

# cranes & access

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# Alpine chairlift

The 60 tonne Liebherr LTR 1060 telescopic crawler crane owned by Swiss crane company Clausen has completed its second contract on the Matterhorn, helping construct a top station for the new Hörnli/Hörnli chairlift, which replaces a 50 year old T-Bar lift, in the Zermatt ski area, at an altitude of 2,900 metres/9,500ft.

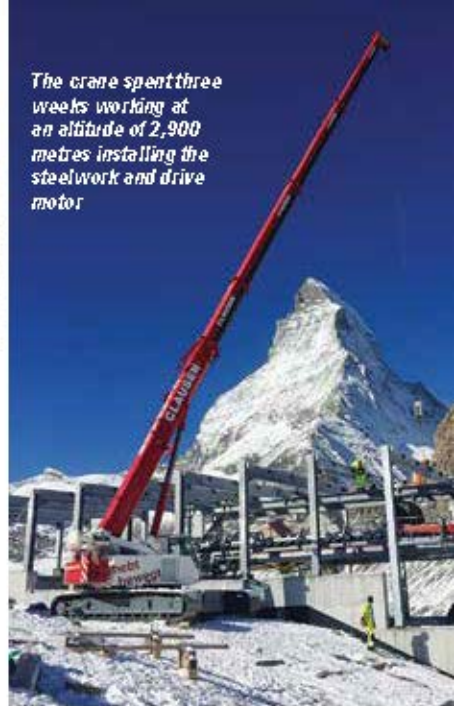
Last autumn the same crane was used on a 2,000 metre mountain railway



The LTR 1060 had to tackle gradients of up to 45 degrees

contract travelling up gradients of 40 percent. As before the biggest challenges involved getting to site up rough hiking paths. In mid-September Clausen transported the crane up a tight Alpine road to Stafelalp, at an elevation of 1,900 metres and around eight kilometres from the station. The LTR 1060 then covered the remaining distance under its own power, taking around five hours to get there. The biggest

hurdle was a two kilometre stretch with a gradient of 45 degrees. Once on site, the crane helped install the steel structure for the new station. It also helped assemble the drive motor, before pick & carrying the 16 tonne unit from the assembly site to the station, before lifting into place. After three weeks on the job, the crane tackled the downhill journey to Stafelalp.



The crane spent three weeks working at an altitude of 2,900 metres installing the steelwork and drive motor



The mountain station for the new Hörnli/Hörnli chairlift is being built at the foot of the Matterhorn. The LTR 1060 overcame steep gradients to get to the site



Slowly but surely the crane wound its way up the narrow tracks. The Clausen team has plenty of experience with working in the high Alps



When work was completed the LTR 1060 had to tackle the difficult descent