

Thirsty work!

A combination of Grove truck-mounted and all-terrain mobile cranes, were on hand in Virginia, US to undertake a series of lifts for the construction of a new brewery. Chris Bratthauar reports.



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**CECIL WILMOTH,
BRANCH MANAGER, W O GRUBB**

Rental company W O Grubb has grown its fleet to over 200 cranes, around half of which are Manitowoc Crane Group products. The company is ably supported by its local dealer JW Burress and was able to demonstrate the depth of its Grove mobile crane offering by providing a

number of units to project management specialist Jacobs Engineering Group. The cranes were used as part of the construction of a new plant for Coors Brewing Company. They were sent to the Port of Virginia, where they were unloading components from barges so they could be transported

Awaiting the next truck.

the 160 km (100 miles) to the site of the new brewery in Elkton, West Virginia.

The cranes at the heart of the work were two truck-mounted 72.5 t (80 USt) TMS800E units. The job was actually carried out over two days with different equipment

on site each day, however the two trucks were present on both occasions. On the first day the two TMS units were supported by a 130 t GMK5130 (rated at 160 USt and known as the GMK5160 in the US) and a 100 t GMK5100 (rated at 120 USt and known as the GMK5120B in the US). On the



TMS800E units load cargo onto the trucks.

second day, the two five-axle ATs were substituted for one large six-axle unit, a 300 t rated GMK6300 (which is known as the GMK6350 in the US and rated at 350 USt).

Ship-to-shore

The unloading work at the Port of Virginia involved lifting a variety of components and shipping containers from a series of barges and then transferring them to a fleet of nearby trucks and low loaders. The largest elements lifted were 33 t (36 USt) storage vats which will be at the very heart of the new \$200 million Coors Shenandoah brewery. A total of 20 vessels were unloaded and then transported – ten each time the job site was visited.

Cecil Wilmoth branch manager at W O Grubb's

Richmond office, explains why this combination of cranes was chosen for the Coors job.

“We selected the TMS units and the ATs primarily because of their excellent lifting capacities and their ability to set-up and tear-down quickly between the two sites. The 360° lift chart on the truck cranes was another excellent advantage. It allowed us to make tandem lifts with ease, enabling us to easily unload each container without needing to get too close in. The engineering and attention to detail of the Grove cranes truly demonstrates the company's understanding of how operators need cranes to function”. ♦

The 360° lift chart on the truck cranes was an advantage when undertaking the tandem lifts.

