

From a passionate innovator to a leading force of prestressed concrete technology

100 years of Paul Maschinenfabrik

The success story of Paul Maschinenfabrik began in 1925, when Max Paul set up a mechanical workshop in his father's house in Dürmentingen. In 1953, Paul entered the field of prestressed concrete technology. This was followed in 1959 by the first single-wire stressing jack with the then revolutionary two-button operation. By 1965, the company had grown to 120 employees and 4,500 m² of production space. Important innovations at this time included the Tensa SM stressing process (1960) and the Tensa M multi-stressing jack (1970). In the mid-1970s, part of the production was relocated to Riedlingen.

The 1980s were characterised by automation. Among other things, Paul developed the first automatic button heading machine for railway sleepers (1989). The prestressed concrete department expanded its portfolio with multi-stressing jacks for cable-stayed bridges (1982).

In the 1990s, Paul set standards with innovations such as the first stressing robot for railway sleepers. In 1995, the company employed 245 people on 21,000 m² and also developed a multi-stressing jack for ram piles. In 1997, Paul played a key

role in the reconstruction of the Frauenkirche in Dresden - with specially developed prestressing technology. As capacities at the parent plant in Dürmentingen were exhausted, Paul began building a new plant in its own industrial estate in 1999.

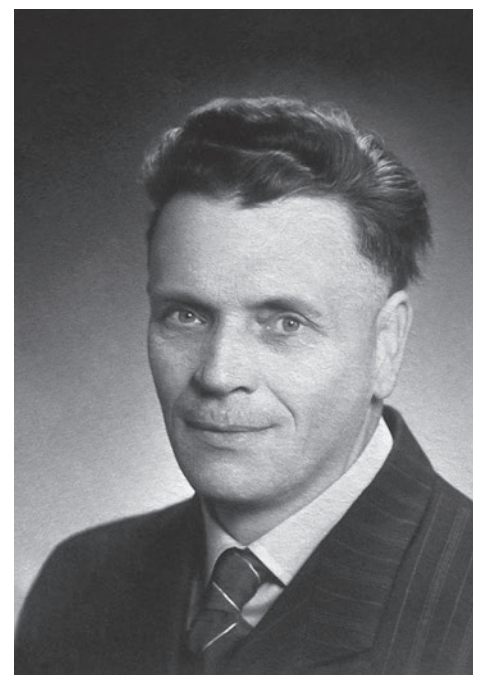
The turn of the millennium

The new plant was completed for the company's 75th anniversary in 2000. At the same time, the prestressed concrete department developed the TensaControl measuring and logging system. Both plants now employed around 270 people and the production area had expanded to 30,000 m².

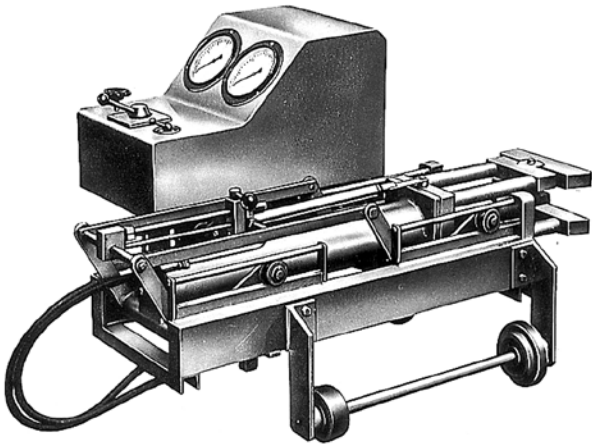
In 2010, the plant in Dürmentingen was expanded again and reached an area of 37,000 m². In 2016, the largest multi-stressing jack with a force of 22,000 kN was delivered. In 2017, Paul developed a process for the automatic control of button heads, which was submitted for the concrete components supplier industry innovation award. In 2019, the Tiny Tensa Control, a tablet-based logging system for the production of prestressed precast concrete parts, was introduced.



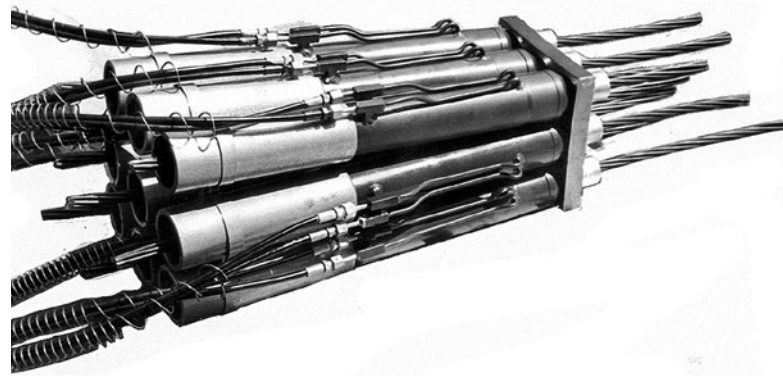
Origin of the Paul Maschinenfabrik in Dürmentingen (1925)



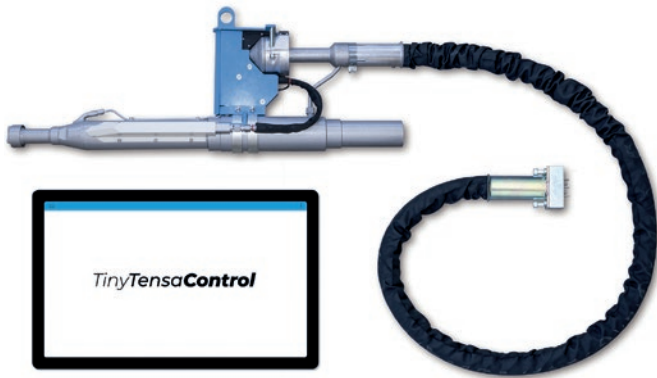
Company founder Max Paul



Multi-stressing jack with 70 - 300 tonnes stressing force (1955)



Tensa SM stressing process (1960)



TinyTensaControl measuring and logging system (2019)



The Paul machine factory in Dürmentingen (2025)

Looking to the future with confidence

In 2020, Paul invested in the largest machining centre in the company's history - a state-of-the-art system with which very large machine frames and components can be processed flexibly and precisely in just one clamping operation. Since 2021, Paul Maschinenfabrik has been managed by Barbara Hering, Alexander and Maximilian Paul in the third and fourth generation. This means that the company will remain a family business in the future.

In 2023, artificial intelligence found its way into Paul products. The latest generation of machines impresses with intelligent image processing, adaptive scanners and self-driving transport systems. AI will continue to play a key role in product development in the future. Construction of a new production hall in Dürmentingen began in 2024 to bring the plants in Riedlingen and Dürmentingen together in the long term.

In 2025, Paul celebrated its 100th anniversary in the new production hall in Dürmentingen. What began in 1925 as a mechanical workshop has long since become an internationally active company in the three business areas of circular sawing technology, prestressed concrete technology and strand lifting technology. ■

FURTHER INFORMATION



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