

# Courtyard umbrellas – Wasseralfingen Castle

Exterior Heavy

**Project.** This early Alemannic castle in the southern German province of Baden-Württemberg, together with the old church, is the oldest building in Wasseralfingen and dates back to the days of the Knights of Ahelfingen. Since 1992, there has been a speech therapy school situated in this historic, moated castle.

Regular cultural events held here for the general public, including theater productions and concerts, call for an all-weather solution which has been met in the form of an optically-pleasing and functionally-efficient, convertible umbrella installation. The renowned Stuttgart architecture practice SL-Rasch, recognized worldwide for its high-quality architectural awnings constructed from fabric membranes, was in charge of this demanding project.

**Concept/Design.** Internal courtyards are subject to many negative illumination effects due to the shadows they cast. Sefar membranes were selected as the parasol covering, among other factors, for their high translucence and diffuse light transmission. The result is a pleasant, consistent brightness coupled with reliable protection from precipitation, giving the best possible conditions for performers and visitors alike.

**Construction.** Four parasols measuring 7.5 x 7.5 m (56 m<sup>2</sup>) are covered in waterproof and dirt-repellent PTFE fabric and can be opened or closed quickly when used as a temporary protection from the weather. Rainfall is carried away via the central mast pole.

**Project/Location:** Courtyard umbrella, Wasseralfingen Castle, Germany

**Architect:** SL-Rasch GmbH, Leinfelden-Echterdingen, Germany, [www.sl-rasch.de](http://www.sl-rasch.de)

**Engineering:** SL-Rasch GmbH, Leinfelden-Echterdingen, Germany, [www.sl-rasch.de](http://www.sl-rasch.de)

**Implementation:** A. Arnegger GmbH, Leutkirch i.A., Germany, [www.arneggergmbh.de](http://www.arneggergmbh.de)

**Fabric:** SEFAR® Architecture EH-35-T2 (previous description AR 24-25-H)

**Photos:** Laslo Körtwélysi



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