LEITNER is setting new standards for the future of ropeways in Austria

Austria’s first ROPERA® system is being built in Tyrol

Sustainability, digitalization, and maximum ride comfort are the hallmarks of LEITNER’s current ropeway projects in Austria. With several major projects underway in Tyrol and Styria, the company is reaffirming its commitment to developing innovative ropeway technology “in-house” and combining the highest quality standards with energy-efficient solutions. In doing so, LEITNER prioritizes intelligent control systems, modern design and resource-saving drive technologies.

The project in Tyrol represents a technological milestone: the “Schartenkogel-Express” in the Glungezer skiing area will be the first ROPERA® facility in Austria. The unique combination of tried-and-tested components, such as the LEITNER DirectDrive system, and new technologies, will ensure maximum efficiency, sustainability and flexibility. This is all based on perfectly coordinated and optimized key components, which will enable quiet operation, a high level of occupational safety, ease of maintenance and a reduction in life- cycle costs. The compact design and reduced infrastructure will also ensure that the facility blends in particularly well with the Alpine landscape. Furthermore, ROPERA® ropeway systems are particularly environmentally friendly, have a life time of over 40 years and are up to 95% recyclable.

Debut in the Glungezer skiing area: Austria’s first ROPERA® system in Tyrol

LEITNER is building Austria’s first ROPERA® system in the Glungezer skiing area in Tyrol: the detachable 6-seater “Schartenkogel-Express” chairlift. The new facility replaces an existing installation while also providing access to a new viewing point. It is equipped with the energy-efficient LEITNER DirectDrive system and premium chairs EVO with seat heating. The project marks not only the Austrian debut of ROPERA® technology, but also the start of the collaboration between LEITNER and the Tyrolean skiing area. The new facility is a prime example of modern, sustainable ropeway infrastructure, offering high energy efficiency and greater comfort for winter sports visitors.

Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis invests in the new Planseggbahn

The detachable 8-seater chairlift “Planseggbahn” is being built in Serfaus-Fiss-Ladis and will be one of the most high-performance chairlifts in Austria. The existing 6-seater chairlift dating back to 1997 will be replaced by this modern system to ensure operations continue to run smoothly on peak days in the future. On those days up to 17,000 people used the old ropeway. The new facility, featuring a long station with an even more convenient high comfort loading (HCL) system, will achieve a capacity of up to 4,000 passengers per hour. It will also be equipped with LeitPilot, LEITNER’s intelligent technology for the autonomous operation of gondola and chairlift stations. The system optimizes operating procedures while improving safety. By implementing the project, Seilbahn Komperdell GmbH is consistently striving to improve quality and comfort. Construction began immediately after the end of the 2025/26 winter season.

First LEITNER project in Kreischberg

State-of-the-art LEITNER technology will also be used in Kreischberg in the future. The new detachable 8-seater chairlift “Rosenkranz” will be replacing an existing two-seater chairlift and will be one of the most important infrastructure projects in the skiing area. Like the Planseggbahn, the facility will also achieve a capacity of 4,000 passengers per hour and feature an HCL station and premium chairs EVO with automatically closing safety bars. Commissioning is scheduled for winter 2026. This project will be the first LEITNER ropeway built in Kreischberg, further consolidating the company’s presence in Styria.

Modernization of the Venetbahn

Another major project is the comprehensive overhaul of the “Venetbahn”, a contract worth around eight million euros. The planning, design and calculations will be carried out at the LEITNER site in Gießhübl, which specializes in modernizing aerial tramways and funicular railways. The historic aerial tramway will undergo a major technical overhaul to ensure it is fit for the future. In addition to modernized 44-seater cabins, the project will include a new barrier-free bottom station, a spacious waiting room and more than 1,000 square meters of sales space for a new sports retail site right next to the tramway.

The facility is set to reopen in December 2026. The technological features implemented by LEITNER will include new full-locked carrying ropes with integrated optical fiber technology, as well as optimized hauling ropes to reduce loads and susceptibility to wind. This will also

be the first aerial tramway to be equipped with a hauling rope roller generator to produce electricity in combination with photovoltaic modules for the anemometer.

Hochfügen is getting a modern ROPERA® 10-seater gondola lift

LEITNER is building another modern ROPERA® system in Hochfügen by 2027: the 10- seater gondola lift “Kalte Kuchl”. The new ropeway will replace an existing 2-seater chairlift and be equipped with the intelligent LeitPilot system at both stations. It will also feature Premium Cabins Diamond EVO with seat heating. The system will have a capacity of 2,000 passengers per hour with an inclined length of around 1,500 meters. The project combines a high level of comfort with modern control technology and energy-efficient operation, making it a prime example of LEITNER’s innovation strategy for alpine tourism.

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