

Press Release

Gottwald Port Technology – Meeting the Requirements of All Types of Cargo Handling

Copenhagen (Denmark), ITL 2004, 2 November 2004 – When it comes to finding the right handling solutions in the ever changing international trade business – characterized by containerization, automation of ports, increasing volumes of transport and the trend towards combined traffic – seamless interlinking of logistic processes and intelligent intermodal solutions are gaining more and more importance.

With port and terminal equipment for loading and unloading containers, bulk materials and general cargo, systems for container transport, storage and distribution and last but not least solutions for intermodal and trimodal operations of any size, plus software systems and services, Gottwald Port Technology meets the requirements of both maritime and inland terminal and port operators, seeking for integrated solutions that do not only meet current, but also future demands.

Total Cargo Solutions

“Gottwald Port Technology, known as the worldwide leader in Mobile Harbour Cranes with more than 900 cranes installed globally, has been continuously developing and expanding its portfolio of products and services since it invented the Mobile Harbour Crane some 50 years ago. With an enlarged product range and innovative software solutions the pacesetter in Mobile Harbour Cranes today is more than a supplier of stand-alone pieces of equipment,” says Dirk Kiessling, Gottwald’s future Chief Executive Officer. “Gottwald is one of the pioneers in terminal automation and well on the way to becoming a leading supplier of future-orientated solutions for the cargo handling industry, at both maritime and inland terminals – solutions that provide maximum versatility for linking different transport modes and that offer sufficient growth potential for expanding multipurpose and specialised terminals. Customising, providing active assistance to the handling industry in a time of change, and providing future-proof conventional as well as fully and partially automated solutions that meet all customer requirements: these are the missions of Gottwald.”

Gottwald for Loading and Unloading – Basic Intermodal Services

A comprehensive range of HMK Mobile Harbour Cranes and rail-mounted HSK Portal Harbour Cranes with lifting capacities of up to 120 tonnes and radii of up to 56 m for loading and unloading ships is part of Gottwald's traditional core business. Gottwald's HMK and HSK of which more than 900 have been sold worldwide are ideal for high-performance cargo handling in small and medium-sized multipurpose ports, container ports and in large container terminals. Equipped with spreaders, grabs and other lifting gear, they are perfect for fast, cost-effective loading and unloading of a broad range of cargo – including bulk materials – thus forming the backbone for smooth onward transport by ship, road or rail.

With the HPK Harbour Pontoon Cranes, launched in summer 2004, Gottwald offers mid-stream handling solutions paving the way for seamless transloading operations from large vessels to river barges.

Gottwald's latest generation of WSG Wide Span Gantries, launched at the beginning of 2003, enables economical container handling in small and medium-sized terminals on rivers and canals, which are important for the onward transport of goods.

Gottwald for Dedicated Intermodal and Trimodal Handling

Gottwald's WSG Wide Span Gantries have proven a popular choice for the increasing number of new specialized intermodal terminals to transfer goods from road to rail or waterways. "In view of the trend towards more efficient supply chains and the increasing combination of rail, road and water transport that does not only improve access to markets, but also brings relief to over-stretched road systems and improves the sustainability of the transport systems, Gottwald Port Technology has developed the WSG Wide Span Gantries that enable direct transshipment of goods at the interfaces of different modes of transport," explains Giuseppe Di Lisa, Sales Director. These dedicated container handling systems are the right choice for intermodal handling between rail and road, as well as trimodal handling in ports between ships, freight train and road truck. Di Lisa: "It goes without saying that our Wide Span Gantries – like all Gottwald products – can always be adapted to individual customer needs. And supplied with state-of-the-art software packages this new generation of Gottwald cranes can easily be incorporated in superordinate cargo logistics systems."

Four orders for ten units from customers in Switzerland, Germany and Italy pay testament to the versatility of the WSG series that offers handling solutions for coherent transport

networks of different types. For example at COBI Container-Terminal AG in Basel, Switzerland and at Container-Terminal Kaiserwörth Hafen in Ludwigshafen, Gottwald's WSG are used for inland waterways based transshipment, loading and unloading heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) and trains as well as stackyard management.

Gottwald for Container Transport from Quay to Stack

Automated Guided Vehicles (AGVs) are Gottwald's answer to the increasing demand for port automation, guaranteeing a fast and accurate handling of growing container volumes. As exclusive supplier of entire fleets of AGVs for automated container transport between quay and stack in large terminals Gottwald offers unmanned transporters that can carry 20', 40' and even 45' containers and are computer-controlled using Gottwald's own Management and Navigation Software.

Gottwald for Storage and Distribution of Containers

For medium-sized container terminals seeking for efficient handling solutions Gottwald Port Technology's recommends WSG Wide Span Gantries. Together with HMK and HSK cranes plus the appropriate software package, these systems can be used to form Gottwald Compact Terminals. Large container terminals, in which containers have to be transported, stored and distributed, are ideally served by Gottwald's Automated Container Stackers and AGVs working hand in hand, linked by innovative Gottwald Management Software.

Software to Connect and to Integrate

Since transport, logistics and handling is becoming more data-intensive, the use of information and communication technologies is key to efficient and customer oriented transport services. For maximizing the efficiency of all operations Gottwald provides solutions for the logistical linking of individual products with complete systems. The Software Packages offered by Gottwald link Gottwald products and systems to one another and, if desired, can be integrated with ease in superordinate management, stack and logistics systems.

Consulting and Planning

Equipment and software are important links in the modern shipping world, but when it comes to finding the ideal handling solutions in the ever changing transport and logistics business, service plays a pivotal role. A diverse range of services including consulting,

terminal planning, computer simulations and after-sales service round off the Gottwald portfolio.

Dirk Kiessling sums up: “The ability of a port or terminal to attract and serve international traffic depends increasingly on the quality of its competitive logistics systems that can effectively interlink different logistic processes according to customer's changing needs. Because all Gottwald products are perfectly matched to one another, they offer many opportunities for terminal operators to develop existing and new terminals in stages as new possibilities arise for expanding their cargo handling, storage and transport activities.”

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