

Liebherr Mobile Harbour Cranes did it again - Crane of the Year

14.11.2011, Antwerp. All good things come in three – for the third year in a row Liebherr Mobile Harbour Cranes won the prestigious 'Crane of the Year' award at the annual IBJ Awards ceremony in Antwerp. The portal based solution, LPS 600, is this year's award-winning model.

In 2009 the LHM 280 was voted to be the crane of the year, thanks to its outstanding efficiency, flexibility and reliability. Last year, in 2010, Liebherr could convince the judges with their LHM 500, one of the best-selling mobile harbour cranes for dedicated bulk handling ever. In November 2011 Liebherr nominated their LPS 600 and could again impress the judging panel, represented by sixteen experienced experts in the Maritime Bulk Industry. At the festive ceremony at the Hilton Hotel in the historic heart of Antwerp, the 'Crane of the Year' award was handed over to Liebherr's Senior Manager Design, Mr Walter Mietschnig, being one of the major driving forces behind Liebherr's highly successful Mobile Harbour Crane concept. Winning this prestigious award for the third year in a row marks a huge success and is testament to Liebherr's consistent commitment to highest quality standards in combination with innovative strength.

For specific requirements in certain markets, it is necessary to replace the conventional undercarriage

through a portal to comply with the most stringent quay load restrictions or areal limitations of narrow quays. With the LPS-series, Liebherr is presenting a portal based solution. Due to a flexible portal construction regarding rail span, number of wheels, power supply and portal height, individual customer needs can be met. Thanks to most up-to-date design, the LPS support system remains unrivalled in terms of stability and operational safety.

The LPS 600 is the flagship of the product line and can run on either a diesel or an electric engine (prime mover), or combine the power of each system with the new Pactronic® hybrid drive. The main benefit of the Liebherr Pactronic® is increased handling performance. Hoisting power is doubled resulting in an improved hoisting and lowering with up to 100% higher speeds. In terms of turnover capacity, that means a plus of 30% compared to a conventional machine with equal power rating of the primary energy source. In addition, Pactronic® leads to a reduction of exhaust emissions (CO₂) of 30%.

The recommended crane set-up for dedicated bulk handling is a four-rope configuration with two 72 tons winches and a boom length of 50 metres. Since its market launch in 2010, 10 units have already been delivered.

In 2010 the energy and investment company Eren got delivery of two LPS 600s for operation in Zonguldak, Turkey, to meet the increased demand of coal handling equipment. These two units support the existing LPS 400s and have already proven their worth through economic and efficient bulk handling.

India's Adani Group acquired two LPS 600s in 2010. The cranes are installed at the 4 million tons per annum multi-purpose terminal at Dahej. Impressed by the strong performance of Liebherr's portal based solution, Adani Group ordered additional LPS 600 units for the new coal-handling terminal at Mormugao port.

The third IBJ 'Crane of the Year' Award underlines Liebherr's unchallenged market leadership and competence regarding the handling of bulk commodities. In 2011, Liebherr delivered a remarkable total of 49 Mobile Harbour Cranes in 4-rope configuration for dedicated bulk handling. Furthermore, 216 deliveries of bulk handling units in the past five years confirm the growing importance of Liebherr's highly valued bulk handling solutions.

About the company

The Liebherr Group comprises more than 120 companies in every continent of the world and employs a workforce of nearly 33,000 people. In the past few years the Liebherr Group has undergone dynamic development and in 2010, achieved a total consolidated turnover of about 7.6 billion Euros.

The Liebherr Group's holding company is Liebherr-International AG in Bulle, Switzerland, which is entirely owned by members of the Liebherr family. The family business is already in the hands of the second generation, and is jointly managed by Dipl.-Kfm. Isolde Liebherr and her brother Dr.h.c. Dipl.-Ing. (ETH) Willi Liebherr.

Liebherr-Werk Nenzing GmbH, Nenzing (Austria), is the largest maritime crane production site. Nenzing is head of the divisional control company, the Liebherr-MCCtec GmbH, which is responsible for the Liebherr range of maritime cranes. The Liebherr-Werk Nenzing GmbH manufactures and markets an extensive range of product lines including ship cranes, offshore cranes, mobile harbour cranes and reachstackers. On the international building machinery market Liebherr is offering a broad range of universal duty cycle crawler cranes, lift cranes as well as foundation equipment.

The Nenzing plant coordinates further production sites in Sunderland (Great Britain) and Rostock (Germany) as well as fully owned sales and service organisations in Hong Kong (China), Hamburg (Germany), Amersfoort

(Netherlands), Niederhergheim (France), Mumbai (India),
Istanbul (Turkey) and Baku (Azerbaijan).

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