

# Buzon introduces 2<sup>nd</sup> generation screwjack pedestals

*Theoretically a screwjack pedestal is nothing more than an object in synthetic material, which supports terrace slabs. Mr Claude Buzon has managed to turn this product into a lifetime achievement by constantly improving it, in such a way that we can now talk of a cutting edge technology product. He travelled the world with his screwjack pedestals (U.S.A., Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, Lebanon, Brazil and in November 2002 Australia and New Zealand) and he has become a person of trust at several international construction fairs. He will take advantage of Batibouw fair 2003 in Brussels – Belgium to introduce his 2nd generation adjustable DPH jacks.*



*By adding special couplers heights of up to 60 cm can be reached*

If "Buzon Pedestal International" was able to achieve a turnover of more than 1.6 million euros last year with the sale of 1,000,000 screwjack pedestals (of which 80% for export), it is already anticipated that five years from now it will sell approximately 2.5 million pedestals a year and that it will at least multiply its turnover by two. In the meantime, their location in the industrial park of the "Hauts Sarts" in Herstal with 70 m<sup>2</sup> in office space and 230 m<sup>2</sup> of warehouses have become too small and will be expanded in the near future.

## Why Buzon screwjack pedestals?

The screwjack-pedestals are in addition, desirable for the construction of elevated technical floors in industries or temporary floors (stages or platforms), but they mainly find their application in the creation of accessible and/or roof terraces with slabs of various sizes or terraces made with wooden boards or exotic wood squares. Buzon screwjack-pedestals allow for the building of perfectly level terraces on roofs with significant slopes of more than 2% and this for good rainwater drainage. This implies that the screwjack-pedestals must meet specific requirements as regards chemical resistance, adjustment, form, strength, etc.

All Buzon screwjack-pedestals are made up of a round base on which a round "cylinder" type head is secured. By adjusting both their positions, their heights can be fine-tuned with great precision. In addition, by adding special couplers, heights of up to 60 cm can be reached. All elements are made up of 5 mm-thick polypropylene and are therefore particularly strong. Through his experience on construction sites, Claude Buzon knows the user's needs better than anyone. This way, he observed, among other things, that pieces of waterproofed membranes had to be placed under the screwjack-pedestal base for the screwjack-pedestal head to be level. Buzon's answer to this problem was the development of a PH5 slope corrector: it is an accessory placed on the screwjack-pedestal head that allows for the adjustment of the head's slope between 0 and 5% (0 to 5 cm per metre). In reality this accessory is made up of two cylinders placed on top of each other and cut in half at an angle. By pivoting the upper cylinder, the head slopes so as to be placed level, while the screwjack-pedestal base follows the roof slant. No longer any need for wedges under the screwjack-pedestal base.



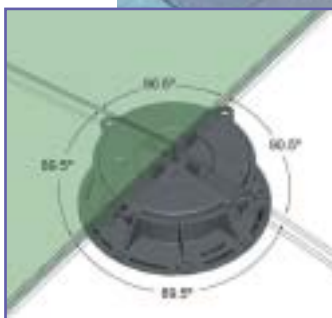
### New generation

*the adjustable head is integrated into the screwjack-pedestal and special safety clips prevent the various jack parts from unwinding when adjusted.*

This year Buzon launches what it calls the second generation of screwjack-pedestals, which is the result of long experience and numerous technical developments and improvements: the DPH system. In addition to the DPH 5 (100 – 170 mm), smaller versions have currently been introduced, among which the DPH4 (70 – 110 mm), DPH3 (50 – 78 mm), DPH 2 (35-53 mm), DPH1 (28 mm) and DPH 00 (17 mm). Currently, slope correctors from 0 to 5% are integrated into the screwjack-pedestal heads. Furthermore DPH screwjack-pedestal heads and bases are interdependent thanks to special safety clips and thus prevent the various screwjack-pedestal parts from unwinding during adjustment. The support is fitted with reinforcement bars and the necessary perforations for a possible securing onto a concrete or wooden base. Buzon products stand out by the large diameter of the coupler (diameter of 105 mm), the thickness of the material (5 mm), the head that has a bearing surface of 190 cm<sup>2</sup> and the base of 320 cm<sup>2</sup>.

**Novelty: interchangeable spacer tab plates with 2, 4, 6 or 10 mm thick fins or without fins**

Before, the screwjack-pedestal head was fitted with four fins that were used as slab separators. Currently, a new interchangeable system was developed. The heads of the new generation DPH system are fitted with a recess in which the plate is fitted with the desired fins. When spacer tabs with a specific thickness or with a determined angle (e.g., for circular terraces with trapezoid slabs) are wanted, it is enough to develop a new plate and so there is no need to produce an entirely new screwjack-pedestal each time with an adapted mould. This affords new unprecedented options for architects and designers and allows them, among other things, to build creative and very special terraces in several shapes and with various types of slabs.



*The new interchangeable spacer tabs plate system with fins in specific thicknesses or at a determined angle, affords the designer new unprecedented options and allows him, among other things, to build creative and very special terraces in several shapes, and with various types of slabs, as is the case here at Seaworld in the United States.*

### Transparent DPH screwjack-pedestals

The material of which the jacks are made does not rot, it withstands bad weather and aging and supports very heavy weights. The screwjack-pedestals have therefore been the subject of in-depth tests on compression and vertical and horizontal traction forces, as they are often anchored mechanically in countries like Japan. Given the growing interest in fire safety, an auto-extinguishable version has also been introduced on the market. As a remarkable innovation a transparent screwjack-pedestal in polycarbonate will be presented on stand 110 in hall 8, developed especially at the request of some architects and designers who were in search of a solution to support glass blocks for use in discotheques, prestigious entry halls, etc.

*Damaged lesser quality screwjack-pedestals have all been replaced with second generation DPH5 screwjack-pedestals.*



### Not to be confused with other screwjack pedestals.

The company manager Claude Buzon is confronted on a regular basis with projects in which lesser quality damaged screwjack-pedestals are wrongly confused with his products, as was the case recently in a technical school in Antwerp city in Belgium. Yet the affected screwjack-pedestals showed some striking differences. The broken screwjack-pedestals only had a bearing surface of 115 cm<sup>2</sup> and a head thickness of 2 mm, while Buzon products have a bearing surface of 190 cm<sup>2</sup> and a double head thickness. In addition, the lighter head of the broken screwjack-pedestals rests on a non-adjustable coupler of 61 mm in diameter. On the other hand, Buzon products have a much stronger coupler of 105 mm in diameter, 5 mm thick, which thanks to an adjustable cylinder, can be easily adjusted both ways. Mr Buzon is thus really sorry that those products have been sold as equivalent alternatives to his own products and he hopes to have put an end to any confusion with this example. This is why his company was asked to replace all previously installed screwjack-pedestals by second generation DPH5 screwjack-pedestals.