Berlin ropeway successfully launched

Prestigious new urban project by LEITNER ropeways

Ropeways are considered mobility models of the future in urban areas. The Berlin ropeway by LEITNER ropeways is the latest spectacular example of this. The German capital benefits doubly from it: the ropeway will provide environmentally friendly transport for the two million visitors expected at the 2017 International Garden Show (IGA Berlin 2017), and it will continue to offer sustainable local transport in the future. The IGA Berlin 2017 on 13 April 2017 has been inaugurated with Germany's president Frank-Walter Steinmeier.

The City of Berlin's requirements for the means of transportation for the IGA grounds were high: it had to offer optimal access to the grounds from both sides, be environmentally friendly and wheelchair accessible, as well as offering a connection to the city center. A ropeway system fulfills these requirements ideally. "The visionary decision to choose our product once again proves the strengths of ropeways in urban areas," says supervisory board chairman Michael Seeber of the company's 14 million Euro investment. LEITNER ropeways is not only the investor and system builder in this project, it is also the operator. The ropeway will hover over the Gardens of the World as a tourist attraction and means of public transportation during IGA Berlin 2017 exhibition from April 13 to October 15 2017. It will remain in operation after the exhibition, and will continue to perform this double role: serving both as transportation for visitors to the gardens, and as public transport between the Marzahn and Hellersdorf districts, with a direct link to the subway station. Berlin's governing mayor Michael Müller is impressed: "As a modern, environmentally-friendly and silent means of transportation this ropeway fits the IGA concept and the park landscape perfectly, and is now a highly visible symbol of the International Garden Show." Use of the ropeway during IGA Berlin 2017 is already included in the price of admission.

Bird's eye views and green roofs

A detachable 10-passenger monocable gondola lift was built with 65 cabins, six of which have glass floors for a spectacular bird's eye view of the exhibition. The ropeway runs on an east-west axis with a total length of 1.5 kilometers. Besides the three station buildings – the Kienbergpark station at the "Kienberg – Gärten der Welt" subway station, the "Wolkenhain" midway station at the peak of Kienberg Hill and the "Gärten der Welt" station at the IGA main entrance on Blumberger Damm – only six support towers were built. Overall, 3,000 passengers can be transported per hour and direction, with a travel time of just 4.5 minutes. LEITNER ropeways focused on the special architectural and particularly "natural" design of the stations, expressed among other things in the living roofs.

Important local transport connection for the future

The ropeway will continue to impact Berlin's local transport after 2017. In particular, it optimizes the connection between the districts of Marzahn and Hellersdorf, making it an important part of the public transport route towards the city center. To make the ropeway

even more attractive, the Berlin public transport company is renovating the "Neue Grottkauer Straße" subway station at the eastern entryway to the ropeway. As of the

timetable change in December 2016, the station was also renamed "Kienberg – Gärten der Welt" to honor the IGA.

Klettergärten der Welt (Rock Climbing Parks of the World) and Berlin's first natural bobsleigh run

In addition to building the ropeway, LEITNER ropeways is creating another highlight at IGA: It presents the exhibition "Klettergärten der Welt" together with climbing expert Vertical-Life, a startup from South Tyrol. The exhibition is housed in the "Gärten der Welt" ropeway station on Blumberger Damm. Starting April 13, it takes visitors to a different kind of "vertical" garden. The exhibitors will present beautiful and legendary rock climbing parks from around the world, in the form of larger-scale photo walls, spectacular videos and real stone as a tangible experience. Particularly curious visitors can even get active themselves and have their own personal rock climbing park photo taken in a special interactive installation.

Berlin's first natural bobsleigh run will also provide entertainment at IGA. This attraction starts on the peak of Kienberg Hill. During the 500 meter descent, the bobsleighs reach a speed of up to 40 km/h. The route ends at the panorama roundabout, which is located at a height of about eight meters. All bobsleigh riders are able to savor the breathtaking view as they make two 360° circuits of the roundabout. A conveyor belt then takes the bobsleighs back to the start at the top of the mountain.

INTERNATIONAL GARDEN SHOW (IGA) International Garden Shows are held every ten years in Germany. IGAs not only exhibit the latest garden art and landscape architecture from a wide range of regions in the world, they have also established themselves as driving forces for urban renewal, ecological, cultural and infrastructural development at their locations, and are justifiably considered significant model projects. IGA Berlin 2017 starts at April 13 2017 and runs until October 15 2017. Roughly 2 million visitors are expected by the end of the exhibition. This year's IGA is dedicated to the future of urban greenery. www.iga-berlin-2017.de

LEITNER ROPEWAYS LEITNER ropeways is part of the High Technology Industries (HTI) Group, which also includes the brands PRINOTH (snow groomers and tracked utility vehicles), DEMACLENKO (snow making systems), POMA (passenger ropeways), AGUDIO (material ropeways), LEITWIND (wind power plants) and MINIMETRO (cable-hauled railway vehicles). The divisions of LEITNER ropeways are Winter Sports, Tourism, Urban Passenger Transport, and Material Transport. The headquarters of the company, which was founded in 1888, are in Vipiteno (BZ), South Tyrol/Italy. Ropeway production sites are located in Italy, Austria, France, Slovakia, the USA and China. https://www.leitner-ropeways.com/en/press/

Press contact:

LEITNER
Maurizio Todesco
Head of PR & Corporate Communications
Brennerstraße 34
I-39049 Sterzing (BZ)

Phone +39 0472 722115
Mobile +39 335 772229
maurizio.todesco@leitner.com

LEITNER
Maria Jäger
Marketing Communication
Michael-Seeber-Straße 1
6410 Telfs

Phone +43 (0)5262 621 21 3414
maria.jaeger@leitner.com