

# Renovation Rütigrundbrücke, Rüscheegg BE

2001

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On behalf of the Civil Engineering Office of the Canton of Bern, the task was to assess the condition of the Rütigrund Bridge, to prepare a rehabilitation concept and to supervise the rehabilitation on site. Furthermore, the 136-year-old bridge was to be largely preserved and integrated into its surroundings.

## The project

During the rehabilitation in August/September 2001, the entire substructure (carriageway, cross and longitudinal girders, supports) was renewed within 3 weeks. For this time, an emergency bridge with a payload of 10 t and a span of 12.80 m was specially built. The total length was 22.6 meters.

## The construction method

After demolition of the existing structure, the longitudinal and transverse beams as well as the wind bracing were installed using CFRP pressure-impregnated fir wood, the top of which was additionally protected with Sarnafill foil. Thickened and interlocking oak planks with a rough surface were again chosen as the deck structure. Here, too, trailing slabs with cobble paving form the transition from the road to the bridge. In the sandstone work, badly damaged parts were replaced and the less stressed ones were worked back to the smooth base. After cleaning with water and brush, a water-repellent coating was applied.



Old roadway



Truss assembly



New roadway crossing



Emergency bridge with steel girders

### Construction Data

- Year of manufacture: 1865
- Weight limit: 10 tons
- Support system: Double suspension system with 5 spans
- Crossed diagonals in the middle span
- Span: 22.60 m Width: 4.25 m
- (roadway: 3.00 m) Height: 4.10 m

### Services of Timbatec

- Structural analysis and design
- SIA phase 41 tender and comparison of offers
- Assessment of renovation concept
- Site management

### Timber construction engineers

Timbatec Holzbauingenieure Schweiz AG, Thun  
3600 Thun

### Stone masonry

Messerli Christian AG  
3608 Thun

### Pavement and construction work

Mergert Markus, Baugeschäft  
3665 Wattenwil

### Timber construction work

Trummer Holzbau  
3665 Wattenwil

### Timber construction engineer / local construction management

ARGE Fritz Allenbach and Timbatec GmbH  
3612 Steffisburg

### Client

Civil Engineering Office of the Canton of Bern, Obering. Kreis II  
3011 Bern