

The new Ecoton-factory in Uzbekistan can produce 300,000 m³ of AAC products annually.

Keda Suremaker, Ma'anshan, Anhui Prov., China

# Autoclaved aerated concrete on the rise in Central Asia

In recent years, with the rapid development of Uzbekistan's economy, the local demand for building materials has exploded. In 2021, the President of Uzbekistan announced a massive housing construction program with a total funding of US\$ 1.1 billion. In January this year, Uzbekistan issued the 2022 - 2026 New Uzbekistan Development Strategy, which clearly expresses the government's determination to improve the construction industry. Many local building materials enterprises are full of confidence in the market.

Based on that economic and social background, autoclaved aerated concrete is gradually gaining popularity in the construction materials market of Uzbekistan, with the industry appreciating its outstanding advantages in relation to environmental protection and energy conservation. In addition, the advantage of AAC products over conventional masonry bricks or timber is that they are more attractive from an economic perspective. AAC blocks can be widely used in the construction of residential and industrial buildings. Therefore, Keda Suremaker is very optimistic about the prospects of the autoclaved aerated concrete industry and actively cooperates with local enterprises to support the technology.

## Ecoton Group expands from Kazakhstan to Uzbekistan

Ecoton Group, the largest building materials enterprise in Kazakhstan, established its first autoclaved aerated concrete production line in Kazakhstan in 2004 and currently has production facilities in Aktobe, Nursultan, Candiagas, Algar and other cities in Kazakhstan.

The annual production capacity of the AAC plants of Ecoton Group in Kazakhstan is about 550,000 m<sup>3</sup>. To expand the business territory, the group also has a keen insight into the business opportunities in the Uzbek



Interior overview of the new plant.

market and has opened a new AAC production plant - Ecoton Sharq in Uzbekistan, with AAC production technology from Keda Suremaker. The Ecoton Sharq production base is put into operation in Angren, Tashkent, 80 km from the capital of Uzbekistan. The new factory in Uzbekistan can produce 300,000 m³ of AAC products annually.

# Keda Suremaker's vertical cake cutting and autoclaving plant

Uzbekistan is an emerging market for AAC. Considering that Ecoton has rich experience in the production and operation of Ytong machinery concepts, Keda Suremaker chose to provide Ecoton with the most mature AAC plant solution, the Vertical Cake Cutting and Autoclaving plant, which is very user-friendly to their local staff who are used to this type of production technology. The core cutting technology of Keda Suremaker allows high-quality processing of the six sides of the cake. The surface cutting device of the cutting machine adopts the combination of three steel wires and two scrapers to smoothly cut both sides of the green cake. The cable staying beam horizontal cutting machine can cut products with a thickness of 50 mm smoothly without any settlement cracks. The vertical cutting machine combines a large swing frame with low swing frequency to ensure a smooth cut surface. The swing guide of the swing frame adopts the slide structure of the guide rail with high precision.

Control display

The plant reserves the potential ability to produce AAC panels. For this purpose, the cutting system allows precise processing of panels.

This solution already has hundreds of successful project examples in China, and the technology has been optimized through practical production experience.



The Managing Director of Keda presented a lecture on the advantages of the Keda AAC Plant Solution at the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Autoclaved Aerated Concrete in Potsdam 2018.

For emerging markets, the practicability and durability of the plant equipment are the most important aspects. Keda Suremaker has been making efforts to help customers produce high-quality products with reliable equipment technology and to realize the return on investment as soon as possible.

To make this project run successfully without delay, both parties have made great efforts. Ecoton Group sent workers with rich production experience from Kazakhstan to Uzbekistan. To provide the holistic AAC project service, Keda Suremaker also arranged a team consisting of project manager, hydraulic engineer, mechanical engineer, electrical engineer, process formulator and production technologist to guide the training and installation on site and set up a three-language interface for the electronic control system in English, Russian and Chinese. With the joint efforts of both sides, the project ran smoothly.

# Successful opening ceremony of the new plant

Officials from the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Republic of Kazakhstan as well as representatives of major construction companies from both countries attended the opening ceremony of the Ecoton Sharq production base.

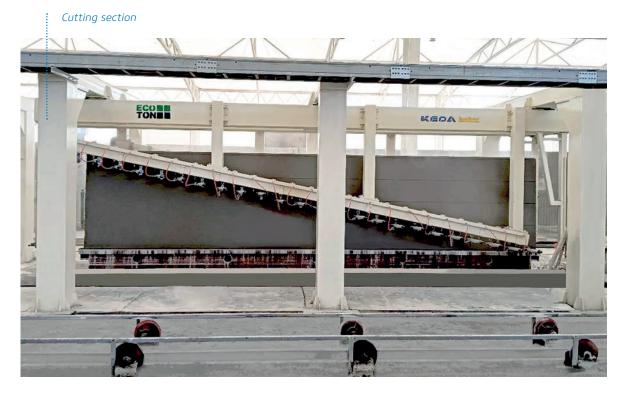
The Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ecoton Group, Baurzhan Baimukhanov, pointed out that the completion of the plant will provide new impetus for further strengthening economic and trade cooperation.



Baimukhanov Baurzhan, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ecoton Group and James Lee, the overseas sales director of Keda Suremaker.

Between the two countries and will meet the demand for ecological materials for the production of walls in the construction market of Uzbekistan and other Central Asian countries.

"We plan to set up a service office in Central Asia to facilitate a quick response to local requirements. We value the opportunity to cooperate with Ecoton and we appreciate their recognition and trust in our technology and service. It is pleasant and mutually beneficial to exchange and share experience in production technology with each other. We are confident



that Ecoton Sharq Factory will be the most competitive production line in the region and look forward to further cooperation with Ecoton Group!", says James Lee, overseas sales director of Keda Suremaker.

"Keda holds a lot of potential for future expansion of their operations. It is a big responsibility to be the number one in China, and I hope to see equivalent developments all over the world in the future. We are very glad to work with Keda and their brilliant staff", says Baurzhan Baimukhanov, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Ecoton Group during an online video conference with Keda on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022, the day of Keda's 30th anniversary.

## Keda Suremaker's project service roadmap

Keda Suremaker AAC plant solution can provide a complete project service roadmap for the project, which is divided into four parts as follows.

#### Part I: Raw material and planning design

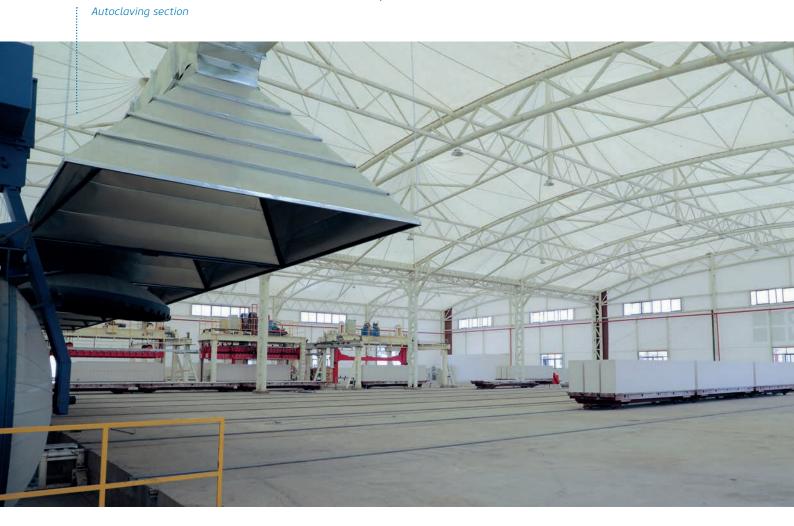
 a) Organize the expert group to visit the project site and plan the whole plant layout according to the local requirements and raw material resources.  b) Configure the appropriate range of equipment and provide an investment feasibility study according to the expected capacity and automation level.

#### Part 2: Production and logistics

- a) Develop a reasonable production plan to ensure delivery time.
- Provide various options for packaging and logistical solutions related to the specific requirements of the project.
- All major equipment must be factorycommissioned to ensure reliable quality.

### Part 3: On-site installation and commissioning

- Assign an experienced project service team to the local site before the first equipment arrives on site. Cooperate with the on-site construction team to ensure the smooth progress of the project.
- b) Provide full support for the whole plant planning, equipment installation, electrical commissioning, and process solutions.
   In addition to the local service team, provide 24-hour online remote service.



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Packing section

## Part 4: After-sales service and training

- a) Provide training and consulting services for customers throughout the project life cycle, including but not limited to equipment operation, safety instruction, equipment maintenance and process FAQs.
- Keda Suremaker Engineering Service Center is responsible for spare parts and after-sales support to ensure that after-sales needs are always met.



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