

Press release

Historic backdrop – Wilden hoists work platform out of the river using Liebherr LTM 1090-4.2 mobile crane

- **Mobile cranes regularly hoist work platforms into the River Wupper for inspecting bridge structures**
- **Extensive preparations are required for the job near a listed suspension railway**

Work platforms are regularly placed into the water of the River Wupper in Wuppertal for the annual inspections of the car and pedestrian bridges over it. At the start of September, Wilden Kran - Vermietung GmbH hoisted a telescopic platform out of the river in front of an historic backdrop – the 120 year old Wuppertaler suspension railway is one of the City’s landmarks and around ten of its total 13 kilometre track follow the course of the River Wupper.

Ehingen / Donau (Germany), 22 September 2020 – Set up with 22.5 tonnes of ballast, the Liebherr LTM 1090-4.2 mobile crane hoisted the 12.8 tonne work platform out of the water with a radius of 15 metres and placed it on a low loader. “These jobs are now fairly routine to us as we do them between 15 and 20 times a year. However, they do require extensive preparation as all work, including our crane operations, around the Wuppertaler suspension railway route requires a permit. The personnel working there must first register with the relevant department at the suspension railway and receive safety training”, says Dominik Fandrey, Dispatcher and Operations Manager at Wilden.

The crane job itself only took 2.5 hours. It took place in the suburb of Sonnborn on the site of the “Stadion am Zoo”, which is almost one hundred years old and in its day was one of the largest and most modern stadia in West Germany. It is here that the suspension railway diverts from the route of the River Wupper. “The work platforms can easily be moved towards the bridge structures on their crawler gear as the water is only around half a metre deep, enabling the construction engineers to complete the inspections. Of course, it is not possible in heavy rain or flooding”, explains Fandrey.

“Auto Wilden” was founded by Herrmann Wilden in 1935 as a towing and transport contractor. Since 1 October 2008, the company, which by then was known as Wilden Kran-Vermietung GmbH, has been part of the Bracht Group and continues to trade as a family-run business as intended by the founder. In addition to crane rental, the company also specialises in transport services.

About Liebherr-Werk Ehingen GmbH

Liebherr-Werk Ehingen GmbH is a leading manufacturer of mobile and crawler cranes. Its range of mobile cranes extends from 2-axle 35 tonne cranes to heavy duty cranes with a lifting capacity of 1200 tonnes and a 9-axle chassis. Its lattice boom cranes on mobile or crawler crane chassis deliver lifting capacities of up to 3000 tonnes. With universal boom systems and extensive additional equipment, they can be seen in action on construction sites throughout the world. The Ehingen site has a workforce of 3,500. Extensive, global service guarantees the high availability of Liebherr mobile and crawler cranes. In 2019, the Liebherr plant in Ehingen recorded a turnover of 2.1 billion euros.

About the Liebherr Group

The Liebherr Group is a family-run technology company with a widely diversified product range. The company is one of the largest manufacturers of construction machines in the world, but also supplies technically advanced, user-focused products and services in many other sectors. The group currently comprises more than 140 companies based in every continent of the world, has a workforce of over 48,000 and recorded a consolidated total turnover of more than 11.7 billion euros in 2019. Since it was founded in 1949 in Kirchdorf an der Iller in southern Germany, Liebherr’s aim has been to win customers by supplying high quality solutions and to contribute to technological progress.

Photographs



liebherr-wilden-ltm1090-4-2-wupper.jpg

Historic backdrop in Wuppertal – Sonnborn Church, the suspension railway and Stadion am Zoo.



liebherr-wilden-ltm1090-4-2-stadion.jpg

Sister company Hofmann delivers crane accessories to the site.



liebherr-wilden-ltm1090-4-2-ballast.jpg

The LTM 1090-4.2 is set up with 22.5 tonnes of ballast to lift out and load the work platform.

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