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Bradken Industrial, Ipswich, Queensland

BRADKEN EMPLOYS KONECRANES REMOTE CONTROLS DURING HEAVY STEEL LIFTING



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The Challenge

Crane upgrading by heavy steel company Bradken Industrial – including state-of-the-art electronic and remote controls - is boosting workplace safety and efficiency at its Ipswich, Queensland premises.

The overhauls and upgrades, undertaken by local staff to the global Konecranes group, include remote controls progressively being fitted to eight overhead cranes at Bradken Ipswich, where rail wagons are manufactured.

The Bradken site, located at Karrabin in Brisbane's west, has been serviced by Konecranes for more than a decade.



The Solution

"Safety is the main focus of the refit," says **John Landridge**, site engineer at Bradken Ipswich. "We manoeuvre large objects, such as completed rail wagons or parts for wagons being assembled.

The lifts can involve weights of around 15 tonnes and it's safer if the operator can stand at a distance from the load, controlling the crane by radio remote control," he said.

Konecranes also completed a modernisation of a 25 tonne hoist, focusing mainly on upgrading the electronics. In addition to refurbishing the hoist, a long travel control panel was fitted for guiding the crane's travel movements.



The Result

"We're very happy with the cranes we've already fitted with remote controls, which is why we are converting more of them."

Bradken Ipswich will purchase a further two 15 tonne Konecranes overhead cranes already fitted with remote controls.

"We try to work through each development in Konecranes' service to us, with good success. We have a really good relationship now. There's no reason for us to look for another supplier," **Mr Landridge** said. "We would definitely recommend Konecranes to other companies like ours. In fact, we've already advocated them to other Bradken sites around Australia."

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