

Press release

Two new local zero emission excavators from Liebherr: R 976-E and R 980 SME-E electric crawler excavators

- **Tried and tested electric system based on more than 40 years of Liebherr experience**
- **Robustness, reliability and cost-effectiveness**
- **Spacious, comfortable working environment**
- **Local zero emissions**

The R 976-E electric crawler excavator, along with the R 980 SME-E, replaces the ER 974 B for mine and quarry extraction. The latest electric excavators to be developed and produced by Liebherr-France SAS in Colmar, France, they are not just converted diesel machines. The excavators and their electric power system were designed and produced entirely by Liebherr.

Colmar (France), 9th April 2021 – Robustly designed and capable of withstanding extreme conditions, they weigh 90 and 100 tonnes respectively and are available in backhoe and shovel versions. They stand out for their low noise level, optimum versatility and zero CO₂/greenhouse gas emissions during operation.

Tried and tested electric system based on more than 40 years of Liebherr experience

In recent decades, Liebherr has demonstrated the quality and reliability of its electric technology with the success of its dedicated product ranges for mining, dredging and materials handling applications.

The electric system in the new Liebherr R 976-E 400 kW crawler excavator is supplied with 6000 V power via a cable connection, with the cable inlet in the centre of the undercarriage, or on the sides if requested. A motor cable drum is also available as an option. The machine is powered by a high voltage 6000 V/50 Hz current collector. A switch cabinet transformer (high voltage/low voltage) and a low voltage cabinet for power distribution and control of 690 V, 230 V and 24 V networks are located on the upper carriage.

Technological advantages

The technology used in the R 976-E and R 980 SME-E offers a host of advantages. Thanks to its constant speed whatever the load, an excavator with an electric engine has a longer service life. Also, the high availability of transient power for complex machine movements enables very high productivity. The R 976-E's low-voltage electric squirrel-cage engine drives the hydraulic system. The engine features heat shielding on bearings and motor windings. Integrated into a frame with a reinforced flange, it enables safe, soft starting. The two robust electrical cabinets are assembled by welding into a structure specifically designed to withstand extreme working conditions. The lockable watertight (IP 65) doors are fitted with safety switches and an emergency stop. The high voltage cabinet is a dedicated contact for power connection and voltage transformer, while the low voltage cabinet is used for power connection monitoring.

Robustness, reliability and cost-effectiveness

Liebherr excavators stand out on the market for their high performance. They are the end-product of robust design based on experience gained in mining applications. Their reliability has been tested in extreme conditions. In line with its commitment to ecology and sustainability, Liebherr guarantees zero pollutant gas emissions. In addition, to ensure quality, the electric power system was designed and produced entirely by Liebherr-France SAS itself.

Reduced maintenance and lower operating costs make an electric excavator more cost-effective than a diesel-engine machine. For greater comfort, the R 976-E and R 980 SME-E are extremely quiet. The robustness, reliability and cost-effectiveness of the R 976-E and R 980 SME-E make them products of choice for environmentally friendly extraction applications.

A working environment up to the highest standards

The R 976-E and R 980 SME-E offer users comfort and safety. They feature a spacious cab equipped with an automatic permanent air-conditioning and heating system while the exterior has a 270° camera system plus an armoured windscreen and roof window.

The operator's platform features a large number of additional monitoring functions and a standard large 9" screen.

About the Liebherr Group

The Liebherr Group is a family-owned engineering company offering a very diverse range of products. The company is one of the biggest manufacturers of construction machinery in the world but also supplies high-end products and services to fulfil users' needs in many other areas. Today the Group includes more than 140 companies on all continents, employing more than 48,000 people, and in 2019 it generated total consolidated sales of more than 11.7 billion euros. Since it was founded in 1949 in Kirchdorf-an-der-Ilser in southern Germany, Liebherr's goal has been to win over its customers with exceptional solutions while contributing to technological progress.

Photos



liebherr-crawler-excavator-r-976-e-1.jpg

The Liebherr R 976-E electric crawler excavator replaces the ER 974 B for mine and quarry extraction.



liebherr-crawler-excavator-r-976-e-2.jpg

The Liebherr R 976-E electric crawler excavator stands out for its robustness, reliability and cost-effectiveness.



liebherr-crawler-excavator-r-976-e-3.jpg

Not just extremely quiet, the R 976-E electric crawler excavator is also guaranteed to produce zero gas emissions.

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