

Press Release

Rotkreuz, April 17, 2024

Upgrade for funicular on Lugano's "Sugarloaf Mountain"

The famous Monte San Salvatore in Lugano has seen a major change. Garaventa modernized the traditional single-track funicular railway, which was originally built over a century ago. The rebuild encompassed the replacement of the control system and the cars, which now offer a better panoramic view.

The funicular on Monte San Salvatore enjoys a long tradition. It first went into service in March 1890. The railway has always been hugely popular and is used by 170,000 passengers every year.

Unique alignment

The technology of this installation differs from that of other funiculars. It is split into two single-track sections, with just one car running on each. The drive, which propels the cars in opposite directions, is installed in the intermediate station in Pazzallo and depends on the two sections being of identical length. While the lower section from Paradiso to the mountain is straight, the upper section follows a slightly s-shaped alignment and has a significantly steeper grade of up to 61 percent.

Innovative

In addition to the control technology, the extensive modernization included a new motor and brake hydraulics plus the complete replacement of the two cars. The funicular vehicles built by CWA in Olten differ in design in order to address the differences in grade between the sections. Both vehicles were placed on the rails of the first section. In order to transfer the vehicle from the first to the second section, it was necessary to separate the superstructure from the undercarriage in the intermediate station and then put them back together again. The haul rope was also replaced during the course of the modernization work.

60-FUL Lugano–San Salvatore, Switzerland

Customer:	Funicolare Lugano-Paradiso Monte San Salvatore SA, Lugano
Inclined length:	1,629 m
Vertical rise:	601 m
Capacity:	240 PPH
Speed:	3.5 m/s
Opened:	March 2024

Images: <https://coco.doppelmayr.com/pinaccess/showpin.do?pinCode=6L2qBJJ9XrkO>

About Garaventa AG

Garaventa AG is a Swiss company headquartered in Rotkreuz, with additional sites in Goldau, Uetendorf and Sion. It is the Swiss branch of the Doppelmayr Group and has established itself as the competence center with international reach for reversible aerial tramway, funicular railway and material ropeway systems as well as for complex rope installation work. Garaventa is also responsible for all ropeway projects of the Doppelmayr Group in Switzerland. All functions and competencies for special ropeways are made available to the Group worldwide from Switzerland. Garaventa employs 380 people in Switzerland.

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