

Press information

Ten Liebherr tower cranes are helping to build the largest timber campus in Europe

- EC-B series proves its flexibility as part of the “Arboretum” development project in France
- Longstanding customer GCC benefits from the latest equipment and comprehensive service thanks to its leasing agreement
- Liebherr offers intelligent assistance systems and accessories for maximum safety

Birds singing, a park with 1,000 planted trees and modern workplaces surrounded by an abundance of wood: this is the vision for “Arboretum”, the largest timber campus in Europe. Ten Liebherr EC-B series tower cranes are involved in the 650 million Euro project in Nanterre near Paris, France. The campus is designed to create a new connection between nature and the workplace and is sustainable thanks to its solid wood construction.

Nanterre (France), 1 December 2022 – Having as many as ten cranes on a construction site requires precise planning for efficient site operation. The top-slewing cranes, which will remain in operation until mid-2023, have to be coordinated with one another so that they don't interfere with each other's lifts. Just how flexible Liebherr's EC-B series can be is on impressive display in Nanterre, where flat-top cranes with different hook heights, jib lengths and load capacities are required. “We opted for Liebherr cranes because of our longstanding business relationship,” says Antonio Silva de Almeida, the site manager in charge. “Liebherr cranes are ideal for carrying out this project because of their exceptional cost-effectiveness and safety standards.”

Liebherr customer GCC has two 220 EC-B 10s, two 250 EC-B 10s, one 250 EC-B 12, two 285 EC-B 12s, two 340 EC-B 12s and one 370 EC-B 12 in operation. The jibs in use are between 47.5 and 60 metres in length. Hook heights range from 41 to 59 metres. As a result of these configurations and their flat-top design, the cranes can rotate above each other without encountering any problems. The transport and assembly-optimised cranes can, depending on the model, lift a maximum of ten or twelve tonnes. A 280 EC-H 12 high-top crane is additionally in use for the construction of the service centre.

Anti-collision system and crane operator lift

To ensure optimal safety, all cranes are equipped with an anti-collision system from the French manufacturer AMCS technologies. The machines also include LiUP operator lifts, which particularly benefit crane operators and service engineers working at high hook heights, as is the case here. LiUP is

designed to transport two people or a load of 200 kilograms. It gives crane operators quick access to their workplace and spares service engineers a strenuous climb during maintenance work.

The “Arboretum” project on the banks of the Seine will provide 125,000 square metres of office and service space and will be mostly built of solid wood. The offices are set to be spread over five buildings and each of them will be named after a tree: Almond, Pine, Cedar, Fir and Spruce. A park, a fruit and vegetable garden for the use of campus restaurants, and two renovated industrial buildings will complete the area. The campus will offer ongoing contact with nature so that employees working there can relax and concentrate better. Measures designed to reduce the site’s carbon footprint include the reuse of materials, bioclimatic architecture and a geothermal system that will cover up to 80 percent of heating and cooling requirements.

Precise positioning with Micromove

The construction of the new office buildings involves 20,000 cubic metres of wood from sustainably managed forests, as well as 55,000 cubic metres of concrete. All loads, some of which weigh several tonnes, have to be moved, and this is where the Liebherr tower cranes come in. “The cranes are reliable and powerful, and the LiUP lift ensures a high level of safety,” says site manager Antonio Silva de Almeida.

The top-slewing cranes are being used for positioning timber and concrete elements such as posts, beams, columns, staircases and lifts. This work is supported by the Micromove fine positioning mode. The assistance system makes perfect use of Liebherr’s own high-performance drives so that loads are moved with precision over the course of several minutes and positioned with accuracy. This protects precast filigree concrete parts and existing constructions on site.

Comprehensive service for fast response times

Most of the cranes are new machines that GCC has secured under a leasing agreement. “Leasing means that customers always benefit from the latest cranes,” explains Sébastien Chalvet, Liebherr Key Account Manager for the Île-de-France region. Liebherr-Grues à Tour is responsible for overall fleet management, “Working this way ensures that cranes are perfectly maintained for maximum availability, and that we can guarantee our customers the highest possible safety standards.”

The dense, worldwide service network of Tower Crane Customer Service enables the best possible service at our customers’ sites. Spare parts are quickly available thanks to decentralised logistics. Liebherr, for example, has an extensive spare parts warehouse in Fontenay-Trésigny, south-east of Paris. LiDAT, the data transfer and positioning system designed for Liebherr machines, helps to ensure a high-quality service.

About the Liebherr Tower Cranes Division

More than seven decades of experience have made Liebherr a recognised specialist for lifting technology on all types of construction sites. The range of Liebherr Tower Cranes encompasses an extensive selection of high-quality tower cranes that are used worldwide. This includes fast-erecting, top-slewing, luffing jib and special-purpose cranes as well as mobile construction cranes. In addition to these products, Liebherr also offers a wide range of services that complete the company's portfolio: Tower Crane Solutions, the Tower Crane Center and Tower Crane Customer Service.

About the Liebherr Group

The Liebherr Group is a family-run technology company with a highly diversified product portfolio. The company is one of the world's largest manufacturers of construction machinery. It also offers high-quality, user-oriented products and services in multiple other areas. Today, the group consists of more than 140 companies across all continents. In 2021, it employed more than 49,000 people and achieved combined revenues of over 11.6 billion euros. Liebherr was founded in 1949, in Kirchdorf an der Iller in southern Germany. Ever since then, its employees have been committed to providing customers with industry-leading solutions and to help drive technological innovation.

Images



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Ten Liebherr flat-top cranes are involved in the construction of the "Arboretum" in France.



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Liebherr's EC-B series cranes are the perfect fit for Europe's largest timber campus.



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A leasing agreement allows customer GCC to use new and efficient equipment on site.



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The crane operator lift LiUP transports employees and service engineers quickly and safely up the crane.

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