



Press Information

Screwing instead of ramming: Deutsche Bahn tests new, quieter method for installation of noise cancellation walls

The pilot project in Brey as part of the Middle Rhine Valley noise reduction program – It is an innovative method that is more efficient and environmentally friendly than the traditional installation methods - The Goal is to protect residents of vibrations and noise emissions during construction.

(Frankfurt, November 13th, 2023) As part of the Middle Rhine Valley noise reduction program, Deutsche Bahn (DB) is testing a new method for installing noise cancellation walls in the Rhineland-Palatinate municipality of Brey. The walls are constructed using ground screws as foundations. In contrast to conventional foundation systems, the new method causes significantly less noise and vibrations. This means that residents experience less noise already during the construction phase. The method is also better for the climate due to the lower consumption of resources in production of the foundations.

Today, DB traditionally builds noise cancellation walls using the so-called pile-driving method. This involves driving open steel pipes into the ground using ramming technology and hammering. Unfortunately, noise and vibrations cannot be avoided. The new foundation method functions as a deep foundation, whereby the screws are literally screwed into the ground. This results in less noise and vibration emissions. Ground screws offer the same stability and safety as the tried and tested methods for constructing of noise cancellation walls. In addition, less steel is required to produce ground screws than for established methods.

For example, so far, ground screws have been used for railroad platforms and embankment stairs. Now, for the first time, the new method is also to be used for noise cancellation walls.

The Middle Rhine Valley noise reduction program consists of numerous sub-projects in several municipalities along the Rhine. It is financed by the federal government and the states of Rhineland-Palatinate and Hessen. Together, they are investing more than 130 million euros in the region. The aim is to protect the citizens of the Middle Rhine Valley from rail traffic noise.

Further information under www.leiseres-mittelrheintal.de.

Claudia Münchow
Director and spokesperson
Kommunikations Hessen,
Rheinland-Pfalz, Saarland
Deutsche Bahn AG
Tel. +49 (0) 69 265 - 24911
presse.f@deutschebahn.com