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**Reliable performance and service leads Grúas Alhambra to invest in more Grove all-terrain cranes**

* *Based on its previous positive experience with Grove, Spanish mobile crane rental company Grúas Alhambra has added a new GMK5250L-1 all-terrain crane to its fleet.*
* *The 250 t capacity five-axle crane delivers greater levels of performance, while maintaining the highest-rated load chart, best maneuverability, quickest set-up time and greatest operator comfort and convenience in its class.*
* *The high quality of Grove cranes and aftermarket support also gave Grúas Alhambra the trust and confidence to purchase a used 400 t six-axle GMK6400 all-terrain crane to widen the range of jobs it can complete.*

Grenada-based Grúas Alhambra has expanded its 30-strong fleet with a new 250 t capacity five-axle GMK5250L-1 all-terrain crane and a used 400 t capacity six-axle GMK6400 all-terrain crane from Grove.

The Spanish rental company has specialized in mobile cranes for more than 50 years, striving to offer the highest quality machines operated by the best personnel across Andalusia.

This focus on quality led Grúas Alhambra to develop a relationship with Manitowoc and the Grove brand, which is renowned for class-leading capacities, innovative technology and reliable operation.

“We were attracted to the Grove brand because of the very good load capacities on the new crane models, as well as their technology and, of course, their drive systems, which are far superior to any other crane,” said Abraham Molina, CEO of Grúas Alhambra.

“We have now been working with the Grove brand for three years and our relationship with the whole team is very good. We decided to purchase a new Grove GMK5250L-1 all-terrain crane because of the very good results we got from our GMK5250L and the excellent aftermarket support we received,” he continued.

**Even better performance**

The new Grove GMK5250L-1 builds on its predecessor, the GMK5250L, to deliver greater levels of performance, while maintaining the highest-rated load chart, best maneuverability, quickest set-up time and greatest operator comfort and convenience in its class.

The GMK5250L-1 offers a 70 m boom, as well as a 21.3 m hydraulic swingaway jib, which can be extended with either an 8 m boom extension, two 8 m jib inserts or a combination of both for a total possible jib length of 36.8 m.

This gives unmatched load charts, usually offered by six-axle cranes – an advantage that Grúas Alhambra has leveraged by ordering a jib and boom extension to be used on its new GMK5250L-1. Another beneficial feature of the jib is its ability to offer increased offset of up to 50° for reaching over obstacles compared to a typical 40° offset on other cranes in its class.

**Convenient transportation**

“These are cranes that offer great capacities without having to move much counterweight, which means a good saving in costs when moving the crane,” Molina said.

The Grove GMK5250L-1 comes complete with interchangeable counterweight slabs and Grúas Alhambra is reusing the existing self-rigging auxiliary hoist from its GMK5250L. Once on the jobsite, the crane can be moved while carrying its full counterweight of 80 t and its ability to travel in this configuration saves valuable time on the job that would otherwise be taken up with installing and removing counterweight sections. Some of the counterweight slabs are even interchangeable with those of the GMK5180L-1, GMK5200-1, GMK5250XL and GMK6300L.

**Substantial fuel savings**

“It is very important for us, due to our area of operation, that our new GMK5250L-1 cranes were ordered with a 10 x 8 traction and turbo retarder clutch system, which allows us to easily access the most challenging jobs in mountainous areas,” Molina added.

The Grove GMK5250L-1 is the first all-terrain crane to include a VIAB turbo clutch module, which is used by heavy-duty trucks. It enables wear-free starting and braking, avoids overheating and burning, and reduces fuel consumption to a minimum. VIAB is a turbo coupling and integrated retarder all in one, which means less weight and smaller footprint.

**Ready to work**

When Grúas Alhambra’s new Grove GMK5250L-1 all-terrain crane was delivered in 2021, it was ready for rental almost immediately.

“The commissioning was very fast, and we had it ready the same day the crane came through the door. For the first job we had, the cranes had all their documentation in order,” Molina recounted.

“The first job was to remove a turbine from the reactor of a thermal power plant in Malaga. The boom length was very important due to the height that was required, as well as the weight to be lifted. The work was done in one day and it was necessary to transport 50 t of counterweight. The operators’ first impressions were very good. These cranes are easy to handle and the operators understand them perfectly,” he continued.

**New capabilities**

Grúas Alhambra’s positive experience with Grove also gave the rental company the trust and confidence to purchase a used Grove GMK6400 all-terrain crane.

“We needed a crane with greater capability to undertake new challenges and the Grove GMK6400 has excellent load capacities with very small dimensions, which allows us to access the work easily,” Molina explained.

The Grove GMK6400 all-terrain crane has the best lifting capacity of any six-axle crane, combined with small outrigger dimensions and fast set-up times. It is often used instead of a seven or eight-axle crane, which helps save time, money and effort.

The 400 t capacity machine has a 60 m main boom and up to 79 m of luffing jib available, giving it a maximum possible tip height of 136 m and the ability to handle loads out to a maximum radius of 96 m. When combined with the patented self-rigging MegaWingLift, the crane’s capacity on the main boom is increased by 70% and by up to 400% when using a luffing jib.

“The GMK6400 works perfectly and adds great value for our company because it has opened up the possibility of accessing work that we could not undertake in the past,” Molina said.

**Excellent aftermarket support**

For both Grúas Alhambra’s new Grove GMK5250L-1 crane and used GMK6400 model, the company can count on reliable aftermarket support from Manitowoc.

“The service is very good – both in person and over the phone. We have no complaints about that. Any issues that arose with our GMK5250L were solved quickly and correctly.

“The idea is to continue to have Grove cranes in the future, as they fulfil their tasks perfectly and we are very happy with the operability and excellent ease of transfer both on the road and off it,” Molina concluded.

Please visit the Manitowoc website for more information on the Grove [GMK5250L-1](https://www.manitowoc.com/grove/all-terrain-cranes/gmk5250l-1) and [GMK6400](https://www.manitowoc.com/grove/all-terrain-cranes/gmk6400) all-terrain cranes.

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Captions

Image 1: Grúas Alhambra’s new Grove all-terrain cranes at the company’s yard.

Image 2: Grúas Alhambra’s Grove GMK5250L supporting the construction of a high-speed train bridge in Loja, Granada.

Image 3: Grúas Alhambra’s Grove GMK5250L and GMK5250L-1 carrying out a tandem lift for a wind turbine blade replacement in Almeria.

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The Manitowoc Company, Inc. was founded in 1902 and has over a 118-year tradition of providing high-quality, customer-focused products and support services to its markets. Manitowoc is one of the world's leading providers of engineered lifting solutions. Manitowoc, through its wholly-owned subsidiaries, designs, manufactures, markets, and supports comprehensive product lines of mobile hydraulic cranes, lattice-boom crawler cranes, boom trucks, and tower cranes under the Aspen Equipment, Grove, Manitowoc, MGX Equipment Services, National Crane, Potain, and Shuttlelift brand names.

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