

# REVITALIZING HEAVY DUTY URBAN SPACES

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To live, work, and enjoy leisure in cities, vibrant and livable settlements are needed. This task is addressed by urban development. Among its areas of responsibility is urban redevelopment, which aims to eliminate urban blight in older neighborhoods and enable healthy living and working environments. In addition to buildings, the condition of streets, pathways, and squares is also a focus. Paved areas should not only allow for safe traffic flow but also contribute to creating an attractive quality of stay. In Konstanz-Petershausen, the railway station district was renovated against this backdrop according to very specific criteria.

## **LOAD LOCK™ PAVERS**

When choosing the concrete paving material for the approximately 1800 square meters of areas, a paving system was chosen that is particularly suitable for coping with the traffic loads without causing long-term damage to the surfaces. The well-established Load Lock™ paving system from was ideally suited for this purpose. This interlocking pavement met the planners' requirements precisely because it has a particularly high load-bearing capacity. This is due to the D-point joint technology - a special bonding technology that ensures that during installation of the stones, if at all, there is only punctual, minimal contact at the stone edges.

# TRANSFORMING A HIGH TRAFFIC RESIDENTIAL AREA

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## **SURFACE CHANGES BRING ABOUT A CHANGE IN PERCEPTION OF THE TRAFFIC SITUATION**

When choosing the type of paving, the planners opted for a special system from the manufacturer. René Beyer explains why: 'It is not the case that now, after the completion of the building construction measures, the streets are no longer used - on the contrary: furniture transporters, garbage trucks, and maneuvering cars still stress the surfaces. Therefore, a paving system designed for long-term durability was required to prevent damage. Especially in the intersection areas, very high thrust and shear forces act on the total of approximately 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> large paved surfaces. That's why we opted for a paving system with a special displacement security.'

## **LOAD LOCK™ PAVERS**

The system in question is Load Lock a 10 cm thick concrete block paving with broken edges in the format of 21 x 14 cm. The special feature: This system from the Einstein paving family combines aesthetics and functionality in an ideal way. Thanks to the so-called D-Point Joint Technology, the joint necessary to absorb traffic loads is always maintained. During the laying of the stones, there is only a punctual, minimal contact at the stone edges. Unlike many other interlocking pavements with spacer or bonding knob systems, the proportion of the surface where the stones touch is therefore very low. This prevents the commonly occurring crunching during installation and ensures optimal force transmission between the stones. Thrust and horizontal forces caused by traffic are buffered by the joint material and evenly distributed into the base layers. To ensure even better displacement security, the stones were laid in a herringbone pattern throughout. In addition to the positive technical properties, this paving system also creates visual accents: The stones have broken edges and therefore, in the laid state, almost resemble a natural stone surface: 'Especially the sidewalks in the shell limestone shade are very effective and bring a harmonious ambiance to the residential area. Ultimately, this also contributes another piece to traffic calming,' concludes René Beyer.