

RACING POST

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Kurtsystem given the go-ahead

TWO years from now, Lambourn is likely to witness an innovative machine for training horses as a result of West Berkshire council's planning committee approving construction of a covered monorail system at Kingwood Stud.

Turkish owner/breeder Mehmet Kurt purchased the stud in 2011 from Fiona Marner and has been keen to duplicate the prototype of the training system assembled near Istanbul more than ten years ago.

The 'Kurtsystem' (*see picture, right*) is laid out above an oval all-weather circuit of just under a mile. Horses are loosely tethered into spacious cabins connected to the overhead monorail. It can be operated at speeds varying from walking to a slow canter.

Kurt, who has horses in training with Marcus Tregoning and Charlie Hills, says: "People may wish to see this as a much more advanced



horse-walker style device, but I'm convinced that racing in Britain can benefit from this technology which will dramatically reduce the terrible number of breakdowns among young horses in their pre-training careers.

"It allows a steady, sustainable and effort-free programme for training young horses and bringing injured older horses back to full health."

Kingwood Stud is adjacent to Hamdan Al Maktoum's

Kingwood Stables, which became vacant on Thursday when Marcus Tregoning moved to Whitsbury, where recent tenants have included David Elsworth, Ralph Beckett and George Baker.

The good news for the Derby-winning trainer is he will continue to train for Sheikh Hamdan.

Kurt's spokesman Tony Lodge said that they had viewed Kingwood Stables but it had been decided not to purchase the property.