

Good morning. I (Anna Dix) am substituting for Mr. Bhimani, who is responding to an emergency dealing with the container cranes damaged in a tornado in the Bahamas. The terminal may be a candidate for recycled cranes.

## Overview

Reasons for Recycling

**Common Crane Modifications** 

**Cost Guidelines** 

Case Studies

Horizon/Matson Guam crane procurement

Massport crane drive upgrade

SSA Mexico crane procurement

Massport low profile crane procurement



With the economic downturn, many port authorities and terminal operators have come under economic pressure to make do with their existing equipment, and at the same time, serve their customers in a changing environment.

I will discuss the various reasons for recycling cranes, some of the common modifications and upgrades to the existing equipment, and modification cost guidelines. I will also present our recent projects as case studies.

## **Reasons for Recycling**

#### Modification

To serve larger vessels

To adapt to different locations

#### Refurbishment

Deferred maintenance Correct problems

#### Modernization

Increase capacity, speed Update controls

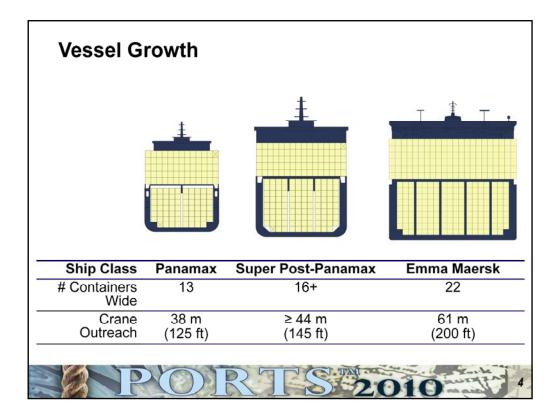
#### Other

Replace damaged crane

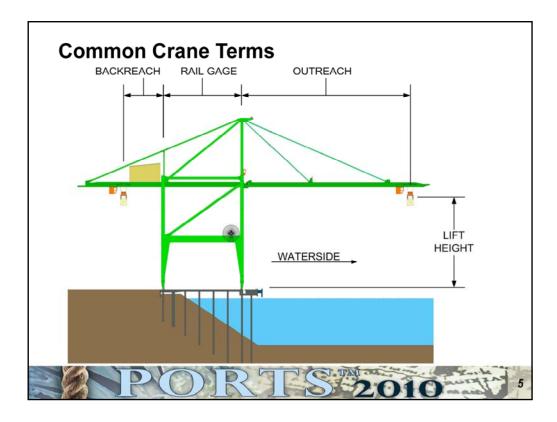




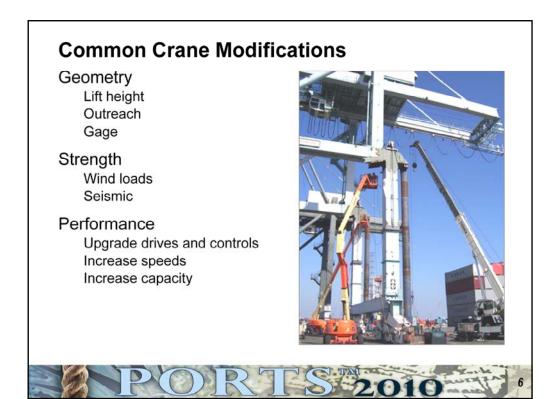
Recycling cranes generally involves modifications to serve larger vessels, or when relocating to different terminals to correct long term maintenance issues and update electrical systems. The photo shows the world's first container crane built by Paceco for Matson Shipping Lines modified for operations in China. The crane is no longer in operation.



The majority of major modifications are in response to changes in the vessel size. The crane size has nearly tripled since the introduction of the first generation cranes.



Explain common terms used in the presentation - rail gage, outreach, backreach, lift height. Capacity is under the spreader (hook).



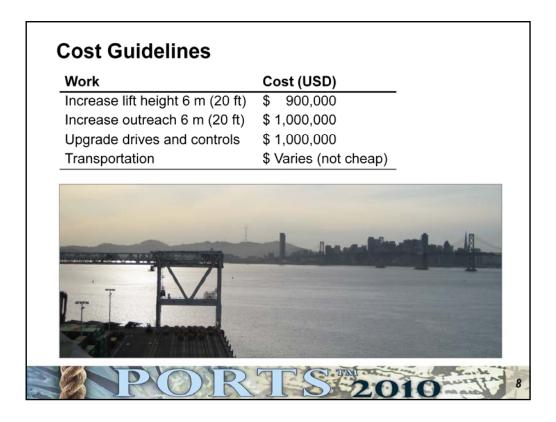
Modifications can be divided into geometry changes, strength upgrade, and performance upgrade. Lift height and outreach changes are required to serve larger vessels.

Gage change and strength change are required when the cranes are relocated. Seismic upgrades are uncommon but may require closer scrutiny.

Performance changes are dictated by obsolescence of mechanical/electrical components and to improve productivity.



Although crane structures are subject to high fatigue cycles leading to cracking, they can literally last indefinitely with proper structural inspections and repairs. Machinery requires replacements after 15 to 20 years of service due to wear as well as to improve productivity. Drives and controls become obsolete after 15 to 20 years of usage and need replacement.



The table provides cost guidelines for some of the common modifications. High transportation costs are a major deterrent to recycling. Crane owners often have to pay to dispose of the cranes.



I will briefly provide the details of our four recent projects.

# **Case Study 1: Horizon/Matson Guam Crane Procurement**

Horizon and Matson needed higher productivity

Impractical to upgrade existing cranes

## **Options**

Purchase 2 new cranes

Purchase, modify, and relocate 2–3 cranes from another port



Horizon/Matson Lines share a container terminal facility in Guam. The existing cranes became a bottleneck and were uneconomic to modify and upgrade. The port authority considered purchasing one or two new cranes at a cost of over \$10M each.



Horizon/Matson located three idle cranes at Port of LA. The cranes, built by Hitachi of Japan about 30 years ago, were in excellent condition but unsuitable for the port's needs. Liftech audited the structural design of the original cranes.

## **Guam Procurement: Modifications**

#### Geometry

Increase lift height by 2.4 m (8 ft)

#### Strength

Reinforce for hurricane winds Add tie-downs and stowage bracket Replace boom latch

#### Performance

Replace drives and controls Replace communication system

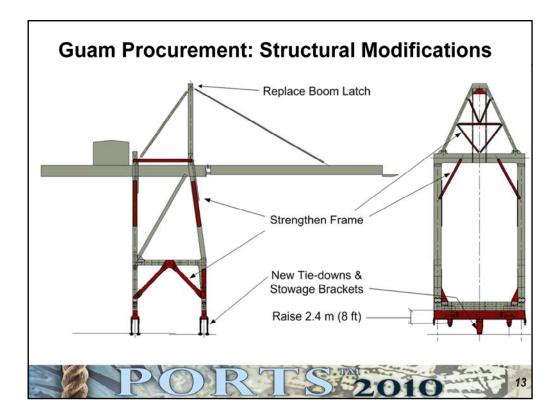
#### Other

Replace spreaders Convert shore power to diesel power Relocate from Los Angeles to Guam

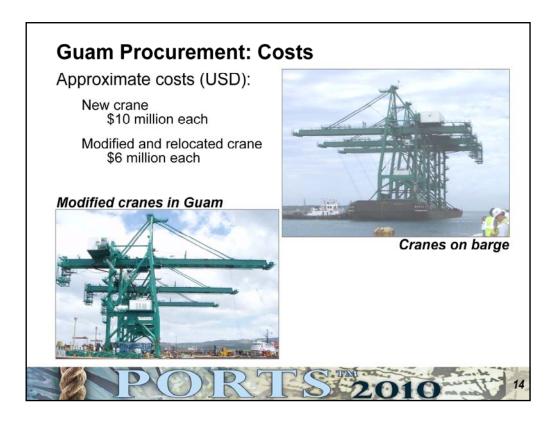




The cranes required geometry changes for the wide gage at Guam, and strength changes to comply with the hurricane conditions at Guam. Horizon/Matson also replaced electrical systems and spreaders for improved performance. The power system was changed from grid power to diesel.



The various structural changes are noted in the sketch.



The cost comparison clearly favored a recycling approach. Transport cost was a major component.



Massport is currently upgrading the electrical systems of the four low profile cranes. The cranes were supplied by Paceco. Liftech provided the structural design of the original cranes.

## **Drive Upgrade: Details**

#### Problem

Near obsolete drives and controls

#### Options (costs in USD)

Purchase new cranes: \$12.5 million each
Purchase used cranes: difficult to find
Upgrade existing cranes: <\$1 million each

### Upgrade existing cranes

Replace major drives and controls Install crane maintenance and monitoring system

No geometry changes due to height restriction

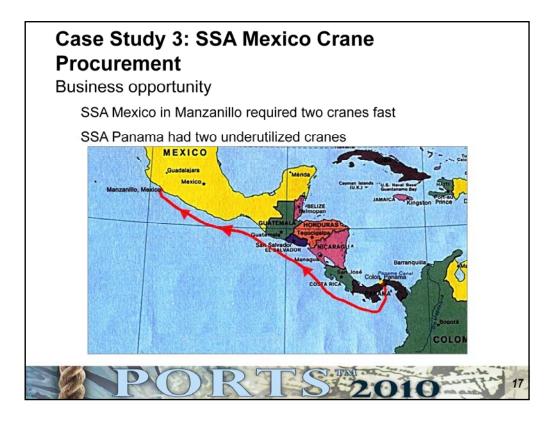
Expect additional 15 years of life







Low profile cranes are required to comply with the aviation height limitations for terminals located adjacent to air fields. The electrical components were not supported by the vendors, causing maintenance delays and increasing downtime. Upgrades costing about \$1M per crane should extend the life of the crane another 15 years.



It is relatively common for international terminal operators to shuffle cranes within their network to respond to changing business needs. SSA modified and relocated two cranes from Panama to Manzanillo, Mexico.



The cranes, supplied by Hyundai Samho Heavy Industries, required reducing the rail gage and strengthening the structure for higher wind and seismic demands. Liftech audited the structural design of the original cranes.



Before and After

# Case Study 4: Massport Low Profile Crane Procurement – "The Perfect Match"

Massport needs two additional cranes for second berth

Oakland needs to dispose of three cranes

Cost of new cranes: \$12.5 - 15 million (USD) each



Massport, adjacent to Boston's Logan Airport, needed 2 to 3 additional low profile cranes to respond to the anticipated volume growth. The new cranes cost upward of \$12.5M each. Port of Oakland was no longer constrained to use their three low profile cranes and the tenant ordered new larger and faster A-frame cranes for the current generation vessels.

### **Massport Procurement: Crane Comparison** Parameter Massport Oakland Rail Gage 29.3 m (96 ft) 29.3 m (96 ft) Maximum Height 41.1 m (135 ft) 40.2 m (132 ft) 45.7 m (150 ft) Outreach 45.7 m (150 ft) Lift Height 30.8 m (101 ft) 29.4 m (96.5 ft) 50 LT 50 LT Rated Load Power Cable Power System Power Cable

The Oakland cranes were a perfect match for Massport.

# **Massport Procurement: Changes**

#### Geometry

Raise landside 0.3 m (1 ft) due to rail elevation difference Modify gantry stowage pin brackets Modify gantry bumpers

#### Strength

Strengthen boom and frame for wind Install new boom stow pin

#### Other

Add heaters and defrosters

Transportation: Oakland to Boston



Minor modifications were required. Transportation and modification cost was \$8.5M for four RTGs and two ship-to-shore cranes.

## **Summary**

Recycling cranes is a viable option

Majority of modifications are

Lift height increase

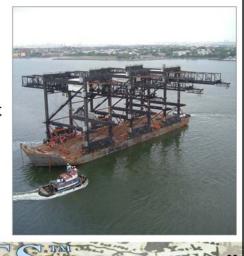
Outreach increase

Gage change

Drive modernization

Relocation costs are significant

Investigate options





Crane recycling is a viable option and should be carefully evaluated, particularly if the cranes do not need to be relocated. Transport costs are often the deal breakers if the cranes need relocation.

## **Thank You**

This presentation with speaker notes will be available on our website:

# www.liftech.net



Thank you. Please visit the Liftech website and blog for more information.

Acosta Bridge, Jacksonville (cityscape in background)

Liftech Consultants Inc. file data:

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