

## Tower Cranes

Tower Crane Rentals and Sales Torrance - A popular machine within the materials handling family is the crane. These machines may be outfitted with sheaves, a hoist rope, wire ropes or chains. These components enable cranes to lift and lower items vertically as well as transporting items horizontally. Shipping containers, giant crates, heavy machinery and other items can be transported efficiently. Freight Transportation Cranes can lift difficult loads to make unloading and loading safer and more efficient. Their lifting capacity varies depending on the model. Cranes offer a great job site support and the mechanical advantage of an extended lifting capacity. Cranes are commonly found on construction sites and a variety of industries. Specified Use Small jib cranes are ideal for cramped environments such as workshops. Giant tower cranes are a different breed that is useful for high-rise construction. There is a crane perfectly suited for a variety of applications. Some cranes can allow access to tight spaces. Floating cranes can be useful for salvaging sunken ships and other marine items. They may also be used on oil rigs. Tower Cranes The type of crane that is fixed on a concrete slab is a tower crane. This unit is often seen mounted to sides of structures to provide superior lifting and height. 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. The long horizontal jib, the shorter counter-jib and the operator's cab are all found above the slewing portion. The main component responsible for carrying the load is the long horizontal jib. The counterweight is created by the counter-jib that may utilize concrete blocks. The jib houses the crane's load to and from the center. Typically, the operator is found inside of a cab located on top of the tower that is attached to the turntable; however, it can be mounted on the jib alternatively. 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. The operator often works with a rigger to coordinate hooking and unhooking loads. Hand signals are an important part of daily safety. The rigger determines the crane's lifting schedule and is responsible to make sure everything load and rigging wise is reliable and safe. Truck-Mounted Cranes Truck mounted cranes consist of two parts including the boom and the carrier. The carrier and the boom have an attached turntable to enable the upper component 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 responsible for providing power to the upper via the turntable from the pump mounted on the lower portion. Original, older hydraulic crane truck models commonly featured dual engines. One engine controlled the hydraulic pump for the outriggers and the jacks while the other engine was responsible for the crane's travel. Certain operators prefer the two-engine models due to the turntable leaks that commonly occur in newer design models. You may have witnessed cranes traveling on roads to travel from site to site. This can eliminate the need for industrial transportation requirements unless the crane is of sizeable weight with size restrictions. Transportation falls under local laws. Generally, bigger cranes have trailers to help the load become distributed over many axles. Some models can be disassembled to meet specific requirements. Often an additional truck will follow the crane. The truck has the counterweights that have been disassembled for travel. Outriggers & Stability Outriggers are extended horizontally from the chassis of the crane. Vertical stability is achieved by the outriggers to keep the machine level while completing hoisting and stationary applications. Some truck crane units can travel at slow speeds even while carrying a suspended load. Care is taken to ensure the load doesn't swing sideways from the direction of travel. The majority of the anti-tipping aspect is related to the stiffness of the chassis suspension. Many models include moving counterweights to be adjusted to enhance stabilization farther than what the outriggers provide. Suspended loads are among the most stable due to the majority of the crane's weight acting as a counterweight. Safeguards are in place electronically to monitor the maximum safe loads for

traveling speeds and stationary work.

### Overhead and Bridge Cranes

An overhead crane is a kind of crane commonly called a bridge crane. This apparatus consists of a crane with a horizontal beam and a hook-and-line mechanism that is designed to run along widely spaced 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. Cranes can be made with single or double beam construction and may rely on complex box girders 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 style produces a system with a lower deadweight but offers higher system integrity. 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 steel industry relies on overhead cranes for much of the manufacturing. Steel is typically handled by an overhead crane until it leaves the factory as a finished piece. From raw materials to pouring hot steel and moving finished product, overhead cranes handle steel at every stage. Steel components are loaded by overhead crane and lifted onto trucks. Metal stampers and fabricators rely on this equipment daily as does the automobile industry to handle raw materials.

### Pulp & Paper Mills

Pulp mill maintenance commonly relies on bridge cranes. They are responsible for removing items including heavy press rolls. Bridge cranes utilized in paper machine construction help to install large apparatus' and equipment including huge components such as cast-iron paper drying drums and similar items.

### Loader Crane

Powered with an electric articulated arm attached to a trailer or truck for loading and unloading, the loader crane is complete with many joints to facilitate folding the machine into a small space between jobs. Telescoping sections are popular. There are models that have the ability to stow or load themselves without any operator instruction. The operator can move around the machine in order to view the load. Current models often feature a portable cabled control system or radio-linked system that works beside hydraulic controls that are mounted on the crane.

### 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 on a gantry system with equalized beams and wheels that run on the gantry rail, usually perpendicular to the trolley travel direction. The gantry cranes are available in numerous sizes. Some models can move extremely heavy loads for industrial and shipyard applications.