

A leading mining manufacturer

OPERATOR TRAINING IMPROVES SAFETY, PREVENTS EQUIPMENT DAMAGE AT ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST GYPSUM QUARRIES

CHALLENGE

A leading mining manufacturer of gypsum wallboard operates the world's largest gypsum quarry in North America. The quarry processes up to 20,000 tons of rock per day, which is extremely hard on material handling equipment.

The mine uses a fleet of 10-ton overhead cranes to maintain the huge transfer trucks and other mining equipment, but they had frequent problems with crane breakdowns and operators pulling the ropes off the drums because the loads lifted were too heavy for the cranes, only some of which had load limiters installed. Purchasing higher-capacity equipment was not an economical option.

SOLUTION

The mine began looking at outsourcing crane inspections and maintenance. An analysis of contractors based on a formula comparing rates, documentation, competency of technicians and other factors revealed Konecranes as the leading supplier. The relationship began with Konecranes providing inspections only, with the mine performing repairs and maintenance on the items Konecranes identified.

After seeing recurring damage caused by operators attempting to lift loads too heavy for the equipment, Konecranes recommended that they implement a required crane operator safety training program, taught by Konecranes. Going back to the equipment manuals, Konecranes showed operators how to break down the trucks into elements weighing 10 tons or less that the equipment could handle. Training showed them basic methods of calculating the weight of identified sections.

RESULTS

The success of the ongoing operator training program in reducing equipment damage led to Konecranes having contracts for virtually all of their crane maintenance needs. The mine also began purchasing new-generation Konecranes CXT cranes with variable speed bridge and trolley motions and built-in load limiting devices to replace older cranes. The numerous safety and low-maintenance features of the CXT were an excellent fit at the mine, where reducing maintenance is a prime directive.

According to the maintenance planner, the training has made all the difference. Now, every crane operator has to complete the crane operator safety course in order to operate a crane at the facility. Konecranes has become a valued partner in the interest of the mine's safety and production.





INDUSTRIAL CRANES: Konecranes is the industry benchmark for safety, reliability, cost saving and productivity-enhancing innovation. Standard and heavy duty cranes include electric overhead cranes up to 1,000+ tons and explosion-proof cranes and components. Workstation lifting systems feature enhanced material flow with ceiling-mounted monrails and free standing cranes systems, jib cranes and manual lifting products and electric chain hoist up to 7500 kg. Konecranes provides any lifting application in any industry.



NUCLEAR CRANES: With nearly a half century of nuclear crane experience Konecranes is the most seasoned supplier in the industry. Our wide range of products are designed specifically for operation in nuclear applications and our quality control program ensures that each nuclear crane and component is designed, manufactured and installed to the demanding standards of the nuclear industry.



PORT AND PORTAL CRANES & SERVICE: Konecranes designs, manufactures, and delivers large cranes for ports, container terminals, intermodal terminals, shipyards and bulk material handling. We also provide expert maintenance and after-sale support as well as complete crane service worldwide for all types and makes of harbor and shipyard cranes.



HEAVY-DUTY LIFT TRUCKS: Konecranes is a world-leading manufacturer of lift trucks with lifting capacities of 10 to 80 tons. For over 50 years Konecranes has designed and customized trucks for the most demanding applications and continues to offer a wide range of trucks for customers in many different industries. Products include fork lifts, reach stackers, container handlers, and Roll-on Roll-off (RoRo) Trucks.



CRANE SERVICE: Konecranes provides an extensive range of services and unique capabilities dedicated to improving safety and helping your business decrease the cost of downtime and increase the productivity of uptime. We can service any brand of crane and hoist. As a leading global manufacturer with a 120-year history and the leading maintenance provider in the Americas and around the globe, Konecranes technicians understand what it takes to keep your equipment working at top performance.



MACHINE TOOL SERVICE: As a global leader in machine tool maintenance service, Konecranes offers world-class service on all makes and models of machine tool equipment. From maintenance programs to rebuild, remanufacture and retrofit, we have the knowledge and expertise required to keep your equipment running effectively and efficiently.



PARTS: Konecranes is the OEM for many of the best known brands of hoists and cranes as well as the largest single source supplier for parts of all makes. We have the most extensive inventory in the industry, as well as dedicated in-house parts manufacturing and extensive reverse engineering services to assist you with obsolete and/or not readily available parts. Our expert technicians are always available to help with field installation and support.



TRAINING: One of the easiest and most cost effective ways to improve safety and productivity while reducing maintenance costs is crane operator training. We can provide on-site training that is tailored to your needs, budget and schedule. In addition you will improve employee morale, generate good will and may reduce liability. We also offer courses at our Training Institutes in Milwaukee and Los Angeles as well as regional seminars in 40 cities per year.