Further up the mountain Keestrack's biggest impact crusher, the Destroyer 1312C, is chewing away large limestone boulders from a blast earlier in the morning, especially arranged to duplicate "real-life" circumstances.

The Frontier screen below is soon conveying different sizes of material. The limestone rock itself is directly fed to the machine through its 8m³ feed hopper and its heavy duty steel apron feeder. The rock is child's play for the machine.

"The mobile screens they are used to in the GCC, fine deck screens, are limited to

100-150mm rock. Anything bigger than that can't go through the screen." de Weerd explains that the Frontier can prescreen, scalp, rocks up to 400-500mm. During the day we're shown the machine screening objects up to 200mm, with the oversized boulders falling out the end of the Frontier's front.

"Effectively, before you start crushing you can already take out two products, that can be sold on."

"Plus a screen compared to a crusher costs a lot less to operate, has less wear and tear, and fuel consumption. Roughly it's one-third of crushing. It makes sense to start screening before you crush."

Turning his attention to the products from screening, de Weerd stresses that the road



builders present could greatly benefit from the Frontier's scalping ability.

"Scalping makes a lot of sense before crushing, and much more effective, for road, and base courses. There's a lot of blasted and wadi material between 0-2in that doesn't have to be crushed and also has value."

With an almost captured audience, ILE is free to talk about the value of its machinery with its clients. de Weerd calculates the cost of using a typical setup at just under a Dirham per tonne for screened product although he thinks it is possible to go even lower with: "all the conveyors at optimum you can go down to half a Dirham."

When the cheapest material on the market is 5 Dirhams per tonne, even with an excavator

and loader working in tandem, there's considerable margin to be had: "A mobile machine like this gives you a lot more possibilities because you don't have to transport all material from the blast to the crusher. We can clean up the quarry, provide 2 screened products and clean oversized rock to the crusher."

While the demonstration is rolling one of the guests asks to change the settings on the Impact crusher while he measures how long it takes. de Weerd welcomes the transparency.

"There are no secrets here," says de Weerd. "This is one of the reasons we did the blast, it's a real proper environment. You can see the boulders coming into the crusher, and he can check on the scale how many tonnes per hour the machine is doing. At a trade

"We'll do a free trial run at the customer's job site. If they're not happy we'll take it back – and that's not happened yet!"

show you only get a few minutes to discuss with clients and limited access as you share them with all your competitor. Up here they cannot go down without the bus!" He jokes.

"We're so confident about our machines, we'll do a free trial run at the customer's job site," he adds more seriously. "If they're not happy we'll take it back – and that's not happened yet!" **PMV**