

W. O. Grubb's Portsmouth team earned high praise from International Paper's safety officials and recovery team. After heavy storms earlier this week caused a 180' tall, 7' diameter stack to collapse at a paper mill in Franklin, VA the Grubb team and their equipment were called to action. The intense recovery plan involved 2 of W. O. Grubb's cranes, and rigging crews from Portsmouth. A Grove GMK7550 was used to retrieve the larger portions of the collapsed stack. One section of stack came down inbetween and on top of existing buildings at the paper mill and another section came crashing down onto the coal car shaker building forcing the paper mill to use alternative energy sources in order to keep the paper mill in operation while the recovery took place. The 550 ton All Terrain's job was to lift the larger sections of collapsed stack off and away without causing more structural damage to the paper mill. A 170 ton Demag AC140 was used to position the personnel basket for officials to inspect damage that was done to other sections of the paper mill near the stack as it came down. The recovery plan had to be quick and precise with exceptional attention to safety and detail during the lifts, the Grubb team was proud to be a part of such an integral and well orchestrated plan.



Official inspecting the damage in the personnel basket hoisted by the Demag AC 140



Portion of the stack that fell between the paper mill buildings

Remaining piece of the stack that crashed into the coal car shaker building

