

Training to beat operator bottlenecks

Borum is launching a specialised training course to help the road marking industry meet the need for well-trained staff to ensure better profitability and higher quality.

A shortage of well-trained operators is a constant source of worry for the road marking industry. Borum, the Danish manufacturer of road marking machinery, is hoping to relieve these concerns with a series of tailored courses to train operators.

The course, called Borum road marking Academy, is an additional service from Borum who already offers on-site training with each new machine they sell.

Because road marking is seasonal there is always a need to train additional operators, and that holds whether they have bought a new machine or not, according to Ole Munch, Borum's managing director.

Especially in Northern countries such as Russia, operators often go out and find other jobs during the winter break and then when spring comes again, the company has to start all over again.

"It's getting more difficult for our customers to find qualified operators - so they have to hire non-qualified operators and give them basic training before they can start to work on a road marking machine," he says.

Uptime equals profitability

"Our strategy is that our machinery should have as much uptime as possible. We support that in many ways – by making our machines straightforward to use and easy to service, but also by making them in such a way that an operator understands how to handle them. The Borum road marking Academy is an extension of that strategy."

Launching at the beginning of 2009, the Borum road marking Academy will offer training to both new and experienced operators. The academy's teaching is built up in modules, so Borum can put together a training course tailor made to the operator's experience and his employers' needs.

Operators will receive both theoretical and practical, hands-on advice from specialist technicians on how to use the machine as safely and efficiently as possible. The basic course lasts one to two weeks with groups of at least five operators.

Borum road marking Academy will also be offering 'super user' courses to train operators so they can be trainers within their own company.

"When your machine is out there on the road, working, making new lines, you want to keep it running. Only when your machine is running you make a profit" says Ole Munch.

"Not having it running when it should be is very expensive. An operator who knows what the machine can do, can operate it efficiently and he can prevent production stops before they happen. This will add significantly to the profitability of the machine."



Borum road marking Academy

Professional training of roadmarkers

Purpose:

To give the participants sufficient knowledge about roadmarking machines and operating procedures to enable them to operate such machines in a safe and efficient manner.

Background/ qualifications for participation:

Technical background such as craftsmanlike education or practical experience from working within contracting, road marking, as a mechanic or similar.

Preferably understanding and speaking English.

Content

Theory:

- introduction to the linemarking industry / Borum machines and equipment
- Application types and materials
- Application equipment and functioning
- The constitution of a road marking machine and the equipment
- The electric, hydraulic and pneumatic systems
- Line control / computer functioning
- Line control simulator training
- Local rules and regulations concerning road marking
- Planning of road marking and calculating the material need
- Marking up the road / Premarking
- Technical issues and maintenance of the machine
- Safety on the road
- Safety regarding the machine and handling of the equipment
- First aid and fire fighting
- Evaluation and questions

Practice:

- Going through the basis machine
- Going through the equipment
- Lubricating points, service schedule/ oil types and change of filters
- Disassembly and assembly of relevant equipment and parts
- Going through preparation of the machine, filling in material, mixing, heating, regulation of pressure and speed
- Driving and operating the machine in closed test area
- Visiting Danish road markers "on the job"
- Aiming technique and premarking in practice
- Driving and simulating marking on the road
- Performance evaluation making specified lines in test area
- Possible visit to manufacturer of thermoplastic material

