

SCIENCE . TECHNOLOGY MEN AND MACHINES

6 × 45' (GER, 1 Ep ENG subs)

Huge tools make possible in a few days or hours what used to take hundreds of workers weeks or months.

They operate Germany's largest and strongest machines. With courage and sure instinct, they control machines weighing tons with millimetre precision. In each episode Men & Machines presents the biggest devices of different industries like tunnel construction, cranes, track construction, surface mining, demolition companies or forestry and their guides in action. What do the men have to bring along if they want to operate Germany's largest machines safely and how are such mega-aggregates manufactured? The German mechanical engineering industry is world-famous. Men & Machines shows why. Get a glimpse into the production halls of these machines and see engineering at its best.

See what happens in Season 2.

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1. Mole of Steel

We visit the construction site of the Albvorlandtunnel between Stuttgart and Ulm in Germany, where two huge tunnel drilling machines are used.

2. Mobile Monster Cranes

Without the one-armed giants, nothing works on major construction sites. We take a look at cranes. With a 100 metre long telescopic boom and a maximum load capacity of 1200 tonnes, the nineaxle LTM 11200-9.1 is particularly suitable for the construction of wind turbines.

3. Power Pack on Rails

When the "buffalo" rolls up, the railway embankment trembles. The track-laying train is a real powerhouse and puts 450 tons on the rails. He and 20 men at the buffalo's side quickly renew the tracks.

4. The Landscapers

Lignite conveyor systems are among the largest working machines in the world. However, when viewed closely, they are several interconnected aggregates that have been eating their way through the landscape for almost 100 years.

5. The Destroyer

Where he strikes, there's no stone left on the other. The "Beast of the East" is Germany's largest demolition excavator. It can even break off walls at a height of 50 metres in a controlled manner.

6. The Tree Pushers

The "King Tiger T30" is a superlative harvester. It can cut and prune trees even on slopes with 70 % inclination and is one of the largest tree pushers in Germany. We follow the "Königstiger T30" during its operation in the Alps and visits the harvester forge Impex.