

# PORTAL CRANE SYSTEMS UPDATE

WINTER 2008

## P&H

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Modernizations, Special Projects,  
New Equipment.

Please have the serial number/location of crane/part number/contact name, phone, fax and address available when you call.

### MORE PORTAL INFORMATION

[www.portalcranes.com](http://www.portalcranes.com)

## Twin Cranes Start-up at Louisiana-Pacific

The two (2) newest P&H Portal Cranes recently began work at the Clarke County OSB plant in Thomasville, AL. The 225' span, 16-ton lifting capacity cranes store logs in piles up to 55' high using 75' and 65' reach cantilevers and tower more than 100' above the ground.

Features include: GPS based collision avoidance, dynamic storm brakes, P&H ergonomic cab with long setback, Rockwell PLC's and PowerFlex VFD controls, money saving regeneration for all motions and diagnostics monitoring through the PLC's, just to mention a few.



### FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Portal Crane Customer:

This is the 40th issue of Portal Crane Systems UPDATE which represents another step in the P&H commitment to serve our customers.

We hope this sharing of knowledge and experience will help you in your efforts to manage your yard efficiently.

Sincerely,  
Gary Otto, Product Manager  
Portal Crane Products and Services  
Cell 414.573.8062

### INTRODUCING THE NEW

## 2008 REBUILD INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Morris Material Handling's Portal Crane Service Group is pleased to announce the implementation of the Rebuild Incentive Program, our new discount program for 2008. In addition to the existing benefits of using our rebuild center\*, you can receive up to \$8,800 (+) in discounts over the course of the year, just for doing business with us! Our discount levels are as follows:

Sales Total	Discount	Total Discount
\$15,001 - \$25,000	3%	\$300
\$25,001 - \$50,000	4%	\$1,000
\$50,001 - \$100,000	5%	\$2,500
\$100,001 +	7%	\$5,000

Each month, we will email a report of the milestones reached, and the discount amount available for you to use on your next purchase. Any questions, please contact: **Rhonda Diliberto at 800.633.1136, x207.**

We hope you are as excited about this new program as we are. We look forward to further developing our relationship with you and wish you and yours a great 2008!

Joseph Liverett; Service Manager

\*Our "Like New" components are restored to the original manufacturing specifications and come with a one year warranty. The many advantages of this program can be seen when you combine it with our lower cost and speedy delivery to potentially bring your company less down time.

### REBUILD SERVICES

- Electrical Motors (All Sizes)
- Controllers & Transmitters
- Electrical Drives
- Brake Assemblies ( All Sizes )
- Brake Shoes ( All Sizes )
- Reactor Assemblies
- Magnetoque Eddy Current Brakes
- Gearbox Assemblies
- Hoist Drum Assemblies
- Trolley Assemblies
- Bottom Blocks ( All Sizes)
- Limit Switches
- Slip Ring Assemblies
- Equalizer Assemblies
- Drive & Idler Truck Assemblies
- Electrical Modules
- Brake Control Boards

**WARRANTY • OEM SPECS •  
SAVINGS • QUALITY •  
QUICK TURN-A-ROUND**

### Program Guidelines

- The sales total can only accumulate from service rebuilds. See the attached list for qualifying items.
- The discounts can only be applied to service rebuilds. See the attached list for qualifying items.

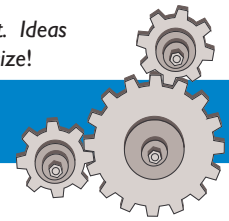
• Brake shoe reline orders will contribute to your sales total, but discounts cannot be applied to them.

• The program will run from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008. All discounts must be taken no later than February 2009 or they will be forfeited.

• Sales total reflects only orders which have been invoiced, and does not include freight charges, expedite fees (VIP/MVP) or taxes.

• Discounts are not redeemable for cash or credit.

If your maintenance tip is featured in the Portal Crane Systems UPDATE with a photo, you will receive a portal crane jacket. Ideas without photos will earn you a P&H portal T-Shirt. Submit your ideas to Gary Otto and be sure to tell us your jacket/shirt size!



# MAINTENANCE TIPS

## SWIVEL EQUALIZER MAINTENANCE.

... Many Heede and P&H log cranes have been supplied with swivel type equalizers for the bogie truck to equalizer connection since 1977. This connection was first used on rotator cranes and then adapted to long span straight track portal cranes to optimize wheel and rail life.

There are several critical areas that must be maintained in order for the joint to work properly:

1. The vertical pin and swivel bearing pads must be unloaded and greased at least every 6 months to assure swivel action is taking place. The crane must be jacked to properly do this, as attempting to grease the pads under load is quite useless. Once unloaded, the swivel action of the pin, steel bearing

disc and fiber bearing pads must be visually verified. If your crane has jacking type storm brakes, the task is greatly simplified.

2. Many of the swivel connections are supplied with side uplift restrainers with bearing pads. There is a vertical bolt that keeps the truck attached to the equalizer if the crane is lifted. It is essential that this bolt is NOT tightened and must be loose as shown in the photo. Many times, well meaning maintenance personnel see a loose bolt and tighten it up. If tightened, the swivel action is arrested and severe wheel wear can occur quickly. Tagging or labeling the bolts with a "DO NOT TIGHTEN" warning is recommended.

3. There is a misconception that the swivel connection eliminates the need to maintain wheel alignment. The swivels do indeed eliminate the need to align the lead 2 wheel

bogie with trailing bogie, but the alignment of the 2 wheels in each bogie truck is very critical to proper operation.

Alignment procedures are well defined in the P&H Maintenance Manual.

When properly maintained, the swivel connection does a great job of extending wheel and rail life.



*This side restainer bolt is too tight.*



*This bolt is loose and the joint is generally lubricated.*

## NATIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT RECEIVED:

Scope of work: Quarterly **Service** Inspections

Morris Material Handling and a major wood products company have signed a three year agreement to perform quarterly service inspections on all seven of their woodyard cranes located at 6 different sites. These include portal and log boom cranes manufactured by P&H, Andritz and PSI.

The goal is to keep these cranes sound and safe, and to ultimately increase up-time. Having P&H on site quarterly will give our valued customer the peace of mind they were looking for.

Some of the mechanical items to be inspected are:

- Inspect pin/keeper plates and record pin clearance;
- Inspect end-trucks and record all gantry wheels flange thickness;
- Inspect trucks and record all trolley wheels flange thickness;
- Inspect trolley and gantry rail;
- Inspect gantry rail foundation;
- Inspect all gear box, gears, oil level couplings and guards;
- Visual inspection of the crane structure to identify dents and cracks;
- Inspect gantry brakes;
- Inspect cable reel;
- Inspect hoist drum and brakes;
- Check motor coupling;
- Check all drive motor bearing, seals and brushes;
- Inspect storm brakes;
- Check platform, walkways, end-stops;
- Inspect sheaves; wire ropes;
- Check limit switches;
- Check maintenance hoist;
- Check cab, joy sticks, push buttons, windows, access gates, overload protection, emergency lights, horn, etc....
- Housekeeping; and more.

OSHA recommends your inspection frequency be based on the number of shifts per day and the number of loads that are at or near rated capacity. This means the majority of P&H Customers have their cranes inspected quarterly.

Please do not hesitate to call me with any questions you may have about OSHA regulations or to sign up for your next service inspection.

**Réal Soucy** - (678) 665-5225

**SPARE PARTS** . . . Having spare parts on hand is critical to obtaining high uptime for your crane. Some parts are not used often enough for suppliers to maintain inventory, so on-site stocking of critical spare parts is essential. Some items are predictable such as wheels, rails, pins, bushings, etc. but there are many items that can fail unexpectedly. Motors and controls fall into this category, and if you have an older drive you may experience long lead times on parts or even complete panels. Our Portal Crane Parts Manager, Janine Neumann, can help you evaluate your current spares inventory and recommend a spares package that is appropriate for your operations and the age of your crane.

**SOLID OIL TECHNOLOGY** . . . The use of solid oil technology is being evaluated by the portal crane engineering department. We are looking for user feedback on any good or bad experience you may have had with this type of bearing lubrication. Please call Gary Otto at 414-573-8062 if you have anything you want to share with us. This will really help in our evaluation.

## HERE'S TO THE NEW YEAR

There is no better time than the beginning of a new year to wish all our loyal customers a prosperous and Happy New Year and to take time to thank you for your business!

May the new year bring you health – good times – happiness, and more opportunities to work together”.

It has been an honor to serve you in 2007 and hopefully I'll find more time in 2008 to see all of you early in the year. I have the best job out there and really enjoyed every moment of it, thanks to you. Do not hesitate to call me if I can be of any help!

**Réal Soucy**  
678-665-5225

## MANAGER'S MINUTE

Hello again!!!

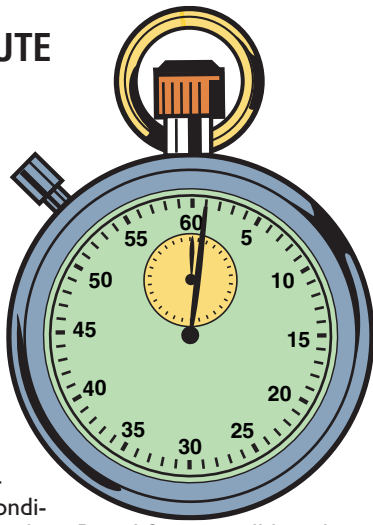
Between the 2007 User Meeting and now, I have been on the road introducing myself and meeting with more of our customers. A visit to western Canada allowed me to see a most beautiful part of our world as well as contact those loyal customers who believe in our P&H equipment. I was very impressed with their independence as well as the condition of their cranes. Birmingham Portal Service will be taking measures in 2008 to ensure we offer the most complete service inspections, repairs and modernizations at a very competitive price.

We, in Birmingham, also want to thank our valued customers who placed their confidence in us to complete all of their quarterly service and annual structural inspections for 2008 and 2009. We look forward to offering them the most comprehensive inspections in the market place. Your mill can also take advantage of our innovative approach to inspections by contacting Réal or Keith with your inspection needs.

We are currently advertising/interviewing for service technicians to be located in the Pacific Northwest that will add to our experienced team of professionals. These new technicians will be based out of the Portland, OR area and, along with Keith, will form the first step in the infrastructure we believe is needed to service our west coast customers in a more economical way. Those customers who have not already been introduced to each of these Portal Service employees can expect a visit in the up coming months. I also plan on visiting our customers there in the spring. Before then, if you need me, please let me know.

Lastly, 2007 has been a very successful year for the Birmingham Portal Service Group. We owe every bit of that success to our customers. You have trusted us with your livelihood and we appreciate that confidence. As we enter 2008, we realize we must continue to work hard for that trust and once again earn your business. With the economy the way it is and the age of some of your equipment, it is more important than ever that we work to reduce your expenses and increase your productivity. We remain dedicated to that end. Thank you again for your support.

Freddie H. Duncan  
Portal/Port Service Group Manager



## P & H PORTAL SUCCESS STORY!

**Scope of work:** "Repair of 2 Aumund cranes that collided at 45 MPH":

During the summer of 2007, the P&H Portal Crane Service inspected two cranes that had derailed. On that day, weather was mild but suddenly the wind picked-up and sent one of the cranes right into the end-stop before the crane operator had time to do anything. The second crane ran away and hit the first crane that had already derailed. The crane operators needed some help to escape the cranes, but fortunately were uninjured.....only a day off from work.

A P&H structural engineer inspected both cranes and outlined procedures for their repair. The first crane had only minor damage but the second crane was very unstable. It was determined that the second crane should be taken down to prevent any additional collapse. This was also the most economical way to proceed.

The P&H National Erection Team lowered the crane to the ground, removed the legs from the crane, and staged the parts for repair. The Birmingham service group then went to work



until the crane was repaired. After a month of hard work and with all structural welds inspected, the national team came back to re-erect the crane.

The complete process; award, take down, repair, inspection, erection, commissioning, and start-up was finished in five weeks. That's half the time originally scheduled, thanks to good project management and team work!

Remember; the P&H Portal Service group has the experience and knowledge to work on all types and brands of cranes. We can help you keep your cranes in top condition. Our experienced service technicians are backed by a group of professional crane designers/engineers located in our corporate office in Wisconsin.

Keep your crane operating in top shape. Call any time to discuss how P&H Portal Service can help you.

I look forward to talking to you and seeing you soon.

Réal Soucy



## KORNER

KEITH'S

## DON'T FORGET YOUR OSHA INSPECTIONS!

OSHA regulation #1910.179 requires periodic inspections performed a minimum of once every 12 months and quarterly for high duty cycle cranes. Some regional OSHA offices often have even more stringent requirements.

While many crane owners perform these quarterly inspections themselves it is highly recommended that the annual inspection be performed by an outside source.

Morris Material Handling's portal product support office in Birmingham, AL has developed a comprehensive inspection program that is individually tailored to each customer and crane,

including monthly, quarterly and annual intervals. Not only are inspections mandated by OSHA, but they are a good way to monitor the crane's performance and eliminate costly unscheduled downtime.

I'll be visiting customers in the Pacific Northwest soon and I would be happy to give you more information on our inspection programs as well as the full spectrum of log handling crane services we offer. Contact me any time.

Keith Gravelle

# MORRIS

MATERIAL HANDLING®

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*Attention Mailroom: If undeliverable to addressee, please reroute to Portal Crane Maintenance Manager.*

## INDUSTRY GROUPS AND EVENTS

### WOODTECH 2008 - MARCH 12-14, 2008

Don't miss WOODTECH 2008 in Portland, Oregon, March 12-14, 2008 at the Oregon Convention Center. P&H BOOTH #350. SEE YOU THERE!

### CWF-TAPPI CRANE USER GROUP

For information on this group, visit the group's website.

CWF-TAPPI Web Site  
[www.craneusers.org](http://www.craneusers.org)

### MOTAG-SOUTH TO MEET IN ATLANTA

MOTAG-South will hold its annual meeting on Jan. 31- Feb. 1st, 2008. The meeting opens with a social hour on Wednesday evening and generally has attendance over 150, with a focus on woodyard and chipping operations.

MOTAG is short for "Millyard Operators Technical Advancement Group". You can register at the meeting by going directly to the Renaissance Concourse Hotel by the Atlanta Airport or visit the website at [www.motag.org](http://www.motag.org) for lots of MOTAG info.

## WWW.PORTALCRANES.COM

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The P&H Portal Crane web page can be viewed by simply going direct to [www.portalcranes.com](http://www.portalcranes.com). Find the latest in product news, Update newsletter index, all back UPDATE issues, product support information, case studies, and a crane modernization shopping list.

P&H Portal Crane Web Site  
[www.portalcranes.com](http://www.portalcranes.com)

## TRAINING UPDATE

The P&H Institute offers both in-house and on-site training for electrical, mechanical, and most control types as well as operator training for all types of cranes. A simulator is now being developed for portal crane training, and the Institute utilizes the latest training technology to add value to your training investment.

**PORTAL CRANE OPERATOR TRAINING** - This course includes classroom and hands-on training for portal crane operators. Major crane components, protective devices and safe operating procedures are covered in detail.

**PORTAL CRANE MECH. MAINTENANCE** - This course provides standardized criteria to evaluate and correct structural, drive machinery and hoist problems on portal cranes. Participants also learn how to setup comprehensive preventive maintenance programs.

### P&H INSTITUTE CLASSES

#### STATIC STEPLESS CLASSES

Classroom	Lab
Mar. 11-14, 2008	Mar. 17-20, 2008
May 6-9, 2008	May 12-15, 2008

#### SMARTORQUE BULL 425

April 8-10, 2008      Nov. 5-7, 2008

Call The Institute at  
866-821-4006 for more information.

**WE DO ON-SITE CLASSES TOO!**