

Serving metropolitan New York since 1940, Cranes, Inc. has played a role in the construction of many major landmarks. **Terry White** reports

Longevity plus



Cranes, Inc. removes its Favco 1000E tower crane from the roof of Bellevue Hospital in Manhattan with a Liebherr LTM 1500

At the New York Stock Exchange, Cranes, Inc. uses a Liebherr LTM 1500 with luffing jib and Y-Guy Superlift to erect new emergency generators



Founded in 1940, Cranes, Inc. helped lift America from the Great Depression – both figuratively and literally. Paul Weiss started Cranes, Inc. as an offshoot of a steel erection company he founded with A.J. McNulty in 1925.

As the original business began to expand with the nation's economy, Weiss found an increasingly large share of his earnings were being absorbed by crane-rental expenses. Cranes, Inc. grew from this situation and his ultimate decision to build his own fleet of Link-Belt truck cranes to service metropolitan New York.

Soon he was renting his cranes to others in the industry. In 1940, Weiss began a 40-year tenure as head of A.J. McNulty & Co., which became one of the area's leading erectors of structural steel and pre-cast concrete. Paul Weiss passed away on June 30, 2006, at the age of 98.

Cranes, Inc. equipment has played a major role in the construction of hundreds of

prominent structures and landmarks in the metropolitan area, including office towers, apartment buildings, schools, hospitals and sporting arenas.

Of recent note, the company's cranes were instrumental in building the critically acclaimed Rose Center for Earth & Space at the New York Museum of Natural History and the state-of-the-art International Arrivals Terminal at Kennedy Airport. Three of Crane, Inc.'s largest crawler cranes have been at work constructing the future home of the NFL New York Giants and Jets.

Paul Weiss also built a proud family legacy. Raised in the business, his son Larry became president in 1980. He has continued to expand Cranes, Inc. into one of the major crane rental houses in the entire Northeast region.

Assisting greatly in these endeavors has been Paul's grandson Robert, vice president of Cranes, Inc., who joined the company in 1991. Robert Weiss was one of 23 individuals

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This article was adapted from *Lifting and Moving the World*, a coffee-table book commemorating the 60th anniversary in 2008 of the Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association. For information about ordering the book, email Katy Storvik at katy.storvik@khl.com.



selected to serve on OSHA's Crane and Derrick Negotiated Rulemaking Advisory Committee (C-DAC). After meeting almost monthly for a year, C-DAC completed its ambitious agenda of achieving consensus on a proposed standard covering construction crane operations in the US on July 9, 2004. The standard had not been revised since 1971.

In recent years, Cranes, Inc. has gained a reputation for purchasing new equipment, particularly from Liebherr. Cranes, Inc. began its relationship with Liebherr in 1996 during ConExpo.

"We saw the LTM 1160/2 on display



Cranes, Inc. Principals Robert and Larry Weiss proudly display their new Liebherr LTC 1055-3.1 at Bauma 2004

and we were impressed by its tremendous boom length and technological advances. As a result, we purchased the second ever to come to the US," said Robert Weiss. "At that time, Liebherr was relatively unknown in this country, but we recognized that they had something special to offer the market."

Since then, Cranes, Inc. has made a point of purchasing the first or second crane produced for almost every Liebherr model of all-terrain and crawler crane used in the United States. About half of the company's 50 cranes are Liebherrs, with capacities to 625 tons.

The well-rounded fleet at Cranes, Inc. also includes the latest, most advanced industrial, rough-terrain, truck and tower cranes from Link-Belt, Manitowoc/Grove and Favco.

"We have tried to position ourselves to service all areas of the construction industry," said Larry Weiss.

Cranes, Inc. complements its fleet with a knowledgeable sales staff and a skilled and well-trained team of mechanics. "Our sales manager, Emanuel Zaccone, is intimately familiar with all our cranes, in all their multiple configurations, and can readily respond to the needs of our customers," says Robert Weiss. "In addition, our service manager, Robert Serrone, has been with Cranes, Inc. for over 28 years and has received extensive training at the Liebherr factories in Ehingen, Germany and Nenzing, Austria."

Weiss says Cranes, Inc. is proud of its heritage and its ability to offer its customers a modern fleet of equipment backed by a true commitment to service. **act**