KLÜBER LUBRICATION
your global specialist

Case Study

Ropeway operation

More safety and reduced maintenance costs

– More safety in lubrication operations achieved
– Increased effectiveness of lubrication
– Maintenance costs reduced

Challenge: Greasing of rope support saddles on a reversible aerial tramway.

Requirements:
– The intended solution is to offer long operating intervals and safe operation
– Reduction of friction between the rope and the saddle, in order to avoid stick-slip and prevent wear
– Year-round operation in the wide range of Alpine temperatures as the ropeway works throughout the year under varying conditions: rain, snow, wind, extreme temperatures and more.

Business Issue and Objectives

Col Rodella is a ski area in Val di Fassa, in the heart of the dolomites, Italy.

The transport installations in the ski district are able to move more than 50,000 people per hour. They consist of 5 aerial tramways / reversible ropeways, 5 circulating ropeways / gondola lifts, 18 chairlifts, 8 T-bar, platter and button lifts.

Key facts of Col Rodella ropeway:
– Year of construction: 1986
– Speed: 10 m / s
– Transportation capacity: 1,100 persons / h
– Length of the line: 2,476 m

Maintenance and relubrication of rope support saddles are crucial for a safe and efficient operation. The point of lubrication is on a very high pylon. Safety was considered very important as the Klüber Lubrication solution prevents maintenance technicians from being exposed to high altitudes and often difficult environmental conditions for a long time. The lubrication procedure was also elaborate and exhaustive: technicians had to climb the pylons every week to relubricate. Downtimes with a negative effect on the average passenger transportation rate were correspondingly high. “We were looking for a way to reduce the amount of necessary work and to increase safety in general”, explains Daniele Dezulian, Vice President of the ski resort S.I.T. Canazei.

Solution: STABURAGS NBU 12 ALTEMP in Klübermatic NOVA dispensers

Owing to its vast experience, a tight network with many companies and the good relationship to the OEM, Klüber Lubrication was able to quickly provide a suitable solution. It is based on the combination of the Klüber Lubrication grease STABURAGS NBU 12 ALTEMP that ensures proper lubrication and the Klübermatic NOVA dispenser for precisely metered application.

This product-dispenser combination was based on previous experiences and recommendations from well-known companies in different countries. The OEM, producer of the ropeway, agrees that the ropeway operator applies this product through dispensers. Tests performed at at Col Rodella showed immediately good results. The lubricant-dispenser combination is now implemented in all ropeway shoes.

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Benefits and Values

The use of STABURAGS NBU 12 ALTEMP in Klübermatic dispensers shows the following benefits and values:

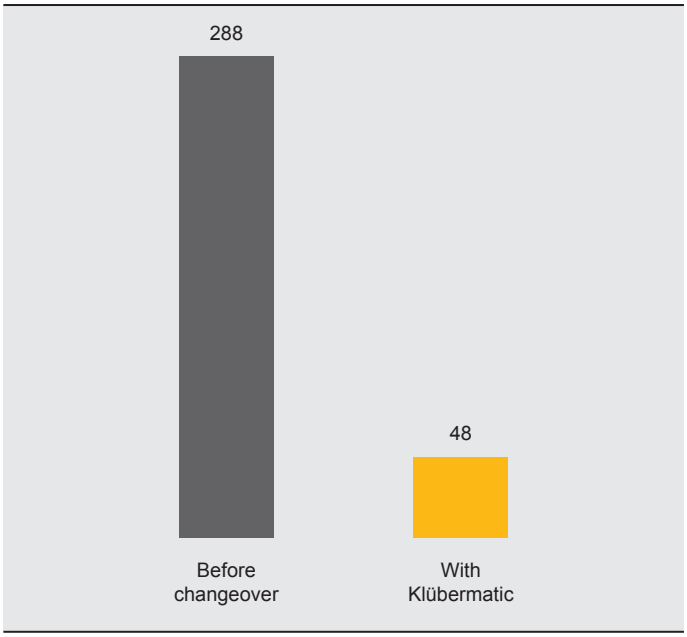
- Safer maintenance:
  - The operator does not have to relubricate manually and climb high pylons so often,
  - thus reducing the risk of accident.
- Efficient lubrication with STABURAGS NBU 12 ALTEMP
- Cleaner operation due to low grease consumption
- Reduction of maintenance costs.

A cost-benefit analysis can be made for an average ropeway of 3 pylons with 48 lubrication points each: While manual relubrication takes 6 hours every 15 days with 2 persons involved, with Klübermatic only short inspections of approx. 1 h (every 15 days involving 2 persons) are necessary. The change of the Klübermatic system is necessary only every 18 months and is done very quickly during one of the inspections.

Summary

Thanks to its expertise and experience, Klüber Lubrication was able to quickly provide a well-matching solution for the lubrication of ropeway shoes. “The product/dispenser-combination reduced our maintenance costs and increased safety for our technicians considerably”, explains Daniele Dezulian.

Reduced working time



Working hours per year

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