Vögele │ "Dash-5" paver resurfaces winding road to Germany's highest castle ruins

Challenging surface rehabilitation with the SUPER 1800-5 X

Tight hairpin turns, steep gradients, and narrow passages characterize the vital access road to the Falkenstein castle ruins, located at an altitude of 1,277 m (4,190 ft), and the hotel with a gourmet restaurant located just below. Here, the new Vögele road paver SUPER 1800-5 X demonstrates why it is the right choice for difficult paving tasks.

Jobsite with many challenges

The road to the castle ruins, which is just over 2 km (1.2 miles) long, is only 3 m (10 ft) wide in sections and is already showing its age. The stretch of road is bumpy and has deep potholes. “This jobsite has a lot of tricky features. We are dealing with a steep gradient and very tight curves at the same time. That is a challenge for the paving and logistics,” says Sascha Böck, Managing Director of the contractor Josef Böck GmbH, describing the task. He planned the operation meticulously in advance. Only three-axle trucks can be used for mix delivery due to the hairpin turns. In addition, there are only limited passing places along the stretch to be covered. The trucks have to reverse over long sections. A flexible and easy-to-operate road paver is also crucial for a high-quality paving result.

SUPER 1800-5 X: Compact, powerful, and precise steering

The Vögele road paver SUPER 1800-5 X used at Falkenstein is comparatively compact for its high performance, with a length of 6.15 m (20.2 ft). In addition, it offers high traction and precise steering – which benefits the paving team given the confined space: a mountainside on one side and a steep drop-off on the other. Here, the paver has to be steered with millimeter precision to avoid hitting anything on the narrow road. “That works very well with the new Dash-5 paver. Thanks to the optimal overview, the responsive steering via SmartWheel, and the exact screed width adjustment, asphalt paving is possible in these challenging curves. The paver keeps to the line perfectly and we get a uniform paving result, which is not something to be taken for granted given the poor condition of the existing surface and varying paving depths. The pressure bar of the screed is very helpful here for achieving high pre-compaction,” notes Sascha Böck after the first 500 m (1,640 ft) of asphalt paving with the new paver. The extending screed AB 500 TP1 can be hydraulically adjusted from 2.55 m (8.4 ft) to 5.00 m (16.4 ft). By adding bolt-on extensions, an extension up to 8.75 m (28.7 ft) is possible.

Enhanced operating concept is very helpful

Tatjana Drexler steers the SUPER 1800-5 X along the steep walls and the rugged drop-off. Until five years ago, she worked in hospitality at a ski hut and was looking for an interesting new activity for the summer. She would never have dreamed back then that she would one day drive a road paver. “Today, it is my dream job,” she says, describing her career choice. She has only ever operated Vögele road pavers and would not want to switch. “Why would I, when I'm already out here with the best machine,” she admits with a smile. She loves controlling large machines safely, even under difficult conditions, while keeping an eye on her colleagues at the paving screed and the entire working area. The further developed operating concept ErgoPlus 5 is helpful in this regard. While operators always have to get used to one or two new features on a new machine, she was able to get used to the new paver very quickly because the operating logic is very similar to the predecessor model. Operation is even simpler and more intuitive; the SmartWheel enables very precise steering, and the new touch display offers many additional options. “Visually and technically, you can see that the machine has been noticeably further developed,” she says about the new road paver.

Compaction on a slope of over 30%

For final compaction, the team uses an oscillation roller HD 13 VO and an HD 10 VT from Hamm. Above all, the gradient of the route, which is over 30% in parts, paired with the tight hairpin turns, places high demands on the skill of the roller operator and the capabilities of the rollers. They must be driven with great sensitivity so as not to push the mix, tear it apart, or cause the roller to slip. This is precisely where the 3-point articulation of the Hamm rollers proves once again to be a valuable feature.

Successful premiere of the new SUPER 1800-5 X

After just a few days, Germany's highest gourmet restaurant and highest castle ruins, as well as the hotel below, are easily accessible again. The use of the Vögele road paver SUPER 1800-5 X with the extending screed AB 500 TP1 made a significant contribution to this.

After just a few days, Germany's highest gourmet restaurant and highest castle ruins, as well as the hotel below, are easily accessible again.

**Photos:**

An image containing landscape, outdoors, cloud, mountain range.

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

JV\_photo\_Falkenstein\_SUPER\_1800-5\_X\_PR\_001

In the Allgäu region, the serpentine road to Germany's highest castle ruins, Falkenstein, was successfully rehabilitated using three Wirtgen Group machines.

  
JV\_photo\_Falkenstein\_SUPER\_1800-5\_X\_PR\_002  
Hairpin turns and steep gradients characterize the narrow road to the Falkenstein castle ruins and the associated gourmet hotel.

  
JV\_photo\_Falkenstein\_SUPER\_1800-5\_X\_PR\_003  
In action: The Vögele paver SUPER 1800-5 X and the tandem rollers HD 13 VO and HD 10 VT from Hamm.

  
JV\_photo\_Falkenstein\_SUPER\_1800-5\_X\_PR\_004

The Vögele road paver and the Hamm rollers had to be steered with absolute precision through the narrow serpentine to obtain an optimal result.

  
JV\_photo\_Falkenstein\_SUPER\_1800-5\_X\_PR\_005

Paver operator Tatjana Drexler benefits during paving from the optimal overview, the sensitive steering via SmartWheel, and the exact screed width adjustment of the Vögele road paver.

**Videos:**

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[Click here to view the video.](https://youtu.be/WGDCDCW_Vxk)

**[You can find more videos on the Wirtgen Group](https://www.youtube.com/@WirtgenGroup) YouTube channel.**

Please note: The photographs shown here are only previews. For publication, please use the photos in 300 dpi resolution, which are available in the attached download.

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