 NEWS RELEASE

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**MLC300’s VPC increases capacity at long radii, making short work of parking garage**

* *Variable Position Counterweight (VPC) increases the capacity of equipped cranes at  
   long radii*
* *A Manitowoc MLC300 was an ideal solution for a parking garage project that called for a crane with high capacity at a 115 ft radius*
* *Using the MLC300 saved $100,000 over previous-generation crane solutions*

A Manitowoc MLC300 was a vital tool in a project to build a parking garage for Sparrow Hospital in Lansing, Michigan. Precast Services, Inc. (PSI), was the main contractor on the project. It was the Twinsburg, Ohio-based company’s first experience with the crane and its innovative Variable Position Counterweight (VPC).

“The logistics of the job site really drove our choice to use the MLC300 for this project,” said Aaron Vnuk, director of sales and operations for PSI. “We had to lift precast panels and other loads from a truck parked on an access road from outside the footprint of the garage, so we needed a crane with great capacity at a 115 ft radius. The MLC300 was the perfect crane for this situation—the load chart is phenomenal.”

The 330 USt MLC300 was set up on a stone road that ran through the middle of where the garage was being constructed. It moved up and down the road from the center of the garage, and with 217 ft of boom, placed loads to both sides. The crane lifted precast concrete panels, Double Tees, Spandrels and more, with loads weighing up to 35 USt. Most of the lifts rose to some 60 ft to 70 ft in the air. Precast Services used a 120 USt Grove GMK5120B to help erect the MLC300.

“Before the MLC300, we would have had to use a larger, 400 USt crane to get the reach and capacity we needed for this project. That would have easily added $100,ooo in cost to the job,” Vnuk explained. “This crane also was quicker to set up and tear down. Its counterweights were easier to work with than previous cranes and we were able to use fewer of them. This saved us at least a full day’s time and the cost that would have come with it.”

The project began in October 2015 and wrapped up a few months later in December. The 4-level, 50 ft-tall parking garage will serve as an employee lot for Sparrow Hospital’s cancer center, which is also under construction. The lot’s dimensions measure 200 ft by 400 ft, and it will feature a walkway connector for employees to cross directly into the new center upon its open. Lansing, Michigan-based The Christman Company served as the project’s construction manager.

**A winning team**

PSI leased the crane on a suggestion from Detroit’s Laramie Enterprises, Inc., with which the company has been doing business with for more than 25 years. Laramie originally purchased the crane from Manitowoc dealer Cleveland Crane and Shovel.

“Laramie always answers the call for us,” Vnuk said. “It is a top-notch company with great service—very responsive. The company can always provide us with the right crane for the right job and then offer great support once it starts working.”

Due to the project’s logistical restrictions, Bob Hunsaker, a sales representative with Laramie, said the MLC300 was an ideal choice and a better option than cranes of years’ past.

“For the weight of the loads that had to be lifted at such a long radius, the MLC300 had much better chart than any crane that a company would have rented in the past to perform this type of work,” he said. “Not only did it solve the logistical problem they were confronted with, it ended up saving them time and money over the course of the project.”

PSI is an employee-owned company, founded in 1988 by Charles Mayer and Barry Cooper. Now in its second generation of ownership, led by President and CEO Bo Kusznir, the company specializes in precast concrete erection across the entire country, with as many as 11 crews working from Connecticut to Texas.

Since 1917, Laramie Enterprises, Inc., has been a family owned and operated business. Now in its fifth generation, the company is as strong as ever. It specializes in the provision of nationwide bare and manned crane rental, as well as over the road and heavy haul trucking.

Its current president, Gordon “Chip” Laramie III, largely credits Manitowoc products with the company’s success.

“We have been purchasing Manitowoc and Grove cranes for more than fifty years,” he said. “They have proven to be the most innovative, cost-effective and reliable cranes in the industry.”

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ABOUT THE MANITOWOC COMPANY, INC.   
Founded in 1902, The Manitowoc Company, Inc. is a leading global manufacturer of cranes and lift solutions with 49 manufacturing, distribution, and service facilities in 20 countries.  Manitowoc is recognized as one of the premier innovators and providers of crawler cranes, tower cranes, and mobile cranes for the heavy construction industry, which are complemented by a slate of industry-leading aftermarket product support services. In 2015, Manitowoc’s revenues totaled $1.9 billion, with over half of these revenues generated outside the United States.

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