



UPDATE



Summer 1993

1993 PORTAL CRANE USER MEETING SET FOR SEPTEMBER 8-10

The 1993 annual P&H Portal Crane User's Meeting is now set for September 8-10 and once again, early registrations are already coming in. You are strongly encouraged to attend this valuable meeting where you will have the opportunity to discuss and solve many problems that limit your uptime and cost your company significant dollars. Just one problem solved or idea to improve uptime or safety will make your time investment worthwhile.

The TAPPI/CPA User Committee has now gone to an annual spring meeting schedule, so there will no longer be a conflict. Attendance lists from previous meetings are also available upon request to further illustrate the value of these meetings. Last fall we had 15 log crane installations represented at the meeting with over 45 in attendance, and we expect many more for 1993. See you there!

Vaagen Bros. Lumber Joins P&H User Group

In 1990, Chuck Stoneman of our Vancouver office began discussions with Vaagen Bros. Lumber Company of Colville, WA, regarding the many benefits and advantages of a P&H log handling portal crane would provide in their woodyard. The P&H portal crane offered a solution to their environmental problems and drastically reduced their handling cost per cord of wood.

The discussions went on for over two years and resulted in Vaagen Bros. Lumber Company's March, 1993 decision to purchase a P&H log handling portal crane system. Their total system includes the crane, tie and ballast type runway, erection, ProCare service and spare parts.

The portal Crane for Vaagen Bros will have several unique P&H features that enhance the crane's performance and safety. Smartorque V will be used for all motions, providing the many advantages of Flux Vector adjustable frequency control including precise load control and assured long term product support from Harnischfeger parts and ProCare service groups. The crane will also feature a P&H Hillmar dynamic braking system which enhances the overall safety of the crane and protects Vaagen Bros. investment from possible loss or damage due to high wind speeds.

This portal crane is scheduled to be put into 24 hour/day 6 day/week operation by December 31, 1993. The log crane will have many tasks to perform (at 25-30) cycles per hour) including truck unloading, spreading the loads for scaling, sorting, and feeding numerous mill infeed decks, resulting in over 2 million full load cycles during its expected 20 plus year life. The P&H portal crane will be up to the task because of the dedicated and knowledgeable P&H personnel that design and build it.

Grapple Quick Disconnects

Several users are using pin and sleeve type Appleton plugs on their grapple power and control connections to speed up grapple changes.

Smartorque Control Users

P&H Portal Service recommends periodic checks on your dynamic braking modules to assure proper trimming and simultaneous operation. If set too high, a module could be prevented from turning on, creating over voltage on the DC buss and possible fault cut-out.

Skew Problems?

One customer reported gantry cutouts due to his cable reel pressure switch being set too high. The high setting causes the switch to oscillate, resulting in excessive motor surge. The switch should be set around 50 PSI high/20 PSI low. Consult your owner's manual for complete details on proper settings.

Ozone Alert

Customers have reported excessive ozone buildup in their brake panel enclosures, resulting in corrosion and damage to components. Adding ventilation could ease the problem.