



Unit 27 – Formwork

Task 05

- Announcer: Listen to the dialogue between a guest visiting the outdoor building yard at your and Dave, your instructor.
- Guest: Your outdoor building yard is really interesting. Can you tell me what those two young men over there are doing? They seem to be really focused.
- Dave: Oh, they're training for the next *WorldSkills* competition.
- Guest: *WorldSkills* – what's that?
- Dave: It's like a world championship of all trades and crafts. Participants from all over the world take part and try to win a gold medal. Those two are form-workers and at the moment, they're setting up a wall formwork.
- Guest: I see. Can you give me more facts about how this is done?
- Dave: Well, let's see: First of all, you have to draw a line on the ground along which you want to set up the formwork system. Then, join the panels using clamps. After that, you have to oil the panels and position the reinforcement elements according to the given layout. The next step is closing the framework using the tie rod system. Before you pour in the concrete, the system is checked once again. After the concrete has set and reached the necessary strength you may strip out the formwork.
- Guest: All right. Is there any special type of concrete used?
- Dave: The best option is self-compacting concrete, which is pumped in from the bottom. You can also use regular types of concrete, but then you have to compact it either by internal or external vibrators.
- Guest: It seems like formwork offers big diversity in shape and design.
- Dave: Well, yes, you can construct foundations, substructures or floors as well as modern buildings, tunnels or bridges. Fascinating, isn't it? Let's walk on ...