

LIEBHERR TOWER CRANE FLOWN INTO BRATISLAVA CITY CENTRE JOBSITE

Bratislava, Slovakia-based tower crane sales and rental company Kranimex, which is also an official Liebherr dealer, used a helicopter to transport a 40 LC top-slewing crane into the centre of Bratislava.

It had to use the helicopter because conventional tower crane assembly using a mobile crane wasn't possible for a number of reasons. First, there was no

access road to the jobsite. Second, the proximity of neighbouring buildings and power lines meant that, even if a mobile crane could reach the site, it would have needed a minimum lifting capacity of 350 tonnes, plus a jib extension. The use of such a large mobile crane would also have meant that part of the city's tram system would have had to be suspended. All in all, Kranimex, along

with heavy haulage specialist Tech-Mont, determined that the use of a helicopter was the most effective method.

The assembly took a total of two days. The MI-8T helicopter used had a maximum lifting capacity of three tonnes. This meant that the helicopter was able to transport even the heaviest crane part, a 2,750-kilogram slewing platform, without a problem.

The helicopter picked up the crane components, including tower sections, jib, and counter jib, at a temporary storage location by the Danube and flew them over the city's rooftops to the construction site. Eleven flights were needed to deliver all of the crane parts. Service fitters from Kranimex took delivery of the air-lifted components before assembling the top-slewing crane.

It is expected that the crane will work on the residential project in the centre of Bratislava until the end of 2023. The Liebherr machine can access all parts of the jobsite with ease and assists with various lifting operations, including the movement of bricks and concrete.

Once the crane has finished its work it will be dismantled by helicopter and flown back over the rooftops of Bratislava. ■



ESTA AND ECTA SIGN FIRST MOU

ESTA, a leading European association for the abnormal road transport and mobile crane rental industry, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ECTA, the European Chemical Transport Association, to allow both organisations to work together and jointly lobby for improvements in transport infrastructure and regulation, best practice and safety.

The MOU was signed in May at the Transport Logistic exhibition in Munich by ESTA Section Transport Vice President Iffet Türken of Kässbohrer and ECTA

President Andreas Zink of LKW Walter.

The areas of cooperation set out in the agreement include the standardisation and harmonisation of the European transport industry, joint lobbying activities on issues of mutual interest, and the exchange of information on best practice and safety.

The MOU will be effective for five years. It will not create any legal relationship between ECTA and ESTA but is intended to boost both influence and cooperation where the two organisations' policies are aligned. ■

