

KONECRANES GOTTWALD MOBILE HARBOR CRANES

# 50 years of success in the Americas





In 1971, start of the Konecranes Gottwald Mobile Harbor Crane success story in Toronto Canada

In 1998, proven Konecranes Gottwald mobile harbor crane technology took shape in this Portal Harbor Crane in Convent, LA, USA

# 50 years of success in the Americas

When another Konecranes Gottwald Mobile Harbor Crane enters service in Canada later in 2021, it will be more than just further proof of Konecranes' strong foothold in the Americas. This crane will represent a remarkable anniversary: as the very first Mobile Harbor Crane from Düsseldorf crossed the Atlantic exactly 50 years ago – an HMK 250 E, which was also delivered to Canada.

Times have of course changed since 1971, and port technology been evolving continuously in the past five decades. This is especially true for Konecranes Gottwald's Mobile Harbor Cranes, which are currently in their fifth generation and have become an enduring success story in the western hemisphere.

## 1981: first crane for South America

The numbers speak for themselves: nearly 300 cranes followed the first crane, going to North, South and Central America. In the USA, the next step was taken in 1981 with the next delivery of "American" cranes. Meanwhile, two HMK 170 H cranes went to Chile, giving Konecranes a mobile harbor crane presence in South America for the first time.

## Since 1993: serving the Americas

In 1987 and 1990, more cranes were delivered to Ecuador and Canada. In the mid-1990s the American business really took off. From 1993 on, many mobile harbor cranes were delivered to the US every year. Over the decades, the Americas have opened up to Konecranes, from Canada to Chile and Argentina, and from the Atlantic to the Caribbean and on to the Pacific.

## Innovation: two completely new crane types

Two milestones were set in America in recent decades also in terms of innovation: in 1998 the first Konecranes Gottwald Portal Harbor Crane ever went to Convent in the US state of Louisiana, and in 2004 the very first crane on

barges was put into operation on the Mississippi in Convent as well. Both crane types are built on Konecranes Gottwald mobile harbor crane technology that is field-proven thousandfold, from the slewing ring up. These cranes are mounted on customized rail-bound portals or barges, rather than on a rubber-tired chassis. The cranes on barges represent a particularly impressive chapter in the success story of Konecranes Gottwald mobile harbor cranes: around 30 of them are at work on the great Mississippi River alone.

## Benefits: performance and longevity

According to Andreas Moeller, Senior Sales Manager, the durable success of Konecranes Gottwald Mobile Harbor Cranes is due not only to Konecranes' innovative approach, but also to customer proximity and product quality:

"We always keep an eye on the market and the resulting customer needs, and sometimes we develop new crane types together with our customers, as in the case of our cranes on barges. Additionally, operators appreciate the performance, reliability and robustness of the equipment. For example, a crane delivered to Puerto Rico in 1994 is still in operation there – and the very first 'American' crane from 1971 was in operation in Toronto until the turn of the millennium."



In 2004, first Konecranes Gottwald Crane on Barge on the Mississippi

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