

## Highest competence in the tightest of spaces: ABP Induction concludes contract with Eickhoff foundry in Bochum

*Thorough project work and speedy implementation win the customer over*

**Modernization in such a densely populated area as the Ruhr region is always a challenge. Now an order placed by Eickhoff Gießerei GmbH from Bochum shows that ABP Induction is up to the challenge: In addition to the thorough performance of the project and the elaborate conception of the modification to the plant configuration, ABP's swift implementation potential also managed to convince the customer.**

Eickhoff is a globally active family-owned company that has been deeply rooted in Bochum since its foundation in 1864. Steeped in tradition, the long-established company manufactures machines and gearboxes that have to perform under extreme conditions all over the world, whether underground in mining or at altitudes of one hundred meters as wind power gearboxes. Eickhoff is located in the south of Bochum, in the district of Wiemelhausen. "That means: The company is based in a densely populated area. Now the time had come to modernize the tradition-rich headquarters – we are making this possible with our special design of the replacement system," says project manager Lutz Walther, explaining the demands of this project.

The challenge was to accommodate a larger furnace with higher output within a very limited installation space. "We managed to do this by means of a compact design of all units and consistent use of water cooling; this also applies to the converter transformer," the expert goes on to say.

The customer was clearly convinced by ABP's dedicated and thorough project work. The meticulous safety concept, including an automatic test bath grounding and a new concept for earth fault monitoring on crucible furnaces, was another decisive factor. The ABP experts also incorporated the capability for efficient waste heat utilization. "On top of this, of course, is our open concept for new digitalization solutions for the foundry industry – an enormous potential for the future".

A key reason for the customer's decision was, as already mentioned, also the realization of the fastest possible delivery time. "We are very well positioned in this respect: The contract was awarded at the end of November 2019. Engineering took place in December. Assembly was planned for right after Easter, so that the system can now be commissioned," explains Lutz Walther.

The objective of the order is to replace the existing ABB 1.5 t MF crucible furnace, which is technically obsolete in terms of safety technology, with a new 2 t MF crucible furnace of the type ABP FS 20 with a higher output (1,000 kW instead of 790 kW). The system is further enhanced by a weigh-out system and cooling system including air/water cooler as well as the PRODAPT® Advanced melting processor; it calculates the energy requirements based on the furnace contents and automatically controls the energy supply for melting and holding operations. Eickhoff will put this configuration to use for melting various iron and steel alloys (GJL, GJS, cast steel, ADI, wear-resistant cast iron Ni-HARD, GX and austenitic cast iron Ni-Resist).

**About ABP Induction**

ABP is a leading manufacturer of induction furnaces and systems for inductive melting and holding for the metal and metalworking industries. ABP is an expert in melting, pouring, holding and heating iron, steel and non-ferrous metals with design, production, assembly and services for foundries, forges and steelworks. With more than 400 employees, the ABP Induction Group operates companies in the USA, Mexico, Sweden, Germany, South Africa, Russia, India, Thailand and China. It is represented by service and sales partners in most of the world's industrialized nations.

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