

John Skelly reports that tower crane fleets are seeing a modest increase in size and scope.

# Still climbing

BY THE NUMBERS

**TOWER CRANES**

1,531

**TOTAL CAPACITY**

506,026  
tonne-meters

**BRANCHES**

259

**EMPLOYEES**

7,945



Jay Dee Contractors' custom-built Kroll K1800 lifts an 81,000-pound dozer.

The tower crane sector of the lifting industry saw slight growth over the last year. Some highlights include ambitious projects like the Brickell City Centre in Miami, FL being developed by Maxim Crane Works, and 432 Park Avenue in NYC, which Roger & Sons topped out at the beginning of 2015.

American Cranes & Transport sent out our annual ACTTOWERCRANE50 survey in late June. There are a couple new companies on the list, and as the result of some mergers and acquisitions, a couple companies are now reporting their figures under different names. In some cases that moved them up the list, in others, not a whole lot changed. One

thing it certainly affected was the total number of people working for these companies. The tower crane sector grew by over 1,000 employees over the last year.

Like last year, 20 companies make up our final list and are ranked by their tower crane index, the sum of the maximum load moment rating of all the cranes in their fleet, measured in tonne-meters. One change we made this year was listing the largest tower crane owned by each company in U.S. tons as opposed to tonne-meters. Due to the number of different units in which we received this figure, we decided U.S. tons was the most appropriate conversion. We used published manufacturer capacity charts when a conversion was made.

## Top 10 largest tower cranes

RANK	COMPANY	LARGEST TOWER CRANE	CAPACITY (U.S. TONS)
1	J.F. Lomma	Favco M1280D	165
2	JayDeeContractors	Kroll K1800	66
2	Morrow Equipment	Liebherr 1800 C	66
3	Maxim Crane Works	Wolff 700 B	55
4	Essex Rental	Potain MD 560 A	48
5	Bigge Crane & Rigging	Terex Comedil CTT721	44
6	Skycrane Limited	Sun STT-753	32
6	Oxford Builders Supplies	Terex Comedil CTL 630	32
6	ALL Erection & Crane Rental	Potain MR 608	32
6	AmQuip Crane Rental	Potain MR 615	32
6	M-L Holdings	Terex Peiner SK 575	32
6	P&J Arcomet	Terex Peiner SK 575	32

RANK 2015	RANK 2014	COMPANY	COUNTRY	NO. OF DEPOTS	NO. OF EMPLOYEES	SCOPE OF OPERATION	SENIOR CONTACT
1	1	<b>Morrow Equipment</b>	USA	25	371	Worldwide	Christian Chalupny, president
2	2	<b>AmQuip Crane Rental</b>	USA	13	500	National	Al Bove, CEO
3	3	<b>Maxim Crane Works</b>	USA	34	1,450	National	Matt Hyden, VP of tower crane division
4	4	<b>All Erection &amp; Crane Rental</b>	USA	37	1,500	Continental	Michael L. Liptak, president
5	5	<b>Bigge Crane &amp; Rigging</b>	USA	13	550	National	Weston Settlemier, president and CEO
6	6	<b>Essex Rental*</b>	USA	18	200	National	Nick Matthews, president and CEO
7	NEW	<b>P&amp;J Arcomet</b>	USA	3	40	Worldwide	Stephen Jehle, president
8	17	<b>Blue Hat Crane &amp; Equipment Rental</b>	USA	10	65	National	Florian Rothbrust, senior vice president
9	8	<b>Allegiance Crane &amp; Equipment</b>	USA	7	280	National	Terry Longo, director of marketing
10	7	<b>Oxford Builders Supplies</b>	CANADA	3	40	National	Mike Demelo, equipment operations
11	11	<b>TNT Crane &amp; Rigging (RMS Cranes)</b>	USA	38	1,500	National	Mike Appling, CEO
12	10	<b>Skycrane Limited</b>	Canada	2	10	Worldwide	Jim Howard, president
13	NEW	<b>Bigfoot Crane Company</b>	Canada	1	15	National	Ryan Burton, managing partner
14	13	<b>J.F. Lomma</b>	USA	8	163	Worldwide	James Lomma, owner
15	14	<b>Jay Dee Contractors</b>	USA	4	300	National	Michael A. DiPonio, vice president
16	15	<b>Compass Equipment</b>	USA	5	30	National	Kelly Hadland, managing partner
17	18	<b>Guay</b>	Canada	20	500	National	Jean-Marc Baronet, president
18	19	<b>M-L Holdings Company Crane Group</b>	USA	10	299	National	Scott Wilson, president
19	20	<b>Connelly Crane Rental*</b>	USA	3	47	National	Michael A. Connelly, president
20	16	<b>Custom Service Crane</b>	USA	5	35	Regional	Randy Huffman, vice president

\*ACT estimates

There's no surprise at the top of our list. Morrow Equipment has owned the top spot from the beginning. With an ACT Index of over 200,000 for the first time, they more than quadruple the next largest fleet. AmQuip edged out Maxim for second place with an ACT Index differential of 6,962. AmQuip and Maxim both increased the number of tower cranes in their fleet. Last year AmQuip possessed nine more cranes than Maxim, this year the difference is only one. It will be interesting to see where these two companies stand in 2016.

New to the list is P&J Arcomet. The

**ALL Erection & Crane Rental maintained the No. 4 spot on the list this year.**

PHOTO CREDIT: ALL FAMILY OF COMPANIES



## Top 10 largest number in fleet

RANK	COMPANY NAME	TOTAL IN FLEET
1	<b>Morrow Equipment</b>	579
2	<b>Essex Rental</b>	115
3	<b>Bigge Crane &amp; Rigging</b>	100
4	<b>AmQuip Crane Rental</b>	99
5	<b>Maxim Crane Works</b>	98
6	<b>ALL Erection &amp; Crane Rental</b>	86
7	<b>P&amp;J Arcomet</b>	73
8	<b>Bigfoot Crane Company</b>	52
9	<b>J.F. Lomma</b>	38
10	<b>Oxford Builders Supplies</b>	36

WEBSITE	LARGEST TOWER CRANE IN FLEET	LARGEST TOWER CRANE CAPACITY	NO. OF TOWER CRANES IN FLEET	2015 ACT TOWER INDEX
morrow.com	Liebherr 1800 C	66	639	<b>224,731</b>
amquip.com	Potain MR 615	32	99	<b>51,640</b>
maximcrane.com	Wolff 700 B	55	98	<b>44,678</b>
allcrane.com	Potain MR 608	32	86	<b>34,715</b>
bigge.com	Terex Comedil CTT721	44	100	<b>32,500</b>
essexrental.com	Potain MD 560 A	48	115	<b>25,022</b>
pjarcomet.com	Terex Peiner SK 575	32	73	<b>25,000</b>
bluehatcrane.com	Linden Comansa 8852	19.8	32	<b>14,045</b>
allegiancecrane.com	Linden Comansa 8852	19.8	33	<b>13,435</b>
oxfordbuilders.ca	Terex Comedil CTL 630	32	36	<b>13,230</b>
TNTcrane.com	Potain MD485B	22	27	<b>9,040</b>
towercranes.net	Sun STT-753	32	29	<b>7,489</b>
bigfootcrane.com	San Marco SMT 550	8.81	52	<b>3,625</b>
jflommainc.com	Favco M1280D	165	38	<b>2,523</b>
jaydee.us	Kroll K1800	66	1	<b>1,800</b>
compassequipment.com	Potain MR 418	26	18	<b>1,752</b>
gruesguay.com	Terex Peiner SK 415-20	20	24	<b>348</b>
mlholdingscranegroup.com	Terex Peiner SK 575	32	17	<b>340</b>
connellycrane.com	Terex Peiner SK 415-20	20	6	<b>70</b>
customservicecrane.com	San Marco SMT 551	8.81	8	<b>43</b>

**The TC50 has eclipsed a total ACT index of 500,000 for the first time.**



Arcomet Group is one of the world's largest independent suppliers of tower cranes. Here in North America they boast a strong fleet of 73 towers, sliding into the No. 7 spot in our breakout of 10 largest fleets. With a strong presence in the United States and Canada, we won't be surprised to see them move up our list in the next few years.

Also new is Bigfoot Crane Company. When Canadian-based Eagle West Cranes was acquired by TNT Crane & Rigging, Ryan Burton at Bigfoot took on the Eagle West tower crane division. In their first year they've reached No. 13 overall on our list and have the eighth most tower cranes.

Blue Hat Crane & Equipment made the most impressive leap in 2015, hurling themselves into eighth place overall, all the way from 17th last year. They've increased everything from number of depots to employees to largest capacity crane and total ACT Index.

### How it adds up

This year's total capacity of every crane from every company on this list is 506,026 tonne-meters. That's 82,822 tonne-meters larger than last year's total.

The total number of tower cranes across all companies also grew, from 1,327 in 2014 to 1,531 in 2015. The total number of employees grew from 6,827 to 7,945 over the course of a year. Additionally, there are now 259 branches or depots across North America as opposed to 217 last year.

That being said, the growth of the tower crane sector remains modest yet steady, which is probably the best way to grow. The consistent necessity for tower cranes prevails despite economic recessions, dips in oil prices and a lack of government funding. That's a great sign for the industry. ■

### Disclaimer

Like all of our lists, we work very hard to ensure the accuracy of the information submitted to us. ACT and its editors are not responsible for inaccuracies or errors in these lists. We hope to continually grow this list. If your company has one or dozens of tower cranes in your fleet, you should be on this list. To receive a 2016 survey, please email John Skelly at john.skelly@khl.com