

Rome's international airport – Renovation under extremely challenging quality requirements

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Roma-Fiumicino is the largest airport in Italy and, with 38.5 million passengers passing through it every year, the eighth largest in Europe. This means a very high frequency of aircraft taking off and landing, putting a very heavy load on the airport's four runways. And the wear and tear on them results in turn in a very heavy maintenance burden. Hence the need for about four kilometres of runway to be rehabilitated in the early summer of 2015.

This meant a huge organisational effort on the part of the airport to reallocate and coordinate flights appropriately during the reconstruction work. For this reason, the rehabilitation work must to be done with speed, precision and great efficiency, leaving no room for any delays. In addition to this, the asphalt must satisfy the most exacting requirements to prevent premature wear and tear or damage to the runways. For this reason, the construction company responsible for laying the asphalt, Pavimental, deployed a Roadtec SB-2500 material transfer vehicle and a MOBA PAVE-IR Scan system along with the paver they chose for the job in order to achieve the highest possible surfacing quality and at the same time to be in a position to document the fact that the material had been laid uniformly and according to the customer requirements. Because, aside from the quality of the mixture itself, its temperature during laying is one of the most decisive factors in producing the best possible quality for the asphalted surface. Laying thermally re-separated materials, for example, can lead to premature damage to the asphalt surface. On the other hand, laying materials at too low temperature can also have negative consequences, since the best possible compaction can only be achieved within a particular temperature window. Using the PAVE-IR Scan quality control system the resurfacing team

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can measure, display and plot the asphalt temperature throughout the project and over the entire width of the paving surface. For this purpose, an infrared scanner is mounted over the screed to measure the temperature directly during laying work, while a GNSS antenna plots the machine's position. In addition to this, a weather station monitors relevant additional local conditions, such as air temperature and wind speed. All data are then displayed on an on-board computer, so that appropriate adjustments can be made to the relevant parameters. All data recorded is saved for documentation purposes and can be assessed later back at the office. This facility meant that the construction company chosen to rehabilitate the runway could prove to the customer that the surfacing material was laid uniformly.

About MOBA

With more than 40 years of experience in the development and manufacture of measurement and control technology, identification and weighing systems for construction machines and waste disposal vehicles, MOBA is a globally recognised expert in the field of mobile automation. MOBA is one of the leading system specialists and OEM partners in the industry. With headquarters in Limburg, branch offices in Dresden, Langenlonsheim and Merenberg, eleven subsidiaries and equity stakes in local enterprises, and an extensive international dealer network, MOBA has a presence in all important growth markets. Company sales grew over the past decade from 26 million euros in 2004 to more than 54 million euros in 2014; the number of employees increased in this period from 210 to 482.

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Rehabilitation of the runway at Roma-Fiumicino Airport



The PAVE-IR Scan's scanner records the asphalt temperature over the entire width of the paved surface



The temperature profile is displayed along with the relevant GPS coordinates and weather data on the on-board computer and saved separately

Photos: MOBA

Further information and downloads of press texts and images available at <http://moba-automation.com/en/news-press/>.

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