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Heavy metal

In *C&A's* heavy lift feature, we journey around the globe to take a look at what some of the industry's big machines have been up to in recent months, while also keeping check on the heavyweight investors.

A breeze for Liebherr

ULFERTS & WITTRÖCK of Germany came up with a novel, time-saving way to displace and transport its massive 400 tonne capacity LR 1400/2 crawler crane between windmills on a wind farm erection site in the Weser Mountains, Höxter. A 130 tonne capacity Liebherr LR 1130 crawler crane, used in tandem with the LR 1400/2, allowed the displacement of the 400 tonner to the next windmill erection site almost completely rigged, and in just a few hours. Following the raising and positioning of the 55 tonne rotor of the first windmill by the 400 tonne crawler, rigged with 105 metres of main boom, a 28 metre derrick boom and 10.5 metres of jib, the displacement of both cranes was prepared. The LR 1400/2's lattice boom was lowered to a horizontal position, the 10.5 metre jib dismantled and the superstructure ballast reduced from 135 to 75 tonnes. The hook of the LR 1130 was then attached to the main boom of the LR 1400/2 at a distance of 21 metres from its tip. Almost half the boom's weight of more than 45 tonnes was suspended on the hook of the smaller crawler crane when the tandem carriage slowly began track away.

It took the joint procession less than two hours to travel the 800 metre distance to the next site. From positioning the rotor of the first windmill to positioning the LR 1400/2 ready to lift at the next site, the Ulferts & Wittrock team needed less than eight hours. "For the rigging, displacement and re-rigging of the LR 1400/2 with SLD equipment we require normally up to 20 hours," said crane operator Mathias Vossebein.



UK Top 10

In the Sept/Oct issue of *C&A* we will be compiling a list of the UK's top ten biggest cranes, which will be published with our annual listing of the 20 largest hire fleets in the British Isles.

If you think your cranes make the grade, then please send information, along with good quality images, to:

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Shore to ship

BERLIN-BASED crane hire company, Grohmann-Attollo, set up its flagship 800 tonne capacity Liebherr LTM 1800 D to lift a 180 tonne deck house 28 metres into the air and place it on top of container vessel under construction. The crane was rigged with 31.5 metres of derrick boom to provide a 1000 tonne lift capacity. A 320 tonne super structure and suspended counterweight were required to lift the load on board the vessel at a radius of up to 16 metres. Restricted space on the quay meant that the 800 tonner had to work from a medium-size supporting area of 11 x 11 metres.

Once the deck house had been taken by the crane's hook and slewed over the water, the semi-completed vessel was manoeuvred under the load and moored. The 10 x 12 metre deck house was then lowered into position. ■

Rolling tide



MASTER BOAT Builders Inc of Coden, Alabama, US, relied on the powers of Barnhart Crane & Rigging to roll three massive components to be used in the construction of a crew boat set for duty in the offshore industry. Barnhart called on two of its Demag crawler cranes for the job, a 544 tonne capacity CC2600 and a 299 tonne capacity CC2000, to "bookend" each of the three sections of the boat, the heaviest of which weighed 290 tonnes. A fourth component weighing 118 tonnes was then set in place.

"Master Boat Builders constructs the sections of their crew boats upside down on a jig, but can't weld the pieces together until they are the right side up," said Shaun Sipe, branch manager of Barnhart Crane & Rigging's Gulf Coast Division. "We used simple rigging on the ends. We picked up a side then tracked and swung, like you would a door, using the ground as a hinge."

The bow section of the boat weighed 91 tonnes, while both the mid-section and the stern each weighed 290 tonnes. Barnhart lifted each of the three sections in turn from the jig, rolled them over and then set the pieces on piers, ready for welding together. A fourth deck component was then lifted and set in place on top of the hull components. ■



Northern heavies

Lampson takes Manitowoc 18000

US-BASED heavy lift specialist Lampson International is the proud owner of a new Manitowoc Model 18000 crawler crane. The 600 tonne capacity machine has been painted in Lampson's traditional blue livery and is expected to arrive in Australia next month, where it will start work on its first project.

The crane was officially handed over to Lampson's president, Bill Lampson, at the recent Intermat exhibition in Paris, following the successful completion of the final stages of testing of the crane at Manitowoc's test facility in the US.

"I am sure the Model 18000 is going to be a great addition to our fleet," said Lampson. "It offers exceptional lift capabilities and yet boasts relatively compact dimensions. For a company like ours, which undertakes heavy lift projects all over the world, lifting capability and transportability are two of the most important attributes of any crane."



From left to right: Bill Lampson, President of Lampson International; Glen Tellock, President of Manitowoc Crane Group; John Kennedy, Director of Crawler Crane Sales for North America – Manitowoc Cranes; Phil Lunn, Managing Director of Lampson International; Jari Tuorila, General Manager Sales – Manitowoc Crane Group Pty Ltd (Australia).

The Model 18000 was launched last December and fills a gap between the manufacturer's 272 tonne Model 2250 and its 750 tonne Model 21000. It has been designed to accommodate larger lifts on increasingly congested job sites. Reach capabilities vary from 36.5 metres up to 185 metres depending on how the crane is rigged. Transportation was a key element in the design process and Manitowoc's engineers have ensured that no single component weighs over 40 tonnes and dimensions are restricted to 3 metres wide by 4 metres high.

Lampson International is headquartered in Kennewick, Washington, US and maintains international subsidiaries in Canada and Australia. It runs a fleet of over 200 Manitowoc crawler cranes. The company was started in 1946 as a small crane and drayage company and is now among the world's largest crane owners. ■

Manitowoc's 18000 crawler



Boom time for Sarens

CRANE SERVICES, based in Ossett, Yorkshire, boosted its heavy lift capabilities at the end of last year with the delivery of two Liebherr heavyweights. The largest was a 500 tonne capacity LTM 1500, supplied with "Y" frame heavy lift attachment and the two available 50 and 84 metre main telescoping booms. The main feature of the massive mobile is its guyed main boom with "Y" suspension, while its luffing fly jib provides 91 metres of maximum length and, at an optimum radius of 108 metres, the crane can lift 3.6 tonnes. Maximum height under hook is 139 metres. The 500 tonner is now the second LTM 1500 to join Crane Services fleet.

The smaller of the two is a 250 tonne capacity LTM 1250/1 with 72 metres of main boom and a 70 metre luffing fly jib. At a maximum radius of 92 metres, the crane can lift 1.1 tonnes and, on the main boom only, can lift 3.1 tonnes to 66 metres radius.

Crane services LTM 1500 carried out its very first contract at Buxton Lime in the UK for Gleasons. The crane was rigged with the 84 metre main boom telescoped to 36.9 metres at 83 degrees and the "Y" mast set to 42 degrees. A 4 metre adapter, 35 meter luffing fly jib, 135 tonne counterweight and outriggers set at a maximum 10 x 9.6 metre base completed the set-up to lift the 52.5 tonne silo roof frames into place at a 24 metre radius. ■

Liebherr's LR 1800



SARENS UK has put its recently purchased Liebherr LR 1800 crawler crane to work at Wallsend in the UK. The 1200 capacity crawler is assisting the AMEC, Bonga topside construction project, where it will remain until early next year. Previously a Baldwins machine, the LR 1800 has come to Sarens UK as part of an investment programme at the company, which has also seen the purchase of two 250 tonne Sumitomo crawlers and a 250 tonne capacity Demag CC 1100.

The flagship LR 1800 joins Sarens UK's existing crawler crane fleet which is now made up of a 800 tonne capacity Demag CC 4000, a 600 tonne Demag CC 2400, two, 250 tonne Sumitomo SCX 200s, a Liebherr LR 1250, 1160 and 1140 with respective capacities of 250 tonnes, 160 tonnes and 140 tonnes, three 100 tonne Hitachi KH 500-3s and four 80 tonne capacity Samsung CX 800s. ■

Giant's causeway

LAMPSON INTERNATIONAL employed its 2,360 tonne capacity Transi-Lift LTL-2600 after the company was called upon by Parsons Brinkerhoff to take on the setting of a bridge over the main Boston and New York City rail lines in the US. The 79.5 tonne bridge was constructed on site by Parsons Brinkerhoff under contract with Connecticut Department of Transport. The rigging for the lift weighed 131 tonnes for a total lifted load of 944 tonnes. The bridge was picked at a radius of 57 metres and the final set radius was 54 metres. Built last year, the LTL-2600 is currently the biggest crane in Lampson's fleet and can carry more than 122 metres of boom and up to 61 metres of jib.

The massive lift was made particularly daring by the fact that the bridge was set over the main rail lines. "The railroad allowed us three hours to make the lift and required that we have 150 per cent of the required capacity," said Lampson. "This resulted in the use of 2948 tonnes of counterweight producing a capacity of 1410 tonnes at the 53.7 metre set radius." The operation was completed well-within the 2.5 hour schedule submitted a year and half before the actual lift took place. ■



JD Cranes adds Demags

JD CRANES, previously known as Taylor Crane Company, has purchased a Demag AC 700, four AC 50-1's, two AC 35 L's and an AC 35. Taylor Crane Company was acquired out of the Taylor Group of Companies by a management buy-out team consisting of the company's managing director, Maurice Johnston, and finance director, Richard Dean.

The acquisition comprised a fleet of over 100 cranes ranging from 20 to 1000 tonnes capacity and a network of 7 depots covering Scotland, the

North East and North West of England. Johnston has over 30 years experience in the plant and crane hire industries and was formerly director of Amec Plant Services. He has been actively involved with major crane hire companies in the UK for the last 10 years. ■



A Demag AC 700 belonging to AKV.

GMK 7550 debut

An all-new Grove GMK7550 all terrain crane, the largest crane manufactured by Grove – launched at last year's CONEXPO show – was put to the test recently in the US by the machine's owners, Wagstaff Crane. The 450 tonne crane assisted in the dismantling of a tower crane used in the construction of new public library in Salt Lake City, Utah by contractor Big D.

The tower crane had a 61 metre tall house and required the GMK to be a distance away from the lift due to the physical demands of the job. "We could have used our Grove GMK6300 272 tonne crane with full luffing jib, but our new GMK7550 did the job with a shorter jib installed," said Jim Wagstaff, managing director of Wagstaff Crane. "The lift was about 11.79 tonnes at a radius of 43 metres and the new machine handled the job easily." The crane was supplied to Wagstaff by their long-time Grove distributor, H&E Equipment Services, formerly ICM Equipment Company, of Salt Lake City. ■

