

## **Tower Cranes**

Tower Crane Rentals and Sales Delaware - Cranes are a popular kind of industrial equipment commonly used in the materials handling industry. Depending on the application, cranes may have wire ropes, sheaves, chains or a hoist rope. These components enable cranes to lift and lower items vertically as well as transporting items horizontally. Cranes make transporting cumbersome loads including machinery, shipping containers and crates much easier. Freight Transportation Cranes are utilized to move items in terms of making loading and unloading easier and safer. Different models have various lifting capacities. Cranes offer a great job site support and the mechanical advantage of an extended lifting capacity. Cranes are popular in a variety of industries and found in many locations. Specified Use Jib cranes can be tiny and are suited for cramped and smaller environments including workshops while giant tower cranes can be employed to construct high-rises. There is a crane perfectly suited for a variety of applications. Some cranes can allow access to tight spaces. Floating crane models may be employed to salvage sunken marine items including ships or used in oil rigs.

**Tower Cranes** The type of crane that is fixed on a concrete slab is a tower crane. It is often seen attached to sides of structures as it provides excellent lifting and height capacity. Popular for building tall commercial buildings and residential structures, the base is mounted to the mast to create even further reach once extended. The crane is capable of rotating thanks to the mast that connects to the slewing unit. On top of the slewing portion are three parts known as the operator's cab, the shorter counter-jib and the long horizontal jib. The majority of the load is carried via the long horizontal jib. The counterweight is created by the counter-jib that may utilize concrete blocks. The jib handles the load to and from the center of the crane. Normally the crane operator stays inside of a cab found on top of the tower attached to the turntable; although, it may be mounted on the jib instead. The operator may rely on a radio remote control apparatus from the ground. Electric motors are used to operate the lifting hook and control wire rope cables located within a sheaves system. The long horizontal arm houses the cargo hook and its' motor. Often, the operator works alongside a rigger to accurately coordinate unhooking and hooking loads. Hand signals are an important part of daily safety. The rigger has an important job dictating the crane's lifting schedule. They are responsible for making sure all rigging is reliable and safe.

**Truck-Mounted Cranes** Truck-mounted cranes feature two parts known as the carrier and the boom. These two items have a turntable to attach them, allowing the higher portion the ability to swing from side-to-side. Updated hydraulic truck cranes are typically single-engine units. The engine supplies power to both the undercarriage and the crane. Hydraulics are necessary for delivering power to the upper portion of the crane through the turntable located from the pump attached to the bottom portion. Back in the day, older models of hydraulic crane trucks often had two engines. The first engine enabled the crane to travel down the road while the second engine controlled the hydraulic pump for the outriggers and jacks. Certain operators prefer the two-engine models due to the turntable leaks that commonly occur in newer design models. Cranes commonly have to travel via roads to get to different jobs. This can eliminate industrial transportation requirements unless the crane is sizeable with certain weight restrictions. Local laws may be in place regarding transportation. Typically, larger cranes are outfitted with trailers to help distribute the load over numerous axles. There are some crane models that can be taken apart to accommodate particular requirements. Often an additional truck will follow the crane. The truck has the counterweights that have been disassembled for travel.

**Outriggers & Stability** Outriggers horizontally extend from the cranes' chassis to provide stability. The outriggers help to vertically stabilize the machine and keep it level during stationary and hoisting jobs. Certain truck crane models have the capacity to travel slowly while maintaining a suspended load. Care is taken to ensure the load doesn't swing sideways from the direction of travel. The stiffness of the chassis suspension delivers most of the anti-tipping aspect. Moving counterweights are included in a variety of models to amplify stabilization further than what the outriggers offer. Suspended loads are some of the most stable with most of the crane's weight functioning

like a counterweight. Electronic safeguards are in place to monitor the maximum safe loads for stationary work and traveling speeds.

**Overhead and Bridge Cranes** An overhead crane is often referred to as a bridge crane. This concept features a hook-and-line mechanism and a crane with a horizontal beam that is made to run along rails. These cranes are similar to a gantry crane and are often found in long factory buildings and attach to rails that run down two long walls. Double beam or single beam construction model crane designs are available for overhead cranes, which may rely on complex box girder beam or regular steel beams. Some overhead cranes have the capacity to be operated with a control pendant. Locations requiring heavy lifting from ten tons and higher may use a double girder bridge. The box girder design creates a system featuring higher system integrity with a lower deadweight. Cargo can be lifted with a hoist and the trolley that can travel along the bridge along with the bridge component covered by the crane. The manufacturing process of the steel industry utilizes cranes frequently. Steel is typically handled by an overhead crane until it is transformed into a finished piece and leaves the factory. All steel is handled by an overhead crane from raw materials being poured to storing hot steel for cooling and transporting finished coils. Overhead cranes lift steel components onto trucks. Metal fabricators and stampers use this equipment every day including the auto industry to transport raw materials.

**Pulp & Paper Mills** Bridge cranes are often relied on for regular pulp mill maintenance including removing equipment such as heavy press rolls. Paper machines rely on bridge cranes during construction to install massive equipment including cast iron paper drying drums and other heavy apparatus.

**Loader Crane** Electrically powered with an articulated arm attached to a trailer or a truck and specified for unloading and loading, the loader crane consists of many jointed components that enable the machine to be folded into a small space between uses. Telescopic sections are common. Certain models are equipped to stow themselves or load themselves without any instruction from the operator. The operator needs to move around the vehicle for viewing access to the load. Hydraulic controls that are mounted on the crane may work with a portable cabled control system and a radio-linked system.

**Gantry Crane** A gantry crane has a hoist in a fixed machinery house or on a trolley that runs horizontally along rails, usually fitted on a single beam or two beams. The crane frame is supported via beams and wheels on a gantry system and runs on the gantry rail which is generally perpendicular to the trolley direction of travel. The gantry cranes are available in numerous sizes. Some models can move extremely heavy loads for industrial and shipyard applications.