

Update for historic crane

Exemplifying the results that can be achieved through a crane modernisation programme is **Konecranes'** extensive refurbishment of the river Tynes most historic Hammerhead heavy lifting crane, which worked on such vessels as Ark Royal and HMS Illustrious.

Operated by Shepherd Offshore and located within its Walker Quays Offshore Technology Park, the modernisation work undertaken by Konecranes increased the crane's lifting capacity from 250 to 325t.

In terms of additional technologies deployed as part of the modernisation programme, a PAT Kruger load monitoring and overload protection system was installed, as was Konecranes' ControlPro & TRUCONNECT remote monitoring system that was



introduced as a secondary interfaced device.

Specialist structural health monitoring company, McFarland Associate, installed state-of-the-art fibre optic strain gauge sensors onto the key structural support members. The sensors dynamically measure the tension/compression stress of the members under various loads, at various radii and in various wind/temperature conditions. The sensors are fed into an interrogator unit (located on the crane) where information is processed and fed to a server for 24/7 remote monitoring. More on this story at ipesearch.com
Tel: 0808 2929756

Feeding on success

Barfeed manufacturer Hydrafeed of Milton Keynes also runs a major subcontract engineering business. With a vast range of products and services, managing the manufacturing and administration processes represented a major challenge which has been solved with the implementation of **PSL Datatrack** software.

PSL Datatrack software was rolled out to the manufacture and assembly of the barfeeders. It helps to avoid unnecessary overproduction, reduces administration, records and values, the actual time taken for manufacture and creates a history of when parts are made, on which machine and by which person.

Major improvements have resulted in the speed of order placing, raising enquiries, material allocations, traceability and the generation of certificates, vital to ISO and aerospace requirements. The history of materials used has led to improved reporting for supply monitoring and more accurate stock records. It enables the company to give better information to suppliers when negotiating prices. Furthermore, when an order is repeated, all the historical data is available.
Tel: 08456 345931



So much more to countersinks

As part of expansion based around its new order online web site, **Toolex** (www.toolex.co.uk) is now stocking a much wider range of countersinks for quick delivery.

The range includes three types; imperial and metric hole type for machining aluminium and other soft materials, metric three flute for precision machining with efficient

swarf removal and metric single flute for general purpose applications.

The imperial hole type is available in 62, 82 and 90° in five sizes each, and the metric 90° in 12 sizes, the three flute 90° in 30 sizes and the single flute 30° in five sizes, 45° in six sizes, 60° and 82° in seven sizes each, 90° in 13 sizes and 100° and 120° in six sizes each.

In all, 110 sizes in a range of base materials and coatings are stocked for immediate despatch, augmented by 14 sizes of piloted 90° countersinks to DIN 1866 and 16 sizes of piloted counterbores to DIN 373.
Tel: 01963 31199



High level of control

Heli-Lift Services of Oxford has worked with **Sensor Technology**, to develop, test and prove the HeliNav TrackMaster, the concept of which is based on incorporating a strain gauge into the cargo hook that carries a helicopter's underslung load.

The wireless Load Sensor is a strain gauge-based stainless steel tension type sensor. It can wirelessly transmit its data to a readout where it both displays live readings and records them to build up an exact profile of each operation. Its inbuilt 32MBit memory can hold up to 280h of data, which can then be downloaded to a PC via USB cable. The Load Sensor transmits using the worldwide licence-free frequency of 2.4GHz using two built-in antennae.



Readouts can be cockpit-mounted for the pilot's use or handheld by an assistant on the ground (signals can even be transmitted to multiple control units simultaneously).

The controller logs the weight of the load and the distance travelled, so the helicopter operator can give the client accurate work reports and precise billing. The controller also uses an onboard GPS, inclinometer and accelerometer to help plot flight paths, flight times and fuel needs. More on this article at ipesearch.com.
Tel: 01869 238400

Sustainability courses

RRC is supporting IEMA's 'All Jobs Greener' initiative by offering the Institute's range of Environmental Sustainability courses.

- These comprise:
- Leading with environmental sustainability – half-day workshop for business leaders to help them formulate effective strategy;
 - Managing with environmental sustainability – two-day course providing managers and supervisors with knowledge and understanding of the strategic and operational implications environment and sustainability

have for them, their team, and their department;

- Working with environmental sustainability – one-day course providing all staff with a practical introduction to the environment and sustainability.
- RRC offers all three courses and can tailor them to requirements.
Tel: 0208 944 3100



Manned guarding and CCTV monitoring

Corps Security is celebrating after having its contract for civilian manned guarding and CCTV monitoring at a number of military bases renewed.

In what was a highly competitive tender involving some of the UK's major security providers, Ministry of Defence (MoD) HOCS Commercial will continue to work with Corps Security for three years, with an option to extend this for a further two.

The six Royal Marine sites have to be tightly guarded and protected from the possibility of a terrorist or other security threat. With people entering access points on a 24h basis, the Corps Security team is charged with checking personal identity cards and vehicle passes and



carrying out vehicle checks. In addition, personnel carry out internal and external patrols in vehicles and on foot to maintain a visible presence and also monitor CCTV from designated on-site stations. Vigilance is a must and established policy and procedure must be followed to the letter at all times.
Tel: 0800 0286 303



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