

# PORTAL CRANE SYSTEMS UPDATE

WINTER 2009



## PORTAL CRANE SUPPORT TEAM

**24 HOUR LINE:  
800-633-1136**

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F. (205) 956-0201  
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Trussville, AL 35173

**Freddie Duncan x. 1503  
Manager-Portal/Port**

**Joey Liverett x. 1506  
Service Manager**  
Repairs, Service or Breakdowns

**Rhonda Shiflett x. 1507  
Rebuild/Parts Mgr**

**Angela Ford x. 1501  
Parts Coordinator**

**Ken Aldrich x. 1509  
Safety/Inspection Mgr**

**Keith Gravelle x. 1504  
Service Coordinator**

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

**Réal Soucy  
Sales Manager**  
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**Gary Otto  
Portal Crane Mods Mgr.**  
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gotto@morriscranes.com  
Modernizations, Special Projects,  
New Equipment.

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MATERIAL HANDLING.**

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www.portalcranes.com

## 2008 Customer Service Seminar Update

Once again the 19th P&H Customer Service Seminar (Formerly "P&H User Meeting") held on October 8 thru October 10, 2008 was a GREAT success. P&H and non P&H crane users with portal, rotator and log boom cranes came from all over USA and Northern Canada to participate in the meeting. 45 representatives from 21 different mills attended the 2-day seminar at the beautiful Pearl River resort in Philadelphia, MS.

Our mission for every seminar is to provide each customer with technical information that will allow for a better understanding of the mechanical, electrical, operational and mandatory regulations involved with their crane. We highlight cost saving opportunities for our customers as well as our service capabilities. We focus on product support and improving up time and performance which will:

- Create better trained employees
- Reduce overall costs associated with crane down time and preventive/corrective maintenance
- Enhance overall mill safety

As part of our customer commitment and as a reward for traveling the farthest to participate, Morris Material Handling, Portal Crane Service Group was pleased to provide Vaagen Bros in Colville, WA and ALPAC, Grassland, AB with a 10% discount for all Portal Crane Parts purchased throughout 2009. Also, we awarded a free service inspection to Weyerhaeuser, Philadelphia, MS and Weyerhaeuser, Columbus, MS with the most personnel in attendance.

Not to forget the two lucky Morris Material Handling Customers who won a 24" LCD screen TV and a handheld GPS as first and second door prizes.

Hopefully those who missed the meeting will realize how much valuable information they have missed and will attend next year's seminar! We are looking for a new location for the 2009 CSS and we welcome any suggestions you may have. We are open to changes and new ideas. Please send your ideas to me at 678-665-5225 or email at rsoucy@morriscranes.com.

Reál Soucy



Recent P&H 32-Ton Logboom crane start-up at AbitibiBowater, Grenada, MS

A sampling of topics covered during the seminar to help you improve up-time and performance:

- OSHA Requirements
- Crane Safety
- Rebuild Opportunities
- Motor Rewind Procedures
- Crane Inspections
- Grapple Maintenance
- Trolley rail milling
- Spare parts
- New Crane Modernization Technology

### REBUILD SERVICES

- Electrical Motors (All Sizes)
- Controllers & Transmitters
- Electrical Drives
- Brake Assemblies (All Sizes)
- Brake Shoes (All Sizes)
- Reactor Assemblies
- Magnetorque 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**

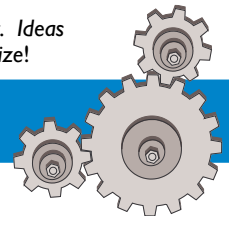
### FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Portal Crane Customer:

This issue of Portal Crane Systems UPDATE 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



# MAINTENANCE TIPS

## BRAKE SERVICE ALERT!

This service alert is for all variable frequency drive (VFD) users. Because VFD hoist control brings a load to a near stopped condition before setting, it results in almost no brake lining wear. Because of this, maintenance personnel too often assume that the brake is OK and look no further. Cranes with load float feature are even more at risk.

In fact, the brake still wears on the pivot points, bearings, linkages and adjusting mechanism components. There have been reported brake failures due to excessive wear in these areas.

Additionally, if the brake is not covered to protect it from rainfall, the linings can get soaked and will not dry out because they never see high heat in the stopping mode. Brake efficiency can be severely reduced by this moisture. Make sure brake covers are replaced after servicing and linings are dry.

Morris Material Handling recommends that the hoist brake be cleaned and tested at least weekly,

by lowering an empty grapple at a minimum of 1/2 speed and hitting the E-stop to set the brake while in motion. This keeps the shoes and brake drum cleaned and ready to work when needed.

**Take a close look at the whole brake during your inspections.** Ensure all brake components are reviewed during your inspections and not just the brake linings. Refer to your crane operation and maintenance manual for details on how to maintain your brakes. P&H also offers a brake rebuilding program on a quick exchange basis through the Morris Material Handling rebuild center in Birmingham at:

**800.633.1136**

## Swivel joints need grease

Don't forget to remove the load and grease all your swivel joints on your cranes at least every 6 months. Proper operation of the swivel depends upon being free to move and having adequate lubrication. For details on how to do this, contact the Morris Material Handling Portal Service group.

## Spare Parts Minimize Expensive Downtime

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 complete panels. Some controls are already obsolete and require modernization to restore operations.

Our Portal Crane Parts Team 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. Talk to the crane parts experts at:

**800.633.1136**

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

A sincere thanks to all of you who made 2008 a great year. Your business, cooperation and understanding means the world to us. I would like to personally re-assure you of my total commitment in working toward 100% customer satisfaction.

I wish you all: a Happy New Year including Health, Happiness, Joy and whatever would make you and your family happy!

**THANKS AGAIN TO ALL OUR CUSTOMERS: WITHOUT YOU WE WOULD NOT BE HERE!!**

Réal

## MANAGER'S MINUTE

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** It is that time of year again!!! The time for reflecting back in 2008 and moving forward to 2009.

**REFLECTING BACK:** Thanks to you our customers, the Portal Service Group has enjoyed a successful year. 2008 saw us grow into our own facility, expand our certified service technician team, establish a new rebuild center, create the most comprehensive service inspection program in the industry and modernize our service equipment. We also had the opportunity to expand our customer base and grow our business. You also made our User Meeting a huge success with twenty-one (21) mills participating. For all of these, we thank you.

**MOVING FORWARD:** The Portal Service Group realizes each of us have new economic challenges in 2009. We also recognize the importance of our customers and their challenges are ours. We are committed to reducing costs while maintaining quality in our service. As part of this commitment, we will:

- Expand the cost savings of our rebuild incentive program.
- Offer customers that committed to our **quarterly service inspection program in 2008 a 10% discount in 2009** for again making the commitment to our service inspection program which will monitor their crane and assist in maintaining the mill as OSHA compliant.
- Reduce travel expenses by passing lower fuel cost to our customers.
- Maintain existing labor rates into 2009.

- **Guarantee pricing for existing quotes until March 2009.**
- Work with our customers to establish a motor exchange program that will reduce their inventory costs and decrease down time.
- Offer a certified P&H maintenance contract to those customers that have or may reduce internal man power.
- Partner with DAVCO to offer alternative solutions for your trolley rail problems.
- Partner with Kurz Electric to offer improved warranty for motor rewinds and reduced costs for replacement motors.

We, the Birmingham Portal Service Group, are dedicated to provide each of you with the most comprehensive total crane service on the market today. We will continue to evaluate our performance and we welcome your suggestions as to how we can better serve you. Thank you and have a Happy New Year!!!!

Freddie H. Duncan  
Portal/Port Service Group Manager

## DAVCO Solutions partners with Morris Material Handling

Greetings from the snowy north. All of us at Davco are very pleased to partner with the MMH Portal Service Group to offer innovative and efficient solutions to trolley and gantry rail issues for our customers. For over 35 years, customers have been utilizing the resources and innovations of Davco Solutions Inc. in overcoming some of the challenges they face in their day to day business. As a result of this innovation and perseverance, in resolving our customer's problems by looking for new and better ways to do things, we were honored with the prestigious 2008 Engineering Award of Excellence from The Design Exchange for the Davco Twin-Cut Mobile Automated Sawmill. The Design Exchange is recognized internationally as a centre of design excellence for Canada.

As 2008 closes, we look forward to 2009 and are committed to continuing to work with our customers and assist them in creating their success. Your success is our success. We know we will face tough economic times in the coming year and more emphasis will be placed on becoming more efficient, reducing costs and raising bottom lines.

With this in mind, Davco and Morris are excited about introducing our patented process to extend the life for your gantry and trolley rails. Our method of grooming the entire length of the trolley rail on portal cranes has created substantial benefits and cost savings for our customers. The grooming of the trolley rails addresses an ergonomic issue for the health and safety of the operators and also saves substantial costs on maintenance, down time and the replacement cost of the rail itself. Customers have reported a decreased need for maintenance and fewer bearing and electrical component failures. Testimony from customers also indicates decreased structural cracking and an increase in overall longevity of other components affected by vibration.

We look forward to the opportunity to work with Morris Material Handling Portal Service Group to provide concrete, long term solutions to your maintenance issues. We wish everyone a prosperous and healthy New Year.



Trolley rail immediately after the first pass of grinding 4 years ago. Note how many high spots were removed.

Same trolley rail 4 years after grinding. Rail is smooth and has work hardened.

## FOR MOTOR REPAIRS: THINK MORRIS MATERIAL HANDLING

When you have a need for motor repair, whether it's for a portal crane motor, or any in-plant production motor including AC, DC, or synchronous types, call on Morris Material Handling. We can repair any make/type from fractional horsepower up to 10,000 horsepower. Morris uses only the highest quality materials and workmanship on all repairs.

Features include:

- All rewind motors go through a Secure Sealing System or VPI process. This unique process gives your motor added protection against high-moisture and corrosive environments. We offer this as part of our standard rewind process.
- We use class H insulation on all rewinds which allows your motor to withstand higher temperatures compared to using the industry standard class F insulation.
- Morris backs any rewound motor with a full TWO year warranty.

No motor is too big or too small for our rewind shop! This 587 air-over motor, fan cooled motor is ready for work.



For more details of the quality we put into our motor rebuilds and rewinds, please call Rhonda at 800-633-1136 or Real at 678-665-5225.

## INSPECTION INSIGHTS

By Ken Aldrich

The New Year brings new resolutions...

"We need to lubricate the crane better"

"We should do quarterly inspections"

"We need to do wheel alignments"

"We should monitor flange wear" and so on

as we face the same problems of 2008

"Unplanned repairs"

"Expensive down time"

"Untimely and expensive repairs" and many more

Let Morris Material Handling help you with these problems and reduce the costs of your crane maintenance. Our inspection program is designed to help you keep those costs down. To help reduce your costs, we are reducing our 2009 quarterly inspection pricing by 10% for those customers that committed to us in 2008 to perform their quarterly inspections. Our inspection program will assist you in meeting OSHA's safety requirements and help keep your crane(s) running efficiently. Don't miss out: Take advantage of this price reduction during the first quarter of 2009. Call Real Soucy (678) 665 5225 or Ken Aldrich (800) 633-1136 x1509

# MORRIS

MATERIAL HANDLING®

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## INDUSTRY GROUPS AND EVENTS

### CWF-TAPPI CRANE USER GROUP

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

[www.craneusers.org](http://www.craneusers.org)

### MOTAG-SOUTH TO MEET IN ATLANTA

MOTAG-South will hold its annual meeting on Jan. 29-30th, 2009. 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 for lots of MOTAG info.

[www.motag.org](http://www.motag.org)

### WWW.PORTALCRANES.COM

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.

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

Editor: Gary Otto: Cell: 414-573-8062 . [gotto@morriscranes.com](mailto:gotto@morriscranes.com)

## TRAINING UPDATE

### STATIC STEPLESS

Classroom	Lab
Jan 13-16, 2009	Jan 19-22, 2009
March 3-6, 2009	March 9-12, 2009
April 21-24, 2009	April 27-30, 2009
June 2-5, 2009	June 8-11, 2009

### SMARTORQUE 425

March 3-5, 2009  
Nov. 3-5, 2009

### PORTAL CR. MECH. MAINT.

February 3-5, 2009

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

### PORTAL CRANE OPERATOR TRAINING

COURSE #838

Is there a significant difference between those you would rate as your BEST portal crane operators and those you'd rate as average? Would you like all of your operators to perform up to a higher standard? Would reduced log damage and truck damage benefit your operation? Is this all attainable?

#### We Can Help!

#### Key Benefits:

Companies who have taken this course in the past have benefitted from decreased downtime, increased operator efficiency, longer wire rope life, longer grapple life, increased plant safety and reduce damage to logs and trucks.

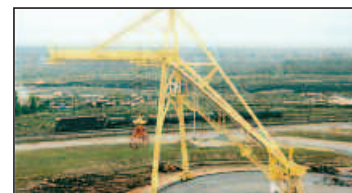
For all Portal Crane Operators - New and Experienced.

#### General Description

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.

#### Course Objectives

- Identify and explain the function of all major crane components



- Explain and apply all hand communication signals
- Explain the function of all safety devices
- Perform recommended operating procedures
- Explain and apply recommended safety precautions
- Discuss emergency shutdown and exit procedures

#### Course Outline

- Major crane components
- Safety devices
- Recommended operating procedures
- Communications
- Safe operating practices
- Hands-on training
- Practice Emergency shutdown procedures.

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