Willemin van Boggelen, founder of Aircrète Europe, is an industry innovator and well recognized for his technology expertise and passion for Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (AAC). His international expert status is confirmed by many publications, innovations, consulting evaluations, lectures and technical conferences throughout the world. He was involved in Durox projects right from the very first steps of his career in 1979, following his academic degree from the Mechanical Engineering and Fluid Mechanics. W. van Boggelen has been actively involved and responsible for the design, engineering and delivery of many AAC factories worldwide, including factories in Europe, Asia and the Middle East. In 2002, he decided to choose his own path and founded Aircrète Europe. He is the engineer and driver first and generation after the Van Boggelen family. Today, Willemin van Boggelen lives in his self-built zero-energy aircrète panel house and still provides technology and consultancy services to selects AAC market leaders.

Derya Yorukoglu, Marketing Manager at Aircrète Europe, asked Willemin van Boggelen to comment for the readers of BFT International on the current development of the international AAC market, future trends on what the “ideal AAC” would look like.

Yorukoglu: Mr. van Boggelen, you’ve been affiliated with the AAC market for over 45 years. How would you evaluate the current state of the AAC market within this perspective?

Van Boggelen: The whole AAC industry was recognized only as a block product market for a long time. Blocks are a relative easy product to produce and people can build relatively easily and quickly with blocks, so this worked well for many years. However nowadays不管是建筑结构和开发项目的建筑师, so he is able to make high-quality panels with the options to also make high-quality blocks.

Yorukoglu: We know that from raw materials to market demand, from machinery to process technologies, everything varies from one country to another. What will our AAC market look like in future?

Van Boggelen: Traditionally, the ideal plant is the one that has the best combination of the economies of scale and the best technology. The ideal plant is one that is flexible, so that it can be adapted to different market conditions. It should be able to produce a wide range of products, so that it can meet the needs of different market segments. The ideal plant should be able to produce high-quality products, so that it can compete in the market.

Don’t just buy a simple block product just for the sake of its low price, as it will only serve the market for today and the upcoming few years, during the lifetime of this significant investment. The investment in the ability to serve the markets with high volume and a wide range of products will really pay off.

Every market is different, and the real art is to design plants for these specific markets and requirements. An aircrète factory is very easy to design and there are no off-the-shelf factories that serve every purpose. Every factory is related to its position in the market, but also to the raw materials available in the area. Each factory has to deliver a unique product and be able to compete in the market.

Yorukoglu: What do you think the future trend will be in the AAC sector?

Van Boggelen: For the future, the goal is to have a more sustainable AAC market. The ideal plant will be the one that can produce high-quality and low-cost AAC products. The ideal plant will be able to produce high-quality products, so that it can compete in the market. The ideal plant will be able to produce high-quality products, so that it can compete in the market. The ideal plant will be able to produce high-quality products, so that it can compete in the market.