

Innovation. Quality. Joy. Corocord.

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Tell us about the Schulberg Playground. How did the project start?

This was actually a very long process. First there was a competition that we won in 2009 for this playground ... actually it's more than a playground. It's more of a town square of the city, of which a playground is the central part. So we won the competition for the concept of a whole square. But the playground, or the big loop as we call it, is really in the middle of everything that is going on in the square. It's an amazing place, because the loop overlooks the city, so it is possible to see the entire city of Wiesbaden from the object.

And the site serves as much more than just a playground. It's more really like a public gathering place, where in the evening people come in from the surrounding neighborhoods. The loop itself is in a neighborhood that is home to a lot of immigrants who have come from all over the world. And in the evenings when you come to the square, all the benches that surround the loop are completely full of people from different places. From Asia, South America, Germany—the square is often a very mixed place.

And it is great because you see everyone trying to climb and discover new things in the playground. Well, I think that it's not really a playground at all. It's more like a play sculpture. More like an experiment in play. There was the opening four weeks ago, and it has been an amazing success actually. There are still some small things that we still have to do, but so far people love it.

Can you describe the loop for us?

The basic idea was to create a kind of endless play, which is why we have the idea of this main loop. The sculpture has these two giant metal pipes that go up and down, and curving back and forth in space. But [the pipes] are also kind of continuing—always continuing and returning to themselves. Between the pipes we have attached some play nets that let you climb on top, or hang underneath, or so on. And if you like you can go round and around and around the whole thing without touching the ground. And within this play net we have created these different—if you compare with computer games—levels. For example, there is a big tunnel that you can go through; and we also have these what we call liane—dangling climbing structures, and so on.



Moritz Schloten

Cofounder of ANNABAU

So, you can find different places to play inside the big net, but the big net itself is also part of the game.

What was your favorite playground growing up?

Actually, when I was little I never really ever played on playgrounds. I never went to them, because as a kid I felt that they were really quite boring places—both visually and functionally. So that though was stuck in my mind when we designed the loop. We always wanted to design something that—both construction-wise and sculpturewise—was really aesthetically stunning and amazing. So our design was not only to create spaces for playing, like swinging with the swings or climbing in the net. It was also more about creating an atmosphere than finding particular objects to play on. About creating an architectural monument, or object that is first and foremost interesting for itself. The colours and the curves of the sculpture form this amazing span that goes for more than 60 meters. So that was one big interest, to create some really outstanding objects that would help frame the town square. And at the same time, we were thinking about how people could play with, and within, the object. The object itself, the quality of the object—that it was something that people have never seen before was also a big part of the game.

What would you say is the inspiration for this park?

In Germany, there are maybe some nice playgrounds, if you think about technique and visual aesthetics. But they are really always kind of the same from the conceptual side. You have the same areas that are segmented off, and each area different types of play are happening—and you know when you come there, more or less, you know pretty much already what you have to do to play there. And we wanted to create a place here that is absolutely different. Where you have something that is completely unexpected, and that is provoking you to act—to try something new.

What was your favorite toy growing up?

I don't remember so well any more, but I think it was, when I was quite young, it was a matchbox metal truck from this really old period. It was made from aluminum and some other metals. [...] Actually it fell from a ferry boat and sank on the ground of the Baltic. It was a very dramatic and traumatic end to the toy. It is still there I think. Between the fish in the Baltic Sea.

What kinds of reactions have you had to the playground?

First, there are the kids. They are really happy because for them, anything that big and bright will be really cool! But it is also—relatively speaking—a really high thing for them to climb. And so they have to find courage—I've seen some of them daring each other—to climb up to the heights, and to go up to their limits and to their physical borders. So they are absolutely delighted. And they are doing more than we expected with all the things. They are always trying to find new ways to climb the structures and explore the space. [...]

And there are also the parents, who actually are really happy. They are seeing it more from the perspective of a connection to the city. They are really happy to see that this part of this city—this part that is part of the city center, but that has been a bit neglected for the last couple decades. So they are really happy to see this renewed part of their quarter because they are seeing it as a new social place, a meeting point. There is a kind of boulevard around it, and the benches—they sit and watch the kids play. And also sometimes in the net you see some old people, you see some men climbing the net, and their girlfriends are

standing there, looking afraid and saying, "you can't do that—you aren't young anymore!"

Is designing more playgrounds something that you guys would like to continue to do?

Absolutely, yes. It was a really very nice and enjoyable experience. But at the same time you need a client who is willing to go through this with you, because in the end, with the competition in 2009, it took one and a half years to go through everything. But also the construction itself took nearly half a year because the steel construction technique and technology was actually something new and had to be developed, and it meant we had to find a company who was doing these steel works—so it was something that could not be done instantly. We could not go to a big playground factory and tell them "Here, we want this and this and this," and then in three months they had to be finished. So it's not easy to find a client who wants to go through that process with you. It is a lot easier with playground design to order a swing set than it is to come up with something new that children can interact with.

It comes also, usually, with something that comes after the fact. There is a series of buildings or something, and then they say, "Oh yeah, now we need a playground before we open the living quarters." But here it was something different. It was the idea of the city that they wanted something more than the usual. And we hope that some other cities dare to do more things like this.





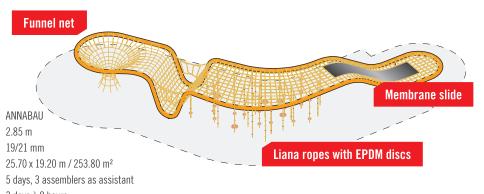
1610: **Boomerang**

Net structure, incl. funnel net, membrane slide, 27 liana ropes and 2 guy ropes with collectively 125 small UFOs (black) as well as 23 small and 5 large EPDM discs

Design:
Height:
Rope diameter:
Impact area:

Installation time*: 5 days, 3 assemblers as assistant

Crane with beam and telescopic handler: 3 days à 8 hours



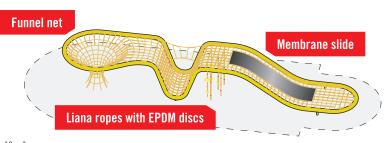
1650: Wave

Net structure, incl. funnel net, membrane slide, 6 liana ropes with collectively 22 small UFOs (black) as well as 5 small and 3 large EPDM discs

Design: ANNABAU
Height: 2.85 m
Rope diameter: 19/21 mm

Impact area: 23.70 x 9.60 m / 181.40 m²
Installation time*: 4 days, 3 assemblers as assistant

Crane with beam and telescopic handler: 3 days à 8 hours



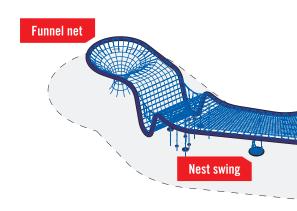
1630: **Python**

Net structure, incl. funnel net, 1 membrane slide and 2 trampoline membranes, 27 liana ropes with collectively 91 small UFOs (black) as well as 25 small and 9 large EPDM discs, 1 nest swing, 51 EPDM stones, 3 swinging nets

Design: ANNABAU
Height: 2.85 m
Rope diameter: 19/21 mm

Impact area: 54.80 x 19.50 m / 522.70 m²
Installation time*: 9 days, 3 assemblers as assistant

Crane with beam and telescopic handler: 5 days à 8 hours



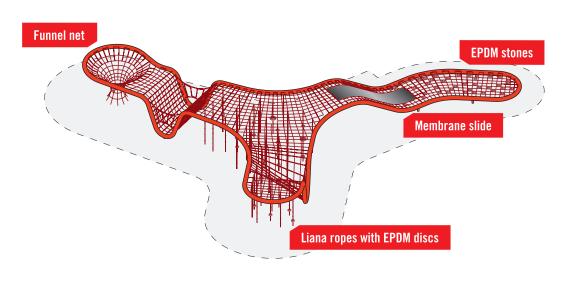
^{*} This product requires for the installation a Corocord staff member.

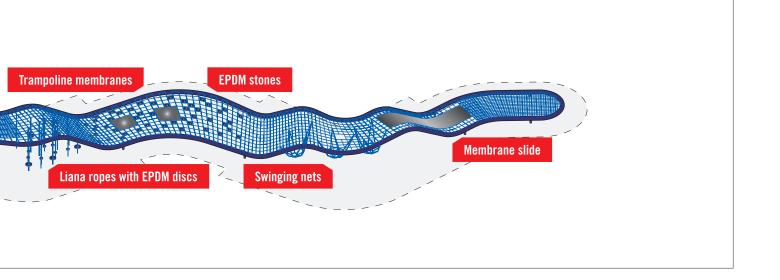
1620: Anemone

Net structure, incl. funnel net, membrane slide, 41 liana ropes and 2 guy ropes with collectively 194 small UFOs (black) as well as 30 small and 5 large EPDM discs, 37 EPDM stones

Design: ANNABAU
Height: 2.85 m
Rope diameter: 19/21 mm

Crane with beam and telescopic handler: 4 days à 8 hours





Element by element an experience: extensions for even more playing fun

A diversified variety of extensions, such as our new EPDM Discs and Stones, are an invitation to wild parties of climbing and swinging around or to daredevil balancing acts. However, they are also used as excellent and comfortable seats during breaks in the game and for cosy chats. And the membrane slide already incorporated in all Rope Loops ensures unforgettable enjoyment for big and small in all their games. Discover our wide range of extensions.

Rope Net Area

The broadly extended Rope Net Areas by Corocord are globally unique in this form. They are prefabricated in our Berlin manufacture from tried-and-tested six-stranded Corocord play ropes and adapted to the steel frame directly on site by our specialists. In this way, we can provide gapless fastening of the nets to the curved steel frame, so they perfectly take on the wave shape of the steel structure. This precision work allows the creation of giant net areas that extend to form a gigantic adventure playground for agile climbers and acrobats. The oscillations across the entire Rope Net Area generate a particular challenge for climbers—here, children can learn through play how their own movements can have a direct influence on other climbers. Our Rope Net Areas can be combined very flexibly with other extension elements. And for the individual design of our Rope Loops five different attractive rope colours are available.



Membrane Slide

With Corocord Membrane Slides, the way down is particularly elegant. Wherever the steel curves slope downwards, children can have the great fun of sliding down to a lower climbing area on these wide membrane surfaces. This provides momentum for the next round of climbing. But the way up using Corocord membranes made from abrasion-proof, particularly UV-resistant black rubber also offers its own challenges. Those who run up fast enough can overcome gravity and make crucial advances. Or do you prefer to clamber up on hands and knees?The rubber membranes' particular stability and excellent durability are due to the 4 invisible layers of woven polyester armouring. The Membrane Slides, measuring 7.5 mm thick overall, are firmly and safely attached to the rope net structure using "S" clamps and pressed-in stainless-steel eyelets.



Trampoline Membrane

A trampoline in a rope net structure? Even small climbers can dare big leaps on the large, square Corocord Trampoline Membranes. Because the oscillations of the entire Rope Net Area are also transmitted to the membranes, everything is in motion: so before take-off you first have to find a secure standing position! Whether used for rollicking about with friends or for relaxing, the Trampoline Membranes form ideal meeting points in the extensive area of the rope net structure. Made from black rubber of robust conveyor-belt quality and reinforced with woven-polyester armouring, these rubber surfaces will defy the elements, and even possible rough attacks, for years. In addition to their outstanding longevity, these black Trampoline Membranes are also a real pleasure to touch. Their special abrasion-proof quality provides a secure grip for the soles of shoes as well as bare feet and children's hands.



Liana Ropes with UFOs and EPDM Discs

Just as Tarzan once swung through the jungle on liana vines, young urban adventurers can now swing on the strong Liana Ropes from Corocord. Even the highest areas of the rope nets can be playfully conquered through well-coordinated clambering using hands and feet on the high quality Corocord ropes, which are tempered against wear. Valuable support is offered in the form of small black UFOs, which are securely fastened to the ropes using a six-way screw fitting. Those who so wish can, of course, take a seat on the EPDM Discs, available in six different colours, relax and leisurely swing back and forth. Keen jungle explorers, on the other hand, can swing swiftly from liana to liana, thus quickly covering large distances under the roof of the rope net structure. The special fastening technology using double "S" clamps and stainless-steel chains pressed onto the rope provide a long service life and maximum safety.



Nest Swing

Much more than just a simple swing for one: the Corocord Nest Swing is truly an item of equipment for the whole family, because there is room for up to four people at the same time. A particular highlight is the special nest shape, which offers children a permanently secure hold even during the wildest swinging games. So while swinging, children can play and rollick about on the rope-net seating area. The edge of our Nest Swing is formed by a broad, rope-wound steel ring from which a concentric rope net area is suspended. This ring does not only serve as a comfortable base for sitting; with good balance, children can also stand up while swinging. Hands can find a safe hold on the four wide-projecting guy ropes, fastened directly to the tubular steel frame of the equipment using a joint, allowing access to the Nest Swing from all sides. Additional stainless-steel chains provide even more security.



EPDM Stones

Onwards, stone by stone: the colourful Corocord EPDM Stones form firm stepping-stones within the Rope Net Areas, which nevertheless still swing gently with the entire climbing area. Although this makes moving forwards on the Rope Net Area much easier, children's coordination is still challenged due to the oscillations. Used around the edge, our EPDM Stones are ideal aids for getting on or off the equipment. Wilder souls will use a longer path made from EPDM Stones, available in six different colours, for lively hopping games. The abbreviation EPDM stands for the monster name: ethylene propylene diene rubber. Corocord has been using this extremely temperature- and moisture-resistant synthetic rubber for many years for flat elements in its rope net structures. Unusual longevity of all parts: this is Corocord's quality promise.



All the colours of the rainbow: individualized colour concepts for your rope play equipment

Our six carefully coordinated colour combinations for the tubular steel frame, the ropes and the EPDM material make the Corocord Rope Loops real eye-catchers that attract children like magic. To this end, individual components are given several layers of our tried-and-tested colour paint, which is particularly weather resistant.





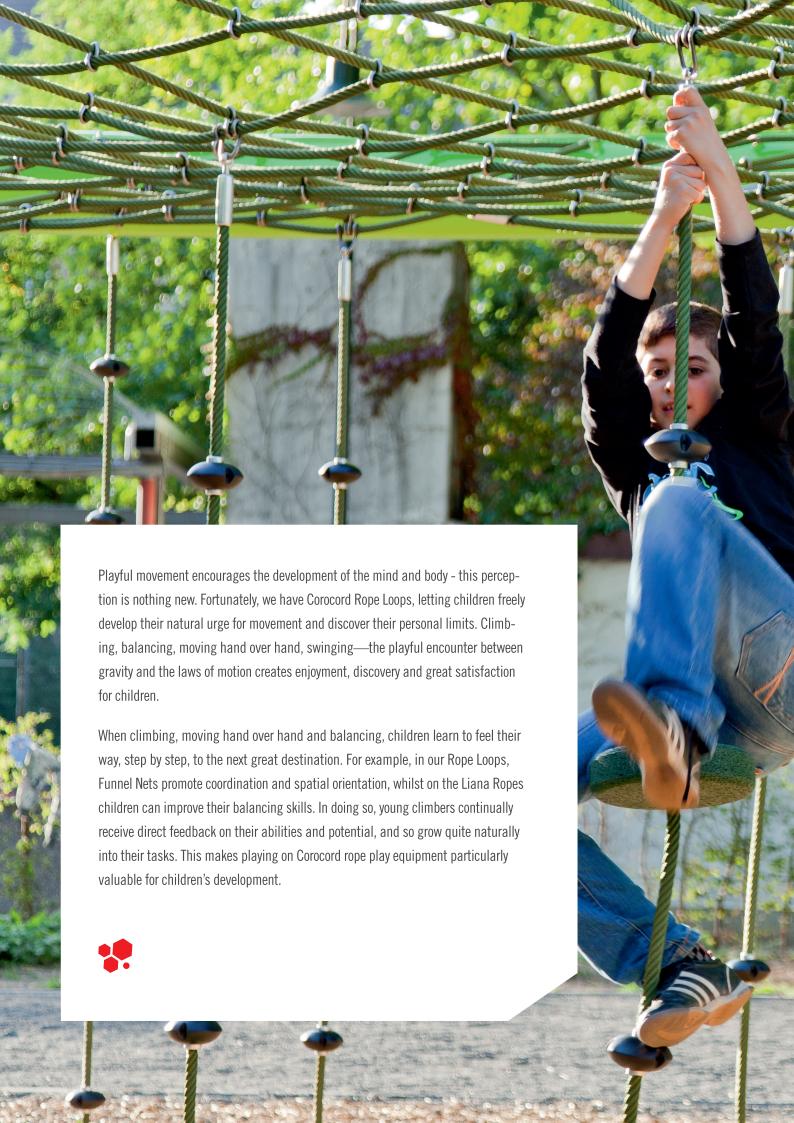


Colour concept/1600

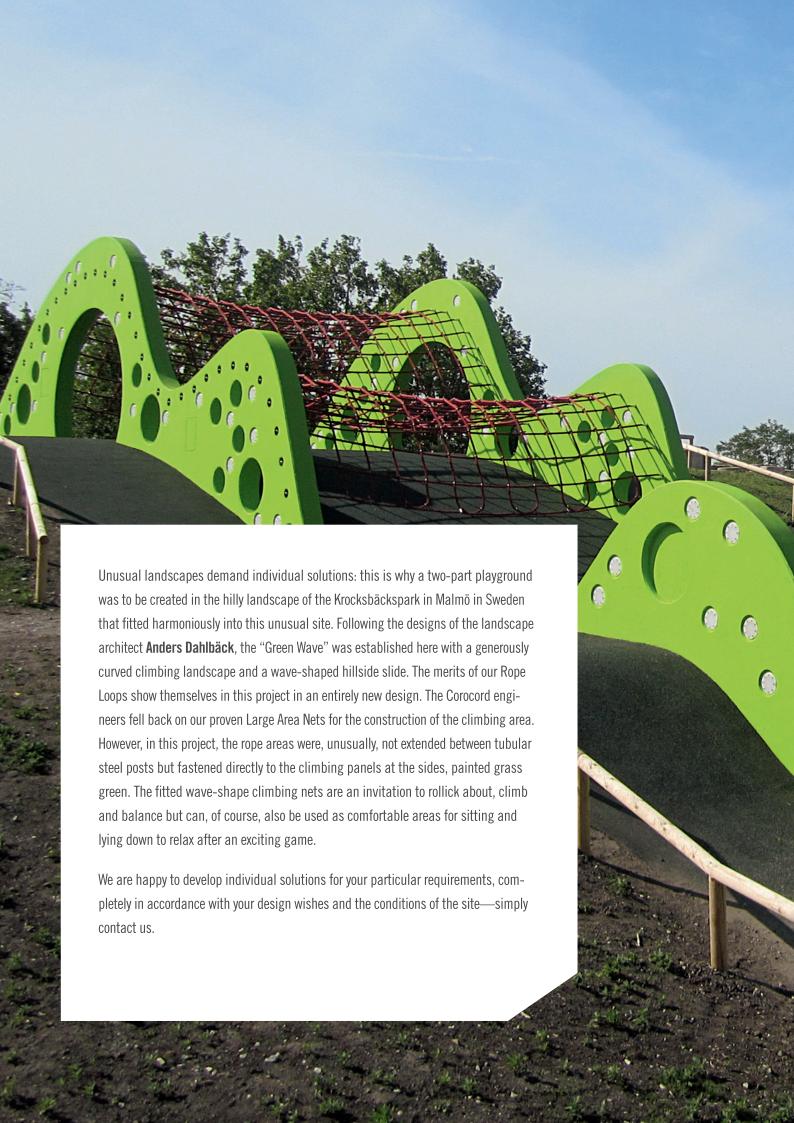
















Go for the original: rope play equipment by the Spacenet Inventor

All of the equipment we have developed is based on our proven components of the highest Corocord quality — and our passion for

creative thinking in three dimensions. Ever since the invention of the Rope Spacenet over 40 years ago by our company founder, the architect Conrad Roland, we have continued to extend the opportunities offered by rope nets for the construction of children's play equipment. In the design of our play landscapes, innovation and development are the leading motifs – just as children themselves keep reinventing their play worlds. Up to today, we have now created a very extensive and fascinating world of rope play equipment. Corocord equipment is constructed and built by our team of 40 specialists in our manufacturing facility in Berlin.



Safety comes first: Corocord SafePlay

Corocord SafePlay stands for good quality of all components, without compromise. This starts with our special ropes, whose steel

strands are connected to the textile fibres using induction – thus providing permanent protection for the interior of the ropes, whilst maintaining a soft grip for children's hands. Our high safety demands also produced the safety mast foot, as well as the durable and individually adjusted stainless steel "S" clamp connections and the optimally fitted rope thimble fillings made from black plastic. In addition, Corocord SafePlay is defined by internationally certified production processes. These guarantee consistently high, controlled quality at all stages.



Longevity as a principle: Corocord LongLife

In developing all of our products, stability and durability are right at the top of the list of priorities for the specialists in our Berlin

Spacenet manufacture. At the end of the day, we want even second-generation children to have joy from our exciting climbing worlds. High-quality materials, from special Corocord rope all the way to the turnbuckle, ensure that our play equipment remains functional and essentially low-maintenance over many years. The rope tension can be checked using a simple test, and easily readjusted if required. And if damage does occur to a rope, in most cases the affected rope ring can simply be replaced on site, thanks to our unique "S" clamp fastening technology.



Age-adjusted: Corocord ErgoPlay

Ergonomically-good design is the basis of all our equipment: this means that we use ropes of various diameters, because the small

hands of kindergarten children grip in a completely different way to those of larger schoolchildren. But it's not just the ropes but also the mesh sizes of the Spacenets that we adapt to the age of the respective target group. And the transparency of the rope structures in our equipment provides an optimal outlook at all times. However, just as important to us are the details of the connections: the manually produced, individual rope connections using "S" clamps, as well as our special, conical aluminium swages provide harmonious and safe structures for climbing and gripping: smart solutions for strong children, instead of mass-produced connection technology.

