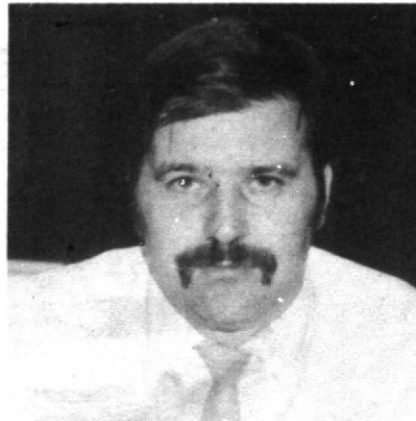


ONDO CLAY BRICKS WORKS SETS PACE FOR CLAY BLOCK PRODUCTION

ONDO state clay Bricks works is perhaps one of the best in the country. Not just for its size or the type of equipment used in the factory— these are similar to other clay Bricks works in the country— but for the visibly high quality of its products.

The factory was established to produce various types of clay blocks for building houses which are in great demand for the rapidly increasing population of Ondo state.

Among the various sizes of its products are the following:



Mr. H.J. Knappe
OCBW's General Manager

		SIZES FIRED-SIZES mm	WORK-SIZE (incl. joint) mm
(BBI A)	BIG BLOCK NO. 1A	320x180x235	333x195x250
(BBSI A)	BIG BLOCK SHORT NO. 1A	320x180x90	333x195x100
(BBI B)	BIG BLOCK NO. 1B	240x160x235	250x170x250
(BBSI B)	BIG BLOCK SHORT (IB)	240x160x90	250x170x100
(SB 1)	SUN-BREAKER	390x200x120	400x210x120
(SBS 1)	SUN-BREAKER SHORT	390x200x60	400x210x60
(NF 1)	NORMAL TYPE	250x120x65	260x130x75
(NFL 1)	NORMAL TYPE LONG	250x120x235	260x130x250

The Fired-Sizes given above, are the dimensions of the bricks before using for building while the work-sizes are the dimension of bricks plus the cement to be used while building.

The use of clay bricks for building houses dates back to ancient times, about 2,000 years ago, from ancient Rome to the Tai-mah-han of India and the old tonners of Egypt.

Back home in ancient times, in the old Oyo and Benin Kingdoms, clay bricks were mainly the materials used for building houses. Even today in many parts of Nigeria, the old form of clay bricks are still in use.

But with modern technology has come the burnt bricks made into solid blocks for building houses. Most people in developed countries

of the world now prefer the use of clay bricks for their houses because of the advantages derivable from it. First, it is known to have the best insulation material, that is, in hot temperature the inside of a house built of clay bricks remains cool while in cold climate the inside of such houses remains warm.

Other advantages of the clay bricks are that they not only reduce energy consumption, but they bring down the overall cost of building houses. For instance, one needs no cement plastering of the walls, and it requires no extra cost in or the need for painting.

There is added economic advantages in the use of clay bricks to a developing country like Nigeria. It saves the country of

valuable foreign exchange that would have been spent on importation of cement. Besides, the clay factory itself provides employment opportunities for skilled and unskilled workers, as well as introducing modern technology into the country.

The Ondo State Clay Bricks works, like others in the country, provides on the sport training facilities for Nigerians at home thus saving foreign exchange that would have been involved if such training had been done abroad.

With the present rate of developments in the state, especially in the area of providing decent, low cost houses for its population, the clay bricks factory is fully engaged with the production of hundreds of thousands of clay blocks which the state Housing Corporation has chosen for the building of its houses.

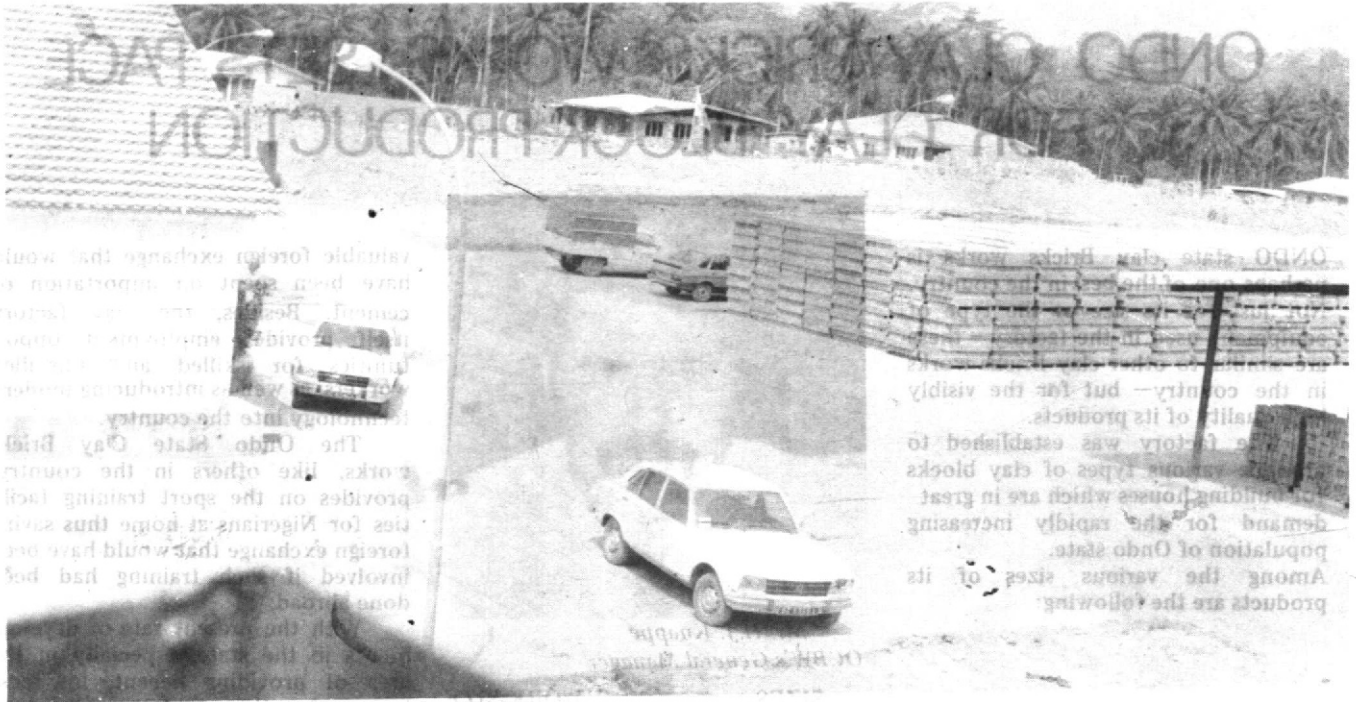
At the moment the corporation has placed order for 1,000,000 clay blocks of various sizes which the factory is likely to produce by or before June this year.

One unique feature of OCBW is the working system in the factory which has recently been introduced by management. Each worker puts in a 10 hour working day for four days, and gets for days off. This system applies only to factory workers who work in two shifts that keep the factory running all day and night 30 days a month.

This system was tested by advanced computer reckoning in West Germany after having been fed with such data as were related to the immediate social, economic and family background life of the average Nigerian worker. The result was positive, and since the introduction of the system, production output has almost doubled. Workers in the factory informed the Nigerian Business Digest that they preferred the new working system to the old one.

Management also claims that with the new system they have successfully avoided all threat of strike actions, and kept workers more productive; unlike what goes on in some similar factories in the country using the five

Introduces New Factory Work Schedule That's Paying Off



Some of the clay blocks ready for use

day working week that has had the ill-lack of almost being crippled by workers strike actions.

The Ondo State Clay Bricks Works has as yet not achieved its ultimate production target of 20,000 blocks per day. Its current daily production, with a staff strength of 100 stands at between 10,000 an 15,000 block which represents 75 per cent of its targeted goal. Its production range at the moment is limited to six different kinds of blocks and two types of sun-breakers. It is hoped that very soon it will start producing both roofing and floor tiles.

The siting of the Ondo State Bricks Factory at Ire-Ekiti, a town in Ekiti North of the state, was as a result of the feasibility survey conducted by the Ondo State government which revealed that the clay deposit at Ire-Ekiti can last over 100 years, and that the town itself sits on clay deposit. The factory was built at a cost of 6.7 million Naira, a project the Ondo State government undertook in partnership with the German company ENCON which has a share holding of 25 per cent.

Under the management agreement to run the company, the Ondo State Government engaged the services of the German Technical Partners who provided the General Manager, the Electrical and Mechanical experts

who are to train Nigerians on the job with a view to handing over the factory management to them at the expiration of the three year contract agreement.

At the moment, things run perfectly in the factory but if serious attention is not given to completing the access road leading to the factory before the rainy season starts, the factory is likely to be shut down

completely because during the rains, the seven kilometre road leading from Ilupeju-Ekiti to Ere-Ekiti where the factory is sited, will not be motorable for the heavy truck and fuel tankers that keep production and business going in the factory.

It needs no expert advice before the government takes swift action on this serious threat to perhaps one of

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A section of the OCBW's factory

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**ONDO STATE
CLAY BRICK**

its biggest investments in the state at the moment. And one at that which is vital to the implementation of one of government priorities; provision of low cost houses for the people.

For more details on the new factory working system that created industrial peace and increased output, Read how and why the system works in our May edition. It will be of tremendous interest to factory operators.