

News release

Vantage Towers builds semi-permanent radio tower in Lehringen

- Fast solutions for fast connections: semi-permanent site as a temporary solution until stationary radio tower is connected to the grid
- Conversion to permanent tower planned for 2024
- Lower Saxony and Saarland building regulations enable fast and unbureaucratic rollout

Düsseldorf, 16 December 2022 – On its way to providing the population with the most comprehensive mobile radio coverage possible, the tower operator Vantage Towers has installed a semi-permanent radio tower in Lehringen, Lower Saxony, Germany, on behalf of Vodafone. With the mast produced by FUCHS Eurocoles, the company is closing a white spot and thus making broadband mobile radio possible in the region. The mast is expected to go into operation in January 2023 and is a temporary solution until Vantage Towers converts it into a permanent, radio tower in 2024. With a height of 55 metres, it is the largest non-permanent mast ever erected by Vantage Towers in Germany. At the same time, its use is particularly sustainable, as all components will be recycled for the permanent radio tower. In this way, resources are conserved and emissions are reduced at the same time. The semi-permanent mast is manufactured in Neumarkt, Bavaria.

In 2022, Vantage Towers has erected a total of more than 190 mobile transmitters across Germany on behalf of the network operator Vodafone. This will bridge the time until the construction and commissioning of permanent towers. Due to the difficult search for suitable locations, opposing citizens' initiatives, lengthy approval procedures, supply shortages and overburdened construction companies, it sometimes takes many months to several years in Germany until a permanent tower can be erected. The non-permanent units provide a quick solution and thus the basis for a digital transformation in Germany in which all citizens can participate - especially in rural areas.

Thanks to the amended building codes in the states of Lower Saxony and Saarland, the commissioning of a mobile mast in these federal states is particularly quick and without complications: as soon as a suitable plot of land is found, all that is needed when setting up the mobile unit is to inform the municipality and notify the responsible building authority. A building application and permit are not required for the temporary solution. The approval process for the construction of a permanent site usually runs in parallel.

Uwe Lonitz, Head of Delivery at Vantage Towers Germany: "Mobile communications always means participation in society. By closing white spots, we enable all citizens to benefit from the numerous advantages of digitalisation. I am all the more pleased that with the mobile tower in Lehringen we have come one step closer to our goal of connecting the whole of Germany."

"With the possibility of placing a mast even before or during the approval process, the legislators of Lower Saxony and Saarland have found an effective answer to the bureaucratic hurdles that elsewhere in Germany inhibit a more rapid expansion of the digital infrastructure," says **Conrad Fuchs, CEO at FUCHS Eurocoles**. For this purpose, the product developers of his company have

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designed a corresponding "mobile" foundation made of prefabricated concrete elements, which they place in the form of a "beam cross" on a load-bearing gravel layer - without a fixed connection to the ground. "This is also part of our understanding of turnkey delivery," says FUCHS Eurocoles project manager Markus Wraga. For a 55-metre mast, this technique was used for the first time nationwide in Lehringen.

Before a new base station can go into operation in Germany, tower operators must take many things into account: In order to meet the requirements of the radio network planning of the mobile network operators, for example, the location, topography, surrounding buildings as well as building law requirements play a major role in the search for new properties. After a suitable plot of land has been contractually secured, the plans are coordinated with the respective municipality and the responsible building authority. Once all open points have been clarified, the properties usually have to be appropriately upgraded and access routes for the installation activities have to be ensured. In addition, new power lines usually have to be laid or temporary back-up power supply systems have to be provided. Furthermore, all new sites go through a lengthy building permit process before construction can begin. After the mast has been successfully erected, it usually takes a few more weeks for the mobile network operators to install and integrate the active equipment into the existing network.

In order to be able to lease space for new sites, Vantage Towers relies on cooperation with property owners and municipalities. Private as well as public landlords usually benefit twice: On the one hand, they contribute to an improved regional mobile phone coverage. On the other hand, they enter into a long-term partnership with attractive rental income or can achieve a good purchase price for their previously unused space. Vacant spaces can be offered as antenna sites in just a few steps via our [contact form](#).

About Vantage Towers

Vantage Towers is a leading tower company in Europe with around 83,000 sites in ten countries, connecting people, businesses and devices in cities and rural areas.

The company was founded in 2020 and is headquartered in Düsseldorf. Vantage Towers has been listed on the Deutsche Börse's Prime Standard in Frankfurt since 18 March 2021. The shares are included in the MDAX, TecDAX, STOXX Europe 600 and FTSE Global Midcap Indices.

Vantage Towers' portfolio includes towers, masts, rooftop sites, distributed antenna systems (DAS) and small cells. By building, operating and leasing this infrastructure to MNOs or other network providers such as IoT companies or utilities, Vantage Towers is making a significant contribution to a better connected Europe.

While already 100% of the electricity that Vantage Towers uses to operate its infrastructure is obtained from renewable energy sources, green energy is increasingly being generated directly on site with the help of solar panels, micro wind turbines and in future also hydrogen solutions. This fits well into the overall strategy of the company to drive a sustainable digitalisation in Europe and to support partners through technological innovation in decarbonisation and achieving their climate goals. For more information, please visit our website at <https://www.vantagetowers.com/en>, follow us on Twitter at @VantageTowers or connect with us on LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com/company/vantagetowers.

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