

# COMPOSITE PAVING SYSTEM FOR EXTREME LOADS

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## LOAD LOCK™

Whenever high forces act on trafficked surfaces, special solutions for surface reinforcement are required. In practice, asphalt is often resorted to for extremely stressed surfaces, as many planners fear that paving systems may reach their limits under very heavy loads, potentially causing damage to the surfaces. The example of Stöhr Logistik from Rottenacker in the Alb-Donau district demonstrates that these concerns are not always justified. Here, those responsible have been using a special composite paving system from Load Lock for years when expanding the factory areas heavily loaded by trucks.

With around 350 employees, 40,000 m<sup>2</sup> of logistics space, and 160 trucks, Stöhr Logistik GmbH is a significant logistics company in Baden-Württemberg. Since its founding in 1962, the company has continuously grown. As part of relocating its headquarters from Munderkingen to Rottenacker in 2008, a new logistics center was also built. Already at that time, the decision was made to surface the heavily stressed factory areas with a special composite paving system. Managing Director Erwin Stöhr remembers: "Asphalt surfacing was never an option for us from the beginning because it often becomes soft in the height of summer due to the bitumen content and then no longer provides sufficient reinforcement. In contrast, concrete pavers perform significantly better here and also easily allow for excavations and repairs if necessary," says Stöhr.

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## HANDLING OF 1000 PALLETS PER DAY

For this reason, the entrepreneur decided on the Load Lock paving system from Diephaus in Munderkingen. This not only offers the advantages mentioned but is also resistant to the high shear and thrust forces exerted by the freight vehicles on the surfaces. "Currently, around 1,000 pallets are being handled per day. Both forklifts and heavy trucks place extreme stress on our factory areas during maneuvering. Therefore, it was particularly important to us that a paving system was used here that remains undamaged even under these loads in the long term," says Stohr.



## SUITABLE FOR USE IN FREIGHT YARDS

According to the manufacturer, the Load Lock paving system is ideal for use in freight yards. The reason for this is a special composite technology - the so-called 'D-point joint technology,' which ensures that even in the event of the stones being grinded, there is only minimal contact with the stone undersides, if at all. As a result, it always maintains the joint necessary to absorb traffic loads. Thus, the proportion of the area where the stones touch remains minimal. The often common grinding is thus avoided, and optimal force transmission between the stones is ensured. "So far, we have had really good experiences with this paving system. Following the new construction in 2008, the first expansion of the logistics center took place in 2015, and the second in 2019. In total, 75,000 m<sup>2</sup> of factory areas have now been surfaced with the Load Lock paver. "No damage has been recorded so far," concludes Stohr.

