

## **Liebherr mobile cranes erect monument to the “Tailor of Ulm”**

- Rieger & Moser uses LTM 1350-6.1 and LTM 1060-3.1
- The monument is completed using tandem hoists on challenging terrain
- The monument's opening ceremony coincides with the 75th anniversary of Ulm-based crane and heavy haulage contractor Rieger & Moser

**Ehingen / Donau (Germany) July 2020 – To celebrate the 250th anniversary of his birth, a prominent monument has been erected to aviation pioneer Albrecht Ludwig Berblinger. Using two Liebherr mobile cranes, Ulm-based crane and heavy haulage contractor Rieger & Moser GmbH & Co. KG erected a walk-in spiral staircase tower, whose appearance is reminiscent of the “Tailor of Ulm’s” flying machine. The Berblinger Tower is now positioned at precisely the point from where Berblinger attempted to fly over the River Danube in 1811.**

The best-known invention of master tailor and inventor, Berblinger, born in 1770, is the hang glider. He used it to conduct secret attempts at flight on Ulm's Michelsberg vineyards, which provided good thermal conditions. His demonstration from the Adlerbastei on the banks of the River Danube before a large crowd, however, ended in the middle of the river due to downdraughts caused by the cold water. Unfortunately, this crash also led to the destruction of Berblinger's social reputation – he was accused of being a fraudster and as a result, he also lost his customers from his tailoring business.

### **The monument**

The appearance of the Berblinger Tower with its red and white steps is reminiscent of the two red and white striped wings on his flying machine. Visitors must climb 88 transparent steps to reach a platform 15 metres in the air on the tower, which measures a total of 20 metres in height. There are additional chaotic, decorative steps at the top of the tower.

As a result of the fact that it is at an angle of 10°, the top of the tower projects by up to two metres over the Adlerbastei towards the Danube and sways in the wind. The angle,

which posed something of a challenge to the structural engineers, is designed to create the feeling of wanting to take off and fly away.

### **The challenge**

Rieger & Moser used an LTM 1060-3.1 for the initial assembly of the three main segments of the spiral staircase. The tower was then erected by an LTM 1350-6.1. For this purpose, the various segments, weighing up to 8 tonnes, had to be hoisted using a radius of up to 40 metres. In a tandem hoist with the 60 tonne crane, the tower sections were first turned in the air from a vertical into a horizontal position to prevent damaging the monument.

Because the site provided for the cranes partly encroached onto a fire access route and a meadow under high trees, a number of steel plates had to be used to protect the surface of the area. Appropriate areas also had to be created with steel plates for the sections which had to be placed on the ground and later assembled. Furthermore, high trees were a challenge for the hoists and assembly work. Dispatcher Aileen Schröder from Rieger & Moser said: "During the initial talks and site visits, it quickly became clear that this job would be rather complex as a result of the site conditions. But working together, our customer, the Central Buildings Management Department at the City of Ulm, and our Project Manager Michael Würstle managed to develop a crane concept which satisfied all the requirements."

The tower's dedication ceremony on 25 June coincides with the 75th anniversary of Rieger & Moser. "When we heard about the Berblinger Tower project, we immediately knew that we had to be involved. After all, we have had close links with the City of Ulm for 75 years and have contributed to its construction and development with our services", says Managing Director Dieter Moser.

Rieger & Moser GmbH und Co. KG has been part of the global Schmidbauer Group since 1985. At its site in Ulm, Rieger & Moser has a workforce around 40 operating 20 mobile cranes with lifting capacities ranging from 30 t to 350 t. The fleet also includes various heavy haulage vehicles.

### **Captions**

liebherr-ltm-1350-6-1-rieger-moser-1.jpg

The tower segments are turned from a vertical to a horizontal position in a tandem hoist.

liebherr-ltm-1350-6-1-rieger-moser-2.jpg

The first segment of the Berblinger Tower is swung into position. In the background on the left is Ulm Minster, which has the highest church tower in the world, measuring 162 metres.

liebherr-ltm-1350-6-1-rieger-moser-3.jpg:

The Liebherr LTM 1350-6.1 mobile crane erected the final section of the new monument on the Adlerbastei on the banks of the River Danube.

**Contact person**

Wolfgang Beringer

Telephone: +49 7391 502-3663

Email: [wolfgang.beringer@liebherr.com](mailto:wolfgang.beringer@liebherr.com)

**Published by**

Liebherr-Werk Ehingen GmbH

Ehingen / Donau, Germany

[www.liebherr.com](http://www.liebherr.com)