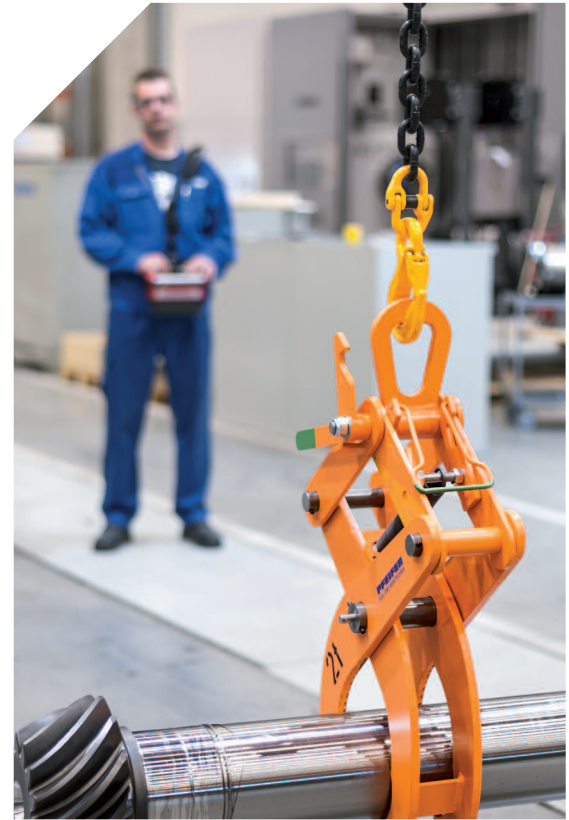


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ATA Gears, Tampere, Finland

KONECRANES SMART CRANES BROUGHT PERFORMANCE EFFICIENCY TO PRODUCTION



Challenge

ATA Gears is a Finnish company designing, manufacturing and selling cogwheels. It serves many maritime customers and is internationally one of the best known actors in its field. The company exports extensively – its biggest export markets are Norway, Japan and China, but trade is growing also in other parts of Asia.

In order to increase its productivity, ATA opened a new factory in Tampere in 2009. It has been commissioned in sections and the goal is to start manufacturing at full capacity in 2013.



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For its new production facility, ATA sought modern and efficient ways to move production pieces to all its machines and workstations. It wanted a versatile and reliable solution to serve its valuable new machinery. The focus was on safe lifting and user comfort – user-friendly cranes and secure lifting guarantee a smooth manufacturing process.

Solution

The cooperation between ATA and Konecranes began with the new production facility and two bridge cranes purchased for the new factory. Thanks to the cooperation that had begun so well, choosing a supplier for the new crane was not difficult.

“It was obvious that Konecranes was a strong candidate for supplying the new crane,” says Erkki Toimela, Line Manager at ATA Gears.

We delivered to ATA a Smart CXT bridge crane with a lifting capacity of 10 tons. The weight of the pieces ATA manufactures varies from 200 kilos to a couple of tons. The full 10-ton capacity will be needed in, for example, machine maintenance. We equipped the crane with nearly all of our software-based Smart Features,

thus allowing the operator to have complete control of lifting: Working Limits, Sway Control, Positioning, Protected Areas, Microspeed, Shock Load Prevention and Extended Speed Range, ESR. In addition, the smart and easy-to-use radio control of the smart crane gives the operator real-time data on the weight and position of the load in relation to the available work space.

Benefits

The ESR function and the Positioning features, in particular, contribute to the speed and precision of ATA's production. Other crane features adding to the performance efficiency are the Working Limits and Sway Control. The Smart Features ensure a safe working environment for the employees and help prevent damages to manufactured items during lifting.

Our sales team and ATA Gears agree that the cooperation was a success. All went according to the budget and schedule, and, in other respects as well, the collaboration went smoothly.

“We give top points to the sales and customer service for the cooperation,” says ATA programmer Antti Saarinen.

Once the factory is operating at full capacity, ATA and Konecranes sales can evaluate whether additional solutions are needed in the factory. These could include various workstation cranes and airbalancers.

“If and when we need more products, it is naturally in our interest to continue cooperation with Konecranes,” Toimela promises.



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