RHOMBERG SERSA RAIL GROUP



Rehabilitation Gotthard Base Tunnel

Gotthard Base Tunnel, Switzerland

In August 2023, a freight train derailment caused significant damage to the structure of the Gotthard Base Tunnel. Fortunately, no injuries occurred.

RSRG initially supported the removal of the damaged rolling stock. This was followed by the rehabilitation of seven kilometres of slab track, including the renewal of HDL inspection chambers, repair of damaged platforms and earthing systems, as well as the removal and reconstruction of two 1600-type turnouts in slab track.

Location:	Gotthard Base Tunnel, Switzerland
Client:	SBB AG, Infrastruktur AEP Region Süd
Construction period:	October 2023 – July 2024
Services:	Dismantling of the existing track system along its entire length; milling away the existing concrete surface; laying and installation of the new track system; elevation and surveying; concrete pouring; welding using Serstar; laser scanning by Digital Rail Services (DRS)
Executing companies:	Rhomberg Sersa Rail Group (Switzerland)

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Read more:

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Special features

A key focus was the track removal using specialised equipment, enabling significant sections to be processed daily. These works, carried out in 18-metre track panels, were completed by the end of the first week – despite very limited preparation time, strict schedules, confined working conditions, high temperatures and challenging air quality.

Efficiency was increased through a highly coordinated shift planning approach, ensuring precise alignment of all required activities. Due to the high logistical effort, this phase represented the most time-consuming part of the project.

The commitment of the teams, their well-established collaboration and expertise, combined with strict adherence to safety protocols, were key factors in the successful delivery of this demanding project.

Technical data

- GBT, east tube, between km 239.900 and 247.350
- Installation and unloading of approx. 22,000 LVT supports and 14 km of SBB VI rails
- Removal of existing track over the entire length
- Milling of the existing concrete surface
- Installation and assembly of new track
- Track positioning and surveying
- Concreting
- Welding using Serstar technology
- Laser scanning





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