ABI MOBILRAM-System on the Largest Construction Site in Tyrol

The Felix Forster company drives sheet piles for the new lower Inn valley railway (Austria).

The Felix Forster GmbH opted for the ABI MOBILRAM-System in the eighties already. Also for the biggest contract in the company's history so far, they chose an ABI telescopic leader again. In the beginning of 2008 Forster received the contract from the company Strabag AG to carry out piling work at the lower Inn valley railway line due for construction. The contract runs for three years in total with the last extraction work being scheduled for February 2011.

The new lower Inn valley railway is part of the high-performance line Berlin - Palermo which belongs to the trans-European network and is encouraged by the European Union. The heart of the track is the way cross the Alps. In this area a new double-track line is added to the existing line in several phases. The first section of the extension is app. 40 km long and is located in the Tyrolean lower Inn valley between Kundl and Baumkirchen. The new railway line runs mainly in tunnels, sags and underground routes and is scheduled to be opened in 2012.

The ABI MOBILRAM-System TM 18/22 HD with a variable static moment vibrator MRZV 30V of the company Felix Forster GmbH is in service on section H2-2 Radfeld centre. In this section of a length of 2,390 m app. 100,000 square meters of steel sheet piles will be driven-in to shore the building pits. Most of the time AZ 41-700 double steel sheet piles of a length of 20 m will be used. The double sheet piles are pre-positioned using a crane. Shorter sheet piles are driven-in using a smaller ABI MOBILRAM-System TM 14/17 L. The combination of the telescopic leader TM 18/22 HD and the MRZV 30V is the ideal choice for the existing geology. In the entire Radfeld construction section the railway line lies in unconsolidated material. The ground consists mainly of widely stepped gravels of the Inn boulders facies with a layer of alluvial sands of up to several meters in some areas on top of it.

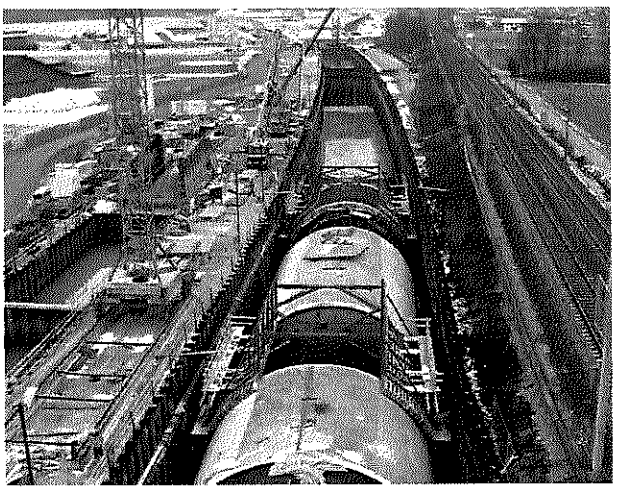

Photo: Job site at the lower Inn valley railway Radfeld centre

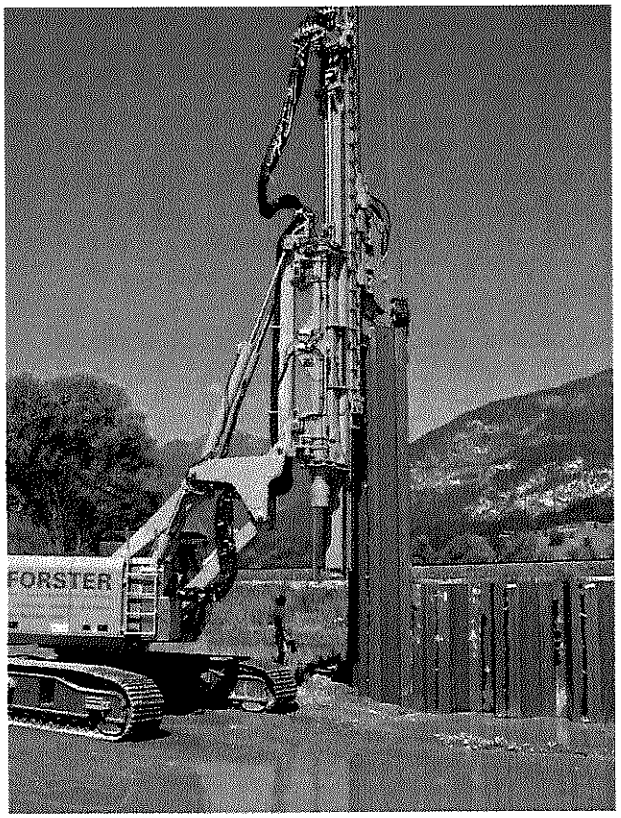

Foto: Piling works with ABI MOBILRAM-System TM 18/22 HD of the company Felix Forster at the foot of the Alps

The tunnel of a length of 1,600 m is built using the cut-and-cover method. The ground water level is only a few meters below the ground surface so that the construction pits must be extremely impermeable. The maximum amount of leaking water must not exceed 5 l/s per 1,000 square meters of the moistened sheeting surface. Due to difficult conditions and high requirements the executing companies were involved in the planning phase already in order to find a technically and economically optimized solution based on their experience. ■

The company Felix Forster GmbH has its head office in Braunau upon Inn (Austria) as well as a branch office in Simbach upon Inn (Germany) and is a long-time customer of ABI. The company was founded in the year 1955 by Felix Forster and is managed in the second generation by his sons Felix and Thomas. Forster purchased the first ABI MOBILRAM-System in the year 1983 already. The TM 18/22 HD machine delivered in June 2008 is already the 22nd ABI machine at Felix Forster Bau GmbH.