
CRANE MODERNIZATION MAXIMIZES UPTIME PRODUCTIVITY

CHALLENGE
Critical crane breaks down frequently

The Weyerhaeuser Company, a paper mill located in Savannah, Ga., had an aging crane that broke down on a regular basis. Installed in 1990, the crane was used during regularly scheduled maintenance intervals to move heavy rolls. These press rolls are used to flatten paper pulp. The pulp, which is wet, is laid over screens to allow water to drain off before moving through the papermaking process. Heavy rolls, 40 tons each, are used to aid in the straining process, applying weight to the raw pulp and forcing water from it. During maintenance, the rolls need to be replaced.

Though used primarily for maintenance operations, the crane is vital, according to Will Tallevast, from Weyerhaeuser, and proper functioning is necessary for safe and efficient shutdowns. The company has 12 scheduled maintenance shutdowns annually.

The unreliable crane was increasing the time spent during scheduled shutdowns by as much as 25 percent. Weyerhaeuser was forced to contract full-time maintenance crews to be on-site 24 hours a day during the maintenance shutdowns. The added costs of the unreliable crane were mounting, says Tallevast.

Safety was also a paramount issue. Moving heavy loads presents specific safety concerns, particularly when the machinery moving the rolls becomes unreliable.

SOLUTION
Customized crane modernization

In 2005, Konecranes, Inc. was initially contracted by Weyerhaeuser to provide on-site maintenance and inspection services as a result of this crane. By 2007, Konecranes recommended Weyerhaeuser consider a modernization to reduce lost time, increase efficiency, and minimize costs. Tallevast agreed—overall efficiency could be maximized with proactive measures.

Konecranes began the modernization process by conducting on-site research on the crane, reviewing maintenance and breakdown records, and estimating the cost. The components were engineered and manufactured specifically for the Weyerhaeuser crane.

The complete modernization, from engineering, manufacturing, shipping, and installation, was completed in 16 weeks.

RESULTS
Crane functions without process-hindering failures

Both Tallevast and Konecranes agree that maintenance operations at Weyerhaeuser have dramatically improved. There have been no process-hindering crane failures since the modernization project in mid-2007. The crane no longer causes extended maintenance shutdowns, nor does it require the constant maintenance that cost the company hundreds of thousands of dollars in additional costs and lost production. Further, Weyerhaeuser also addressed the air control issues that had long plagued the equipment.

Weyerhaeuser is pleased with the work Konecranes did and the work the company continues to do providing inspection services for the facility. In total, the $400,000 project was designed and completed in roughly six months, saving Weyerhaeuser untold dollars in lost revenue and maintenance costs, and reducing the potential for maintenance downtime and safety threats.
PRODUCTS & SERVICES

INDUSTRIAL CRANES: Konecranes is the industry benchmark for safety, reliability, cost saving and productivity-enhancing innovation. Standard and heavy duty cranes include electric overhead cranes up to 1,000+ tons and explosion-proof cranes and components. Workstation lifting systems feature enhanced material flow with ceiling-mounted monorails and free standing cranes systems, jib cranes and manual lifting products and electric chain hoist up to 7500 kg. Konecranes provides any lifting application in any industry.

NUCLEAR CRANES: With nearly a half century of nuclear crane experience Konecranes is the most seasoned supplier in the industry. Our wide range of products are designed specifically for operation in nuclear applications and our quality control program ensures that each nuclear crane and component is designed, manufactured and installed to the demanding standards of the nuclear industry.

PORT AND PORTAL CRANES & SERVICE: Konecranes designs, manufactures, and delivers large cranes for ports, container terminals, intermodal terminals, shipyards and bulk material handling. We also provide expert maintenance and after-sale support as well as complete crane service worldwide for all types and makes of harbor and shipyard cranes.

HEAVY-DUTY LIFT TRUCKS: Konecranes is a world-leading manufacturer of lift trucks with lifting capacities of 10 to 80 tons. For over 50 years Konecranes has designed and customized trucks for the most demanding applications and continues to offer a wide range of trucks for customers in many different industries. Products include fork lifts, reach stackers, container handlers, and Roll-on Roll-off (RoRo) Trucks.

CRANE SERVICE: Konecranes provides an extensive range of services and unique capabilities dedicated to improving safety and helping your business decrease the cost of downtime and increase the productivity of uptime. We can service any brand of crane and hoist. As a leading global manufacturer with a 120-year history and the leading maintenance provider in the Americas and around the globe, Konecranes technicians understand what it takes to keep your equipment working at top performance.

MACHINE TOOL SERVICE: As a global leader in machine tool maintenance service, Konecranes offers world-class service on all makes and models of machine tool equipment. From maintenance programs to rebuild, remanufacture and retrofit, we have the knowledge and expertise required to keep your equipment running effectively and efficiently.

PARTS: Konecranes is the OEM for many of the best known brands of hoists and cranes as well as the largest single source supplier for parts of all makes. We have the most extensive inventory in the industry, as well as dedicated in-house parts manufacturing and extensive reverse engineering services to assist you with obsolete and/or not readily available parts. Our expert technicians are always available to help with field installation and support.

TRAINING: One of the easiest and most cost effective ways to improve safety and productivity while reducing maintenance costs is crane operator training. We can provide on-site training that is tailored to your needs, budget and schedule. In addition you will improve employee morale, generate good will and may reduce liability. We also offer courses at our Training Institutes in Milwaukee and Los Angeles as well as regional seminars in 40 cities per year.

Konecranes, Inc. 4401 Gateway Boulevard, Springfield, OH 45502
HQ Toll-Free 800.934.6976 | www.konecranesamericas.com