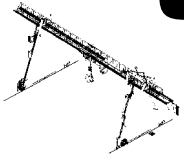


UPDATE



Winter 1994/1995

1994 PORTAL CRANE USER MEETING ANOTHER SUCCESS!

Our 1994 P&H Portal Crane user meeting was held in Milwaukee in September with 13 mills represented, including: Georgia Pacific Ashdown, Brookneal, Cedar Springs, Leaf River and Woodland. Also there was Buckeye Cellulose, Federal Paper Board, E.B. Eddy, Stone Container, Weyerhaeuser, Union Camp and Vaagen Bros. Seventeen cranes were represented by 24 mill personnel, plus representatives from Leschen WireRope, Mack Grapples, Pagel Safety Products, Taylor Bumpers, Hillmar, Gantrex, Hawco and Siemens. P&H engineering, sales and service staff were also present. This interesting mix of personnel allowed for many open discussions and exchanges of ideas as well as solutions to everyday problems encountered with portal crane operations.

The meeting opened with a videotape review of each of the cranes represented, showing them at work. Being the next best thing to actual tours of the yards, this portion of the meeting opened the door to many questions and discussions. Roundtable format was used for most of the meeting to allow for easy going discussions.

Once again, Ted Barber and Ted Volmar joined forces to make an outstanding presentation on PM and troubleshooting, and a session on structural inspections detailed the importance of these necessary inspections.

Mill comments included the following:

- Union Camp, Prattville: Getting good uptime. Doing weekly PM. Added wear plate to festoon I-beam.
- Weyerhaeuser, Philadelphia: Getting 97-98% uptime while doing 6-10 hours per week PM.
- GP, Cedar Springs: 97% uptime with 4 to 5 hours every two weeks. Manpower during PM is three electricians plus two mechanics.
- E.B. Eddy: Uptime ranging from 94% to 98%.
- GP, Woodland: Uptime 96% to 98% with one shift per week PM. Rope life is nine months.
- GP, Leaf River: 97% to 98% uptime.
- Federal, Augusta: 97% to 98% with 4 hours PM on Mondays.
- On new cranes, check wire lugs and screws once a month for first six months.
- Change lubricants each year at minimum. Every six months if in hard use.
- Record keeping becoming hot issue. Keep records on operator training.

The factory tour featured several portal cranes under construction and the users were able to try out the new P&H cab and chair. The lay down feature of the chair allows for CPR or medical attention for the operator without having to be moved. Many users have been replacing their old design chairs with the new one.

The RescueMatic emergency escape device was also demonstrated along with full body harnesses. The safety presentation by Tim Jolly of Pagel Safety was very informative, especially regarding new regulations on fall restraints and confined space protection.

Another safety issue was discussed regarding truck chain unbinding stations. Many users are now building protective racks that prevent logs from falling on the truck operators as they release the unbinding chains, causing injury and possibly a fatality. A photo of one user's rack design is available upon request.

The compacted strand plastic filled valley rope was again featured, which offers increased operating life and reduced sheave and drum wear. A sample of the new synthetic "plastic" sheave was also on display. Both of these products are now standard on P&H Portal cranes. A product support roundtable on Friday morning covered parts, service, training and general customer satisfaction issues. We welcomed the positive responses and again confirmed our strong efforts to provide the best product support in the industry. We also welcomed the constructive criticism that allows us to further improve our responsiveness. We believe that all who attend came away with several time and money saving ideas for their cranes.

The 1995 user meeting is scheduled for September 6-8 so be watching for details in upcoming UPDATE issue and set time aside now to attend.

How old is Your Crane?

By Frank Kemp, Portal Crane Specialist

Our first log handling cranes were installed at least 16 years ago. How time flies!

Since that time there have been changes both in the structural and drive system, although the fundamental design and structure remain the same.

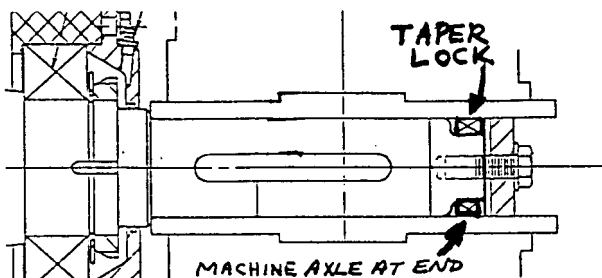
While on a recent visit, I was asked to check on some spares, and I found quite a few items which were held in stock, but in fact, were obsolete and no longer used due to changes in equipment and modernizations.

This leads me to the suggestion that an effective and simple way to cut costs (after all, every item in your spares stock not only takes up space, it is costing money to provide material handling facilities and spares capital for the item and the "envelope" of storage that it requires) is to conduct a survey, say every three years, of your portal crane spare parts and to review stock items and levels.

Our service and parts organization would be only too pleased to assist you in this effort and could quote for this type of service which could be included as an adjunct to an inspection visit.

Taper Lock Device Update

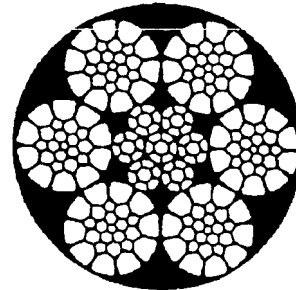
You may be able to benefit from this idea. Several users have reported problems with the trolley axle keyway getting sloppy, causing key and keyway wear leading to gearcase damage and downtime. The addition of an internally applied taper lock device (as shown in the sketch below) has tightened the connection and prevented any rocking action in the keyway from growing into problems. The modification requires the axle to be machined at the end to accept the taper lock. For details on the mod and to find out if this can be applied to your crane, contact Gary Otto at (414) 671-7648.



Wire Rope Update

- Longer life
- Greater Strength to Diameter Ratio
- Improved Resistance to Abrasion and Crushing
- Better Bending Characteristics
- Increased Fatigue Resistance

We once again featured compacted strand, plastic filled valley wire ropes at the 1994 P&H user meeting. The trade name for this product is Flex-Kote. By compacting the strands in the manufacturing process, the rope more fully fits the pocket of your sheaves and drum, resulting in reduced wear and longer rope, sheave and drum life. Samples of this rope are available upon request and quotes can be obtained from Diane Mielke of our Portal Crane Parts department by calling 1-800-633-1136.



User Group Grows in 1994

1994 was a big year for portal cranes with the addition of 10 cranes to the fleet! New orders included three scrap handling cranes for Hylsa's steel mill in Monterrey, Mexico, (run by Heckett Multiserv), Norbord's Tupelo, Mississippi OSB mill, Georgia Pacific's Brookneal, Virginia OSB mill, Wilmamette's Arcadia, Louisiana OSB mill, two logboom cranes for MacMillan Bloedel's Pin Hill, Alabama mill, plus two cranes for Kiani Kertas in Indonesia. We welcome all of these new users to our group and encourage them to become involved in the user meetings and contribute to this UPDATE publication.