

# PASSIONATELY INVOLVED

The people behind the Brückner Group companies are committed to health and the environment. We shine a spotlight on those men and women who, in addition to the challenges of their work, are active in promoting healthy living and protecting the environment.

**BERGWACHT** – meaning mountain rescue – is a rescue service in the Alpine regions of Germany. Its members work almost exclusively on a voluntary basis.

**4,200 VOLUNTARY** mountain rescuers are active in the 36 deployment areas in the federal state of Bavaria.

**12,000 RESCUE** operations and relief efforts are undertaken every year by the Bavarian mountain rescue organisation.

**A TEAM LEADER** is appointed for each local unit. Individual units are responsible for organising and financing themselves.

## MOUNTAIN RESCUE



**WINFRIED RENNER**

**Lives in:** Ruhpolding (Bavaria, Germany)

**Joined the Brückner Group:** 1985

**Loves:** Mountaineering and ski tours

“Team spirit and quick decision-making: that is what mountain rescue is all about.”

**Winfried Renner**, Manager Electrical Upgrading, Brückner Servtec

“Sometimes you experience quite hairy situations”, reports Winfried Renner. This does not refer to his challenging role as a manager at Brückner Servtec but rather to his second, private calling: the experienced engineer has been a voluntary mountain rescuer for over 40 years. “I got involved in mountain rescue back when I was 19 via mountaineering and skiing.”

As team leader, Winfried also assumed organisational responsibility in the mountain rescue unit in his home community of Ruhpolding, which includes 70 members, including 40 active mountain rescuers. “I gave this up again after twelve years but still head up rescue operations.”

The mountain rescuers from Ruhpolding are called out around 50 times a year to assist mountaineers in danger or hikers, mountain bikers, paragliders or hang gliders who have met with an accident. Even years later, Winfried can remember many operations as if they had taken place the day before. In 2014, his local unit was alerted when a young female climber was hit in the neck by a falling boulder fragment: “We flew to the scene of the accident and hung from the helicopter on a 75-metre rope. Then we had to climb up a section of the mountain to where the climber was. But everything turned out well in the end.”

Successful outcomes like this motivate the mountain rescuers again and again. Winfried Renner: “Team spirit is extremely important for us.” Mountain rescuers need to be able to work together as a team and also to make even difficult decisions quickly. “And both of these things come in very useful in my day job as well.”