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Autor: [s.n.]
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01 The new self-draining asphalt and noise barriers reduce noise pollution in the Reuss Valley (photo: Joe Müller)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

COMPLETE RENOVATION OF THE HIGHWAY THROUGH THE URI VALLEY

Location

Uri Valley floor (Seedorf–Amsteg)

Client

Federal Roads Office (FEDRO), Road Infrastructure Department, Zofingen office

Planning and execution

1997–2007 (stage 1), 2007–2011 (stage 2)

Team

Overall management: Amt für Tiefbau Uri, Altdorf (until 2007); Federal Roads Office (FEDRO), Zofingen (since 2008)

Client support: Andreas Steiger & Partner, Lucerne

Roadway/environment/surface water treatment/flood protection: IG Trasse N2, Altdorf

(Basler & Hofmann, Zurich; Bänziger Partner, Buchs; Projekta, Altdorf; André Rotzetter+Partner, Baar)

Bridges: IG Brücken, Lucerne (Synaxis, Altdorf; PlüssMeyerPartner, Lucerne)

Engineering structures/tunnels: IG übrige Kunstbauten, Altdorf (Basler & Hofmann, Zurich; Bänziger Partner, Buchs; Projekta, Altdorf)

LPS planning: Stöckli, Zurich

LPS implementation: AWK Group, Zurich

Noise protection planning: ewp, Altdorf; A. Zwysig, Sisikon; Drost + Dittli Architekten, Zurich

Noise and flood protection implementation: Jauslin + Stebler Ingenieure, MuttENZ; Bigler, Altdorf

Noise reduction: Grolimund & Partner, Bern

Surface water treatment (SABA) facility planning: Siedlungswasserwirtschaft EAWAG, Dübendorf

SABA monitoring: WST21 Michele Steiner, Zurich

Planting plan: SKK Landschaftsarchitekten, Wettingen

Communication: Urs Steiger, Lucerne

Photographic documentation: Joe Müller, Altdorf

THE RENOVATED HIGHWAY

The A2 highway that runs through the Uri Valley is part of the main international transport axis from North to South. Planned in the 1960s, it was built between 1970 and 1979. On this heavily used section, the severe deterioration of the road surface posed an increasing threat to safety. The renovation now completed is based on a comprehensive plan that optimises the objectives of road construction and takes account of the restricted settlement area in the Uri Valley. In keeping with the new highway network maintenance strategy, the 14 km section between Amsteg and the bridge over the Reuss river in Seedorf was renovated as a whole so that further costly interventions can be avoided in decades to come. At the same time, existing immissions were reduced. A newly developed system for surface water treatment ensures efficient operation in winter and summer. The new noise-absorbing road surface reduces the acoustic burden on the flanks of the valley, while the noise protection structures are now combined with flood protection. Landscaping measures reduce the divisive effect of the highway, enhancing the environment but without making particular design statements. The innovative and economically sensible implementation of the renovation respectfully takes account of local and regional interests.

The complete renovation of the A2 highway through the Uri Valley made it possible to eliminate the ecological deficiencies of the original highway. In addition, this exemplary project shows how the many conflicting requirements raised by the passage of large volumes of international traffic through narrow Alpine valleys can be satisfied.





07 Complete renovation of the highway through Uri Valley (photo: Jules Spinatsch)