

Press release:

Kobelco's smallest excavator arrives in Europe

The SK08's super-compact design makes it ideal for working inside buildings where space is restricted

Kobelco Construction Machinery Europe B.V. (KCME) is pleased to announce the arrival of its smallest excavator to the European market. The SK08, which has an operating weight of just 1,035kg, is a super-compact mini excavator that is ideal for working in confined areas such as on residential job sites where space is restricted, or assisting larger machines with the demolition of buildings from the inside.

Mini excavators are key to Kobelco's overall product line-up and the manufacturer is committed to continually developing the range to ensure that the smaller machines are as productive as possible. While the SK08 has been designed with a small working footprint, the machine still benefits from the same high performance and quality characteristics the Japanese manufacturer has become renowned for.

High performance

The SK08 is ideal for working inside buildings as its slim upper structure allows the machine to pass through doorways and enter narrow passages of just 700mm wide (with 730mm-wide protecting structure removed). In addition, the SK08 is equipped with a crawler extension/retraction mechanism as standard and the crawlers can be further retracted to just 680mm to avoid obstacles underneath the machine.

The SK08 has a tail swing radius of 725mm and a maximum tail overhang of 305mm. The machine's boom swing, which provides a digging width of up to 310mm outside the left crawler (crawler retracted) when the boom is swung 85 degrees to the right, also enables the smooth digging of side ditches close to walls. The SK08's 7.7kW high output engine delivers 10.0kN of digging force and its generous working range includes 2,830mm digging reach and 1,460mm digging depth.

Kobelco reliability and easy maintenance

The SK08's reinforced structure is designed to withstand tough working conditions, such as on demolition job sites, and excellent lateral stability is assured due to outer flange-type lower rollers. The position of the bucket cylinder hose inside the arm and hose protection cover on the back of the

boom, as well as boom and dozer cylinder protection covers, also help to prevent damage to the hydraulic cylinders and piping.

This machine also uses a direct type of hydraulic control that is simple to use. This enables the operator to directly move the hydraulic spools instead of using a pilot type system. Although the pilot system is more ergonomic, direct control is more dependable, particularly on demolition job sites where working conditions can be challenging.

Like Kobelco's larger machines, easy maintenance of the SK08 is ensured via a number of important features. These include a wide opening hood for easy access, corrosion-resistant aluminium radiator and fuel filter with easy water drainage. In addition, unnecessary downtime can be avoided through the use of long-life hydraulic oil, which has a replacement cycle of up to 1,000 hours.

Commenting on the introduction of the SK08, KCME Product Marketing Manager, Peter Stuijt, said: "The new SK08 is Kobelco's smallest mini excavator and its arrival opens up a whole new market for us. Europe's infrastructure is developing rapidly and as a consequence, the demand for small yet high performance excavators has also increased over the past 12 months. This machine is therefore ideally placed for Europe's busy construction sector, including residential areas where there are space restrictions."

The SK08 is available from all authorised dealers across Europe now. A full and easy to view directory of the European, Russia & CIS and Maghreb Kobelco dealer network is available via the Dealer Locator on the official Kobelco Construction Machinery Europe B.V. website. For details please visit www.kobelco-europe.com

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Notes to editors

About Kobelco

Kobelco Construction Machinery Europe B.V. is wholly owned by Kobelco Construction Machinery Co., Ltd. Japan. The European Headquarters were re-established in Almere, The Netherlands in 2013 and include the sales, service and marketing function for Europe, Russia-CIS and Maghreb. A modern parts warehouse supports aftersales service across the region.

Kobelco is dedicated to sales and services of crawler excavators from <1t to 50t. The Japanese manufacturer is well-known worldwide as a leading excavator specialist. Kobelco machines are highly-regarded for their advanced technology, including an innovative noise and dust reduction system, advanced hydraulic circuitry for power and superior fuel efficiency.