

60 tonnes on eight axles – HKV chooses the Liebherr LTM 1500-8.1 mobile crane

- HKV adds Liebherr 500-tonne crane to its fleet
- Liebherr supplies quick solution to reduce the gross weight of the LTM 1500-8.1 to below 60 tonnes
- Fewer regulations and shorter routes for transporting the crane

Ehingen / Donau (Germany) May 2017 – In April, Cologne-based crane rental company HKV Schmitz & Partner GmbH took delivery of its second Liebherr LTM 1500-8.1 mobile crane in a year. The company will use the new crane to replace a 7-axle LTM 1400-7.1, to position itself better for the higher requirements for repairing and repowering wind turbines. To improve transport logistics, Liebherr has designed a solution to fit and remove the telescopic boom quickly and easily. That enables the LTM 1500-8.1 to be driven without the boom, reducing its gross weight to less than 60 tonnes. This significantly increases its mobility on public roads.

Managing Director Herbert Schmitz explains: "Although the removal of the telescopic boom takes an hour, we are subject to fewer regulations from the authorities and no longer have to take long diversions. For example, we can drive over more bridges which saves time and distance. The increased mobility outweighs the additional time by far." His son Michael Schmitz goes on: "It also means that we are no longer exclusively restricted to driving at night and we do not need a police escort. That makes us significantly more flexible. It's also a great benefit for our personnel."

Over 500 Liebherr LTM 1500-8.1 mobile cranes have now been built and delivered to customers worldwide. Herbert Schmitz says: "The Liebherr 500-tonner is a time-tested machine which handles well and holds its value. The LTM 1500-8.1 is a universal machine and we're getting more and more jobs for 500-tonners. We are delighted that Liebherr is listening to ideas from the market and is adding new technology to cranes which have been on the market for some time. In practice, that is a great help to us."

HKV uses both LTM 1500-8.1 throughout Germany and believes that this is a great advantage since the ballast slabs can be used on both cranes, meaning that no ballast transport is required in many cases. It is also easier for the crane drivers and the team to operate several identical cranes with the same technology.

HKV has now been trading successfully for more than 20 years, initially only renting mobile cranes. Heavy haulage services were added later. The company now has a workforce of 45 and operates around 25 mobile cranes, all from Liebherr.

Caption

liebherr-ltm-1500-8.1-hkv.jpg

From left to right: Ralf Plättner, Wilhelm Dyck, Michael Schmitz (all from HKV Schmitz und Partner GmbH), Erich Schneider (Liebherr-Werk Ehingen GmbH), Herbert Schmitz, Günter Niedermeier, Josef Forsbach, Thomas Müller (all from HKV Schmitz und Partner GmbH)

Contact person

Wolfgang Beringer

Telephone: +49 7391 502-3663

Email: wolfgang.beringer@liebherr.com

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Ehingen / Donau, Germany

www.liebherr.com