

world of rope

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Page 2

WIRECO CRANE CENTER EXPANDS ITS RANGE

Page 3

CASAR IMPROVES LEAD TIMES THROUGH EFFECTIVE SET-UP PREPARATIONS

Page 4ROPE TECHNOLOGY TRAINING FOR THE EL-CAR TEAM
WORLD CRANE AND TRANSPORT SUMMIT AMSTERDAM

CASAR Eurolift masters the depths

At the end of 2014, through our sister company, Lankhorst, we at CASAR received an interesting request to fit the ropes on a 40-ton AHC articulating crane of the Dutch manufacturer, Langendijk Equipment. The crane is installed on the supply ship *Wildebeest*, which serves oilrigs of the Edison Chouest Offshore company (ECO).

It lifts and lowers loads weighing up to 40t, to a depth of up to 3,000m. In consideration of the required safety factor 5, the rope has to have a minimum break-

ing force of 200 tons. The wires used to produce the CASAR Eurolift have a nominal strength of 2,160 N/mm² and thus exceed the required minimum breaking force. It is fitted with a 40-strand hoist rope that is extremely resistant to rotation. The rope core and the outer strands are compacted, which gives the outer strands a greater bearing surface on the rope core. In turn, this reduces the compression on the point of contact and thus also the risk of inner wire breakages.

The tailor-made deep sea crane is fitted with the so-called AHC



Andreas Schmeiss
WireCo WorldGroup
VP Global Cranes

Dear Customers,

The last quarter of the year was strongly shaped by strategic considerations on how business will develop in the coming year.

In the current economic situation, exact forecasts certainly pose a major task. Our business is affected by the serious reluctance to make investments at the present moment in the industries of oil and gas, mining and shipbuilding and in other areas of heavy industry. Economically weaker periods occur again and again in cycles. They are not cause, however, for our company not to make further investments in the development of new special wire ropes. The constant improvement of our existing products is essential for counteracting fluctuations in business and to be optimally prepared for the future.

Also in challenging times, investments are important. Our Crane Center in the Netherlands has allowed us to greatly improve our service and we are very pleased by the great enthusiasm shown by our customers.

We are delighted that you visit our service centre so frequently and take this as an incentive to overcome new challenges.

Sincerely,

Andreas Schmeiss



(active heave compensation) technology, which allows it to operate at depths of up to 3,000m and in rough seas of force 5, maintaining a safe working load of 10 tonnes.

In order to meet the rough working environment out at sea, the rope wires are made out of corrosion-resistant material and have a special lubrication for rope production.

The great length of the rope, spooled in several layers, imposed the greatest requirements in production tolerance both on the drum

and us as the rope manufacturer. Langendijk Equipment originally planned a 15-layer drum. At a technical meeting, however, we persuaded them to reconsider the drum design as even leading drum manufacturers advise against the use of more than 14 layers. After the drum design was revised, we now have a drum that fully spools the entire 3,100m CASAR Eurolift Ø46 mm. In spite of this, even "only" 11 layers pose the greatest requirements on the maximum permitted tolerance of the rope. Even the smallest gap in the spooling of the rope in the lower layers

can get bigger in every layer and ultimately lead to the formation of a rift in the upper layers, into which a whole strand can be drawn.

This is especially critical if the rope structure is very loose and the lower layers are spooled at an insufficient tension. This happens anyway during usage as the crane usually lowers the load to the seabed and goes back up without a load, and consequently spools at a low tension. This makes compression and accuracy of tolerance hugely important during production.



WireCo Crane Center expands its range

The most important advantage of the WireCo Crane Center in Gouda is the possibility to supply our customers quickly with ropes and the essential connection pieces. It is already possible to assemble a great number of thimbles, rope lock clamps, spelter sockets and even splices.

The majority of ropes delivered are equipped with pressed clamps and plastic sockets. The Crane Center has now closed the last gap and commissioned a modern facility for the use of metallic potting materials. After extensive training provided to the shopfloor staff and elaborate testing, the first customers are now receiving ropes with metal socketing.

All socketed end connections naturally meet the requirements of DIN EN 13411-4, are tested accordingly and delivered with the required certificates.

CASAR improves lead times through effective set-up preparations



In our newsletter no. 6 / January 2015, we informed you about the 5S method at CASAR, which was introduced in September 2014, with the aim of making the company more efficient while minimising wastage. Keeping the workplace tidier and cleaner also improves occupational safety. Now, one year ahead, CASAR has reached yet another milestone in its constant workflow improvements within the meaning of 5S: the installation of a so-called set-up team, which acts as a link between tool preparation and the operator.

Headed by Mr Sandro Pisani, the 3-man set-up team is responsible for preventing unnecessary delays in production set-up, thus creating even greater efficiency during the work process. The set-up assistants are informed automatically by the control centre when a machine needs to be set up for production and go immediately to support the operator. They already have any necessary tools such as pre-forming heads, pressing rollers or pressing jaws, in order to minimise travel and transport times. The set-up assistant helps with tool assembly, installing the spools and welding the rope. After this step is complete, the set-up assistant then ensures that any tools no longer required are returned.

Under the direction of the foreman, Georg Guth, the tool preparation team ensures that all tools needed for production are always kept in the provided place in the warehouse

in flawless condition. Thus the tools are always ready for immediate usage. The team is also responsible for checking the dimensional accuracy, repair and maintenance of all parts. A software is used to record, manage and distribute all tools. Any parts that are returned are naturally also checked before being put back into storage.

Until now, tools were prepared by our long-standing employee, Georg Guth, who took on a job in the tool preparation department 4 years ago, after many years as a production foreman. Now, after 49 years of service, he is going into well-earned retirement, thus ringing in a generation change. The new head of tool preparation is Ingo Klensch, who moved to the department one year ago, after 6 years in the metalworking division and 3 years in assembly.

The close cooperation between the tool preparation department and the set-up team is the result of an initiative of our production manager, Francisco Tudela, who has been committed to projects of constant improvement and better safety in the workplace since joining CASAR in October 2014.



Hand in hand for greater safety and efficiency at CASAR: Peter Sofsky (responsible for 5S), Sandro Pisani (head of the set-up team), Francisco Tudela (production manager), Ingo Klensch and Georg Guth (tool preparation); from left to right

Rope technology training for the EL-CAR team in Romania



The EL-Car company was founded in Bistrita in 1991. It has a staff of 55 and is the exclusive distributor in Romania of special wire ropes produced by the WireCo WorldGroup for use in cranes, drilling machines and forestry applications. In addition, items such as slings, chains and snow chains are manufactured and sold from the locations of Bistrita, Cluj and Ploiesti.

At a three-day event held in Bistrita, Markus Klinck, Product Manager at WireCo, and Katarzyna Klosowska, Sales Manager passed

on specialised technical knowledge about ropes and their applications to the 12 employees from various divisions and locations, who had travelled there for that occasion. Popular topics included rope technology, rope selection, discard criteria and standards. Throughout many dynamic discussions and question rounds it became clear that the team was very attentive and eager to learn about special wire ropes. Many thanks go to Mr and Mrs Banabic and their team, for their great organisation, collaboration and support that made this training event a success.

WORLD CRANE AND TRANSPORT SUMMIT 2015 AMSTERDAM 4 AND 5 NOVEMBER

World Crane and Transport Summit Amsterdam

Every year, the media specialist KHL ("International Cranes" magazine) hosts a conference that focuses on lifting and transport. In addition to sponsoring this year's event, which will take place in Amsterdam, CASAR will also contribute to the exciting topic

by Dr Oliver Fries, Vice President of R&D for steel wire ropes at WireCo.

For further information, please visit:
www.khl-group.com/events/wcts/conference.html

NEXT ISSUE WILL BE PUBLISHED IN

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PLANNED TOPICS:

- UPGRADE AT CASAR DEALER SAUDI DUTEST
- FUSION RESEARCH WITH CASAR PARAPLAST
- PREVIEW BAUMA 2016

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