PRESS RELEASE

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**Cedar Run Construction nets benefits from Potain Igo T 85 A’s fast setup and small footprint**

* *Two years of large, successful projects have more than justified the Pennsylvania contractor’s decision to acquire the self-erecting crane, resulting in its use of rotating telehandlers being virtually eliminated.*
* *Major savings have ensued from better productivity and reductions in additional equipment, fuel, and maintenance.*
* *The Potain crane makes the crew more efficient by placing materials precisely where they are needed.*

A new 5-story hotel near Harrisburg is the latest in a recent line of projects undertaken by Pennsylvanian contractor Cedar Run Construction (Cedar Run) to highlight the benefits of using a Potain self-erecting tower crane in place of a fleet of telehandlers and other conventional mobile machinery.

Creating a more efficient, streamlined jobsite by reducing the volume of equipment activity, while maximizing the laydown area for use by other subcontractors are just two of the additional benefits the Potain Igo T 85 A has brought to the Camp Hill project, carried out on behalf of Benchmark Construction.

Lititz, Pennsylvania-based Cedar Run acquired the Igo T 85 A two years ago, as its focus shifted from merely providing labor on smaller residential builds to offering turnkey wood framing packages to general contractors on commercial projects.

“As our projects grew larger, it became obvious that rotating telehandlers were no longer providing the efficiencies they once had,” said Brent Droege, financial director at Cedar Run. “So, we decided to look for machinery that could handle our increased demands — and the Igo quickly presented itself as being the best solution possible, offering all the necessary capabilities in the most cost-effective way.”

Much of the reason for this was due to a visit from Chad Jacobs, self-erecting tower crane specialist at local Potain dealer Stephenson Equipment. His wealth of experience in helping contractors calculate overall ROI with a self-erecting crane soon persuaded Droege to trial a rented Igo for use on a congested apartment build in the Philadelphia metro region.

“There were restrictions like power lines, roads and railway tracks almost completely around the building, so the general contractor had given them pretty strict rules on avoiding those areas,” revealed Jacobs. “But we were able to show, using print and 3D drawings, how we could make that project work for them. After its successful conclusion, they bought their first crane, and we set about drawing up plans for using it on their next job.”

**It’s all in the planning**

These detailed jobsite plans play an important role right from the bidding stage of a project, most notably in terms of the schedule, which the Igo is able to rapidly accelerate primarily by virtue of its ability to handle larger loads than would be possible with a rotating telehandler. For instance, by moving away from on-site stick framing, it was possible to pre-fabricate the entire apartment project off-site, greatly speeding up construction time.

The plans also provide a useful record of where the crane will be placed — weeks before it arrives on site — giving other subcontractors the luxury of planning their activities around it and allowing the general contractor to thoroughly vet the location.

“This gives other site personnel a clear indication of how our staging process is going to operate,” Droege said. “The footprint of the hotel project is a long, thin rectangle with limited perimeter space, so with the crane on one side of the building and our staging area on the other, we’re able to allow other machines to go in a full circle around it. Without the crane, one of these sides would be completely impassable.”

“Another important factor is the reduction in maintenance,” Droege added. “When you contrast all the upkeep, plus the high fuel consumption, required for a telehandler fleet with looking after just one piece of machinery, the Potain becomes an even more attractive proposition.”

Aside from the financial savings stemming purely from reductions in equipment, further economic —and operational — advantages can be realized by replacing machinery that may typically only reach the third floor with light loads in favor of a tough, flexible crane that can lift 13,228 lbs to the eighth floor.

“When you use an Igo, you are putting material right where you need it. You’re able to stockpile material right up against the machine, before hoisting it and placing it anywhere from 10 ft to 148 feet away,” Jacobs said. “And it has wireless remote control, so the operator doesn’t need to be in the cab — they can even be stood right next to where the load is being set down. So, the labor savings is another of the huge benefits of this machine — just think what placing materials exactly where you need, as opposed to where you can manage, will save you over the course of a year!”

With the crane, however, there can be a major reduction in the amount of mobile machinery — telehandlers, in particular — on site, enhancing productivity.

“As time goes by, labor, safety and jobsite restrictions become increasingly stringent, and that’s where these machines truly shine,” Jacobs said. “With a telehandler, you’re invariably placing materials right on the edge of the roof — that means you create a safety hazard every time you’re sending your labor to help unload.”

The Igo further promotes good operating practice by allowing for clearer communication on the ground – or, additionally, making it easier for firms to comply with zero-emission legislation on ‘green’ sites due to its ability to make a clean connection to city power. Alternatively, on sites where noise ordinances are in place, the Igo enables projects to start earlier in the day as a result of producing noise emissions no higher than a passing car.

**King of the road**

Thanks to the Igo’s superior transportability, Cedar Run’s hotel project was able to start in double-quick time. With sub-50,000 lb highway axle packages able to be hauled at posted highway speeds, the Igo T 85 A was at the new jobsite and ready to lift within 48 hours of leaving its previous job. “Probably the coolest thing about the crane is the way it folds into itself and basically becomes a tractor-trailer,” Droege said. “It's pretty amazing how quickly it can be disassembled, transported a few hours away, and be up and running again!”

With no poured engineered foundation required for setting up the Igo — which instead relies on an outrigger spread of 14.8 ft2 and a minimum ballast of 15 x 4850 lbs slabs — it offers a far greater level of flexibility than other types of machines with similar lift capacities. The mast offers variable height from 66 – 75 ft, while three mast inserts can extend height under hook of the horizontal jib up to 125 ft.

With another apartment project on the horizon for Cedar Run, the Igo T 85 A has already proved to be a wise purchase, Droege concluded. “The crane has all but eliminated our need for rotating telehandlers, which we now only use on smaller projects. If you look at the efficiency of the Igo over a long period of time, rather than day by day, the use of multiple rotating telehandlers and other machines suddenly seems very expensive indeed.

To learn more about the Potain Igo T 85 A, click [here](https://www.manitowoc.com/potain/self-erecting-cranes/igo-t-85). To visit Cedar Run’s website, click [here](https://www.cedarrunconstruction.net/). To visit Stephenson Equipment’s, click [here](https://stephensonequipment.com/).

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