

## Tower Cranes

Tower Crane Rentals and Sales Elk Grove - A popular machine within the materials handling family is the crane. Depending on the application, cranes may have wire ropes, sheaves, chains or a hoist rope. These items allow cranes to lower and lift items vertically while transporting them horizontally. Heavy crates, shipping containers, machinery and similar items can be efficiently moved thanks to a variety of crane models. Freight Transportation Cranes are utilized to move items in terms of making loading and unloading easier and safer. Their lifting capacity varies depending on the model. Cranes deliver a major mechanical advantage, allowing people to lift tremendous amounts of freight. Cranes are commonly found on construction sites and a variety of industries. Specified Use There are different cranes for many applications. Jib cranes can be used for tighter environments including workshops. Extensive tower cranes can be seen in construction. There are numerous cranes suited for many different jobs. 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 A tower crane is a model that is fixed on a concrete slab to the ground. This unit is often seen mounted to sides of structures to provide superior lifting and height. These cranes are used in residential and commercial construction. The base is mounted to the mast which can create further reach by extension. The crane is capable of rotating thanks to the mast that connects to the slewing unit. Above the slewing component, the operator cab is situated, along with the long horizontal jib and the counter jib. The main component responsible for carrying the load is the long horizontal jib. Concrete blocks may be used with the counter-jib to create the counterweight. The jib contains the load to and from the crane's 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. The operator relies on electric motors to control wire rope cables in a system of sheaves and control the lifting hook. The cargo hook, along with its motor is found in the long horizontal arm. Often, the operator works alongside a rigger to accurately coordinate unhooking and hooking loads. Hand signals are a huge safety component used daily. 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 The boom and the carrier are two parts found on truck-mounted cranes. The carrier and the boom have an attached turntable to enable the upper component to swing from side to side. Typically, modern hydraulic truck cranes feature single engines. This engine has the responsibility of providing power to the undercarriage and the crane. The pump mounted on the lower area of the crane supplies power to the upper part of the crane via hydraulics and a turntable. 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. 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. Some models can be disassembled to meet specific requirements. Typically, another truck with the disassembled counterweights will follow the crane. 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. Specific crane truck models can slowly travel with a suspended load. Extra care is taken to make sure the load does not swing side to side from the travel direction. Most of the anti-tipping capability is related to how stiff the chassis suspension is. Counterweights can be moved and adjusted on certain models to enhance stabilization even more than what the outriggers deliver. Suspended loads are among the most stable due to the majority of the crane's weight acting as a counterweight. There are

electronic safeguards in place to regulate 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 mechanism features a crane with a hook-and-line mechanism and horizontal beam that is designed to run along rails that are spaced widely. 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. Certain overhead cranes have the ability to use a control pendant for operation. 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. The hoist can lift the cargo along with the bridge portion covered by the crane and the trolley that can travel along the bridge. The manufacturing process of the steel industry utilizes cranes frequently. An overhead crane typically handles steel until it exits the factory as a completed item. From raw materials to pouring hot steel and moving finished product, overhead cranes handle steel at every stage. 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. Bridge cranes are used in the construction of paper machines as they facilitate the installation of giant equipment and apparatus including the cast iron paper drying drums and other massive items.

**Loader Crane** Powered electrically with an articulated arm attached to a truck or trailer, specific for loading and unloading, the loader crane has numerous joints to allow 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. Modern models may rely on a radio-linked system or a portable cabled control system that works alongside hydraulic controls that are mounted on the crane.

**Gantry Crane** There is a hoist on the gantry crane found in a fixed machinery house or a horizontal trolley that runs along rails often fitted between two beams or a single beam. 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.