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Paul Boeckman, P.E.
Vice President,
Product Management and Training
**Words from the President**

Wow, where did the last year go?

It won’t be long, and we will be heading to San Antonio for our fall meeting. It will be bittersweet for me, with my term as AWRF President coming to an end. It has been an honor to serve this wonderful organization and it is hard to believe that I have been on the board for 9 years. My sons were 7 and 5 when I was elected to the board, now both are in high school.

That said, I’m excited to pass the gavel to incoming President, Nicole Parkerson of Cableworks. Joining Nicole on the executive board will be the new Vice President, Brett Woodland (Certex), Tom Hudgins (Bishop) as the new Treasurer and the incoming Secretary, Jack Gibbons (Metro Wire Rope). We will also be welcoming 3, newly elected, board members!

I would like to thank Steve Barker of Marine & Industrial Supply and Chip Schwamb of Kennedy Wire Rope & Sling for giving their time and efforts to the AWRF board.

The Programs committee has lined up a fantastic program for San Antonio…

- The technical committee will give an update on B30.30 and “Rigging Hardware Failures”
- We will hear about “When Something Fails”, “Sling Protection/Pads”, “3D Drone/Accident Review”, “Tower Cranes” and “Biometric”
- Presentation of this year’s AWRF Safety Award Plaques
- Lt. Col. Oliver North – “America the Exceptional”

See you in San Antonio!!!!

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**AWRF Calendar**

**2018**

- **September 18 - 19** ASME B30 Committee
  - Sheraton Crescent
  - Phoenix, AZ
- **October 14 - 17** AWRF General Meeting
  - Hyatt Regency San Antonio
  - San Antonio, TX

**2019**

- **April 7 - 10** AWRF General Meeting and P.I.E.
  - Hilton Cleveland Downtown
  - Cleveland, OH
- **October 27 - 30** AWRF General Meeting
  - San Diego Westin Gaslamp Quarter
  - San Diego, CA

**2020**

- **April 19 - 22** AWRF General Meeting
  - Waldorf Astoria Boca Raton
  - Boca Raton, FL
- **October 4 - 7** AWRF General Meeting and P.I.E.
  - Sheraton Denver
  - Denver, CO

**2021**

- **April 25 - 28** AWRF General Meeting
  - Grand Wailea – A Waldorf Astoria
  - Maui, HI
- **Fall** In progress

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**Nick Gladue**

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Traveling down Nantucket’s Easy Street was anything but easy back in the fall of 2016. The area where the street swings near the scenic Nantucket Harbor was blocked until just before the start of 2017. The bulkhead along the harbor, where the street is just a few feet away, had been compromised and undercut by storms of the past few years – not to mention the fact that it dates from the 1930s. But for a time, signs now directed traffic to detour away from this immediate area; and Broad Street, the street that leads right down to the Steamship Authority pier, was temporarily made into a two-way street.

The crawler crane being used for the work clearly did not fit on the sidewalk, so it remained parked in the roadway as it is far too large to be moved daily. Specifically, the swing radius of the crane would not allow for safe pedestrian access at any time; other than the busy times of Nantucket’s famous Christmas Stroll and Thanksgiving weekend.

Jersey barriers were installed across Easy Street just past Nantucket’s Old North Wharf. Other warnings about the change in traffic patterns had been noted in detour warning signs some distance from the project, to make drivers aware of the changes they need to make for reaching their destination on the small island.

But, for being a small island, crane projects keep Baxter Crane busy throughout the year and for the past 30 years as well. Baxter is doing this work on the 128-foot-long bulkhead replacement for AGM Marine Contractors, Inc., a Cape Cod-based firm doing work in the town of Nantucket for some 25 years, according to David Fronzuto the Nantucket town emergency-preparedness coordinator.

Baxter Crane’s Phil Kelly was hired by AGM Marine Construction Company as a crane operator involved in the rebuilding of the Easy Street bulkhead. Baxter unloaded a tractor-trailer full of equipment and supplies for the project as preparations were made for their track crane.

“We are a mobile crane company,” explains Kelly. “Most of our operators work on a daily basis with marine contractors. They typically just need us onsite for three to four hours at a time to unload their tractor trailers. We are out of West Yarmouth. Our crane stays on Nantucket. Our jobs last from less than three hours up to two days for some jobs. Most of our jobs last one day. We set up the crane, do the work and then pack up and bring it to the next job site.

“That’s difficult for us. We work for multiple contractors on varied jobsites. Baxter Crane works for AGM just occasionally. Others of the marine contractors we work with on a more regular basis. Here on Nantucket we do work on their downtown, store fronts in particular. We do cell tower work on the Cape and islands, as well as modular homes, which frequently need to be lifted into place with cranes.”

Kelly worked on one project involving the setup of a wind turbine out at one of Nantucket’s most popular farms with a large summertime farm stand. Unfortunately, the blade flew off the turbine. Kelly, in turn, therefore worked on dismantling the turbine in order for the components to be returned to original manufacturer in Europe.

“To protect our cranes’ wire rope cable, we use galvanized cable on all of our cranes in order to avoid any rust issues,” says Kelly. “Our cables are used until they wear out, start to fray. Typically, these are ½ to ¾ inch wire
Each span of cable is double checked for fraying. When the fraying exceeds the limit, that section is taken out of service by cutting the section in half. The challenge with their work, according to Kelly, is that there is something different to work on every day. As a company, they are on assorted job sites daily, as well as with different crews of people too and, in addition to varied customers, different operators. “I don’t always know what to expect”.

“In marine work you must also deal with the tides and the wind. Tides, of course, are always changing therefore always coming into play on planning a job. We work on quite a few yacht clubs and in that setting you must work around the tides. Tides must be high so that you can reach the vessels on which you are working.” Cranes used for this work range from a 26-ton crane all the way up to a 200-ton rig, 330 feet high. With their 80-ton truck, a 128-foot main boom will reach another 180 feet.

Baxter’s lineup includes mobile, crawler cranes, which Kelly does not believe AGM owns. “This means we are able to pick up that slack. Stationary cranes must be constructed onsite and they are not registered to drive down the road.”

“In the state of Massachusetts, every time a license for crane operator is renewed, a refresher course must be taken. We’ve also just gone through federal testing and classes. The push now is for a federal program which would crack down on all crane operators to make sure they are all certified.”

Baxter does work on such projects as cell towers, modular homes, trusses, aircraft and marine recovery, large storage tanks, house and shed moving, cupolas, wind turbines, chimney caps, HVAC – rooftops, precast concrete, tree work, well pumps, church steeples, and even hot tubs. Most of their work takes place in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket. Their fleet of mobile hydraulic cranes are insured in full, maintained and inspected to conform with OSHA’s standards, and come equipped with a variety of rigging equipment onboard.

Operators working on all their equipment are also fully licensed and trained in crane work and rigging operations. Rigging services are performed with an assortment of the latest equipment and gear. Receipt, storage and delivery of a project’s equipment, in their yard as well as delivery via truck or tractor is done for the client’s convenience. Baxter commonly does this for items such as generators, rooftop units, transformers, electrical components, tanks, safes, and any other large unwieldy items. “As for our signal workers, all of our Operators and Riggers are OSHA qualified signal persons. We are also happy to assist you in having your staff become OSHA qualified signal persons.

Baxter Crane and Rigging is a family-owned business serving eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island since 1957. With a full range of cranes and equipment from a 15-ton boom truck to a 210-ton all-terrain, as well as forklifts, tractor trailers, and specialized rigging gear. “We specialize in 24-hour emergency response including marine, aircraft, and a wide range of land-based recovery,” adds Kelly.

“Additionally, we perform all types of rigging from heavy machinery/equipment to delicate items through top floor windows and other, difficult to reach, locations. Another service we provide is receiving shipped units and equipment at our facility for storage and later transport to a customer’s job site thereby eliminating that client’s co-ordination worries.”

Whether a dock project is a dock that is twenty feet long or a dock that is a quarter mile long AGM Marine can construct it. This firm’s experience constructing piers and docks ranges from small residential docks to large commercial piers and even ferry terminals. While AGM is proud of their larger dock projects such as the MacMillan Pier reconstruction in Provincetown, MA, the Woods Hole, Martha’s Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority’s ferry slip in Hyannis, MA; AGM has not outgrown their roots and still looks forward to providing quality structures in residential settings. The firm takes pride in constructing docks that will last longer and be built stronger than most other docks. They only use materials that haven a proven track record of being able to withstand the marine environment. If AGM feels that something on a client’s plans is undersized for the application it’s going to be used for, then they will substitute for what they know will work and will last.

AGM even drives all their piles with a vibratory hammer. Using a vibratory hammer instead of jetting the piles consolidates the soil around the pile providing a greater resistance to uplift from the ice resulting in long term savings to the owner. If a customer’s project requires pile capacities to be provided to the engineer once the piles are driven, we have the air and diesel hammers necessary to provide the capacity needed.

AGM Marine Contractors, Inc. has long been serving the marine construction needs of New England. They have a great record of delivering consistently exceptional results in work on docks.
and piers, floating dock systems, bulkheads – making this Nantucket job a particularly good fit – piling driving, salvage work, bridge construction and rehabilitation, pile foundations, boat ramps, rip rap revetments, marinas, offshore cable laying, welding, hydraulic or mechanical dredging, as well as culverts and cofferdams.

The firm employs skilled craftsmen with significant experience in the marine construction field. Their equipment operators are licensed, welders are certified, and project managers are licensed Construction Supervisors. AGM Marine utilizes job specific safety and compliance programs and all employees have completed a 10-hour OSHA safety training program. With some thirty years in the marine construction business, the company definitely lives its motto/philosophy, get it done and do it right the first time. These words would work well for many companies, and for ourselves, were we to take the message to heart.

Of note is that Baxter Crane’s Phil Kelly has also been involved for years now with moving the famous Alvin submersible research vessel. Alvin has been involved in many undersea projects including discovery of the Titanic shipwreck in the 1980s. “We actually haul, rig and set the Alvin submersible from the dock to their ship every year at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution.”

WHOI is a private and nonprofit research and higher education facility studying of all aspects of marine science and engineering as well as the education of marine researchers. Established in 1930 in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, it’s the largest independent oceanographic investigation organization in the U.S., with some one thousand staff and students. Organization of the Institute is separated into six departments, four ocean institutes (ocean life, coastal ocean, ocean and climate change, deep ocean exploration), the Cooperative Institute for Climate and Ocean Research, and a marine policy center.

WHOI scientists, engineers, and students join forces to develop theories, test ideas, build seagoing instruments, and collect data in diverse marine environments. Though the center originally moved in the direction of issues of defense, especially during World War II; over the ensuing decades, since its founding, studies have moved in the direction of issues involving all the world’s oceans. Therefore, WHOI’s research agenda has grown to include geological activity deep within the earth; plant, animal, and microbial populations and their interactions in the ocean; coastal erosion, ocean circulation, ocean pollution, and global climate change.

Back on Nantucket; the crane overhead, along the bulkhead of the harbor, lifted supplies for work and the raw materials for this shoring up project, one that comes not a moment too soon. “This was critical infrastructure,” says Fronzuto. “The bulkhead here was constructed way back in the 1930s. The structure was actually built from wood and it has failed. The flooding caused behind the bulkhead from the storm drains, which we are putting flapper valves on, will be eliminated.

“Scuppers, or outlets to allow for water drainage, were installed so any water that does get trapped behind the bulkhead will now be able to drain back into Nantucket’s harbor. Bricks will be removed and stored off-site.” New steel sheeting was be constructed in front of the existing wooden bulkhead. “Some of the existing wooden bulkhead had to be removed due to the fact that a pipe and four storm drains were in the old bulkhead,” explains Fronzuto. “In the past, that water – whether from the harbor or rain – would sit and contribute to the undermining of the structure. More wooden pilings were installed, these chiefly for maintaining the aesthetic found in this especially scenic area of the town of Nantucket. Behind the new steel installed was also quite a bit of excavation and strengthening of the bulkhead.”

The Massachusetts Department of Energy and Environmental Affairs awarded a $153,600 grant to fund the design and permitting for the project. Construction money totaling $1.7 million from a two percent loan from the state over a period of 20 years was approved at Nantucket’s Annual Town Meeting in 2015.

The project clearly is needed to maintain this highly-visible bulkhead in an extremely high traffic area of Nantucket, an historic town which is one of the few in the United States in which the entire town is on the National Historic register. In the end, it paid to have something done before things got even worse. Visitors to Nantucket appreciate the lovely views from this spot, a new bulkhead with its 18 inches extra of height, held in place with the help of reliable wire rope cable doing the initial heavy lifting. The spot has an even more secure feel to it.

To the north, in Provincetown, Massachusetts, off-island, as those on Nantucket would phrase it; massive crane work goes on to remove the Artemus. This is a defunct fishing vessel abandoned on the West End breakwater of this Cape Cod town back in March of 2018. The goal was to get the old craft out of the water, where it had been in place until just before July 2018. This scenic town at the tip of Cape Cod set aside some $40,000 to move the old boat to the MacMillan Pier. Winkler Crane and Construction Company has been around this summer, 2018, hauling off bits and pieces of the craft. Town officials christened the Artemus an “attractive nuisance,” something of a new tourist attraction in this popular vacation destination. Visitors snapped pictures as the crane, and its wire rope cables, lifted the old steel-hulled ship out of the water, placing it on wood blocks. “You never know what you are going to see down here at the wharf,” says Geoff Semonian, a local wood worker and carver with a workshop right on the pier in Provincetown.

Provincetown waited for the high tide on the night of August 14th to float the boat to the end of the wharf where it was lifted, cut into a handful of pieces, and loaded onto a truck, according to the town’s manager. Eventually, the old fishing boat will be sliced up even further after being taken offsite. Town officials at one point sought to obtain restitution for the removal costs from the vessel’s owner, who’s also charged with littering. In this case the “litter” had to be lifted by crane and wire rope cable.

Cranes and wire rope cable, solving problems.
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TARIFFS CONTINUED

This article is a continuation of the author’s previous Slingmakers column and report to the AWRF convention in Scottsdale, Arizona. It has been compiled from personal logs of daily global trade activities. Comments by AWRF members relative to the subject of tariffs have been many and varied.

The United States is currently engaged in trade negotiations with China, the NAFTA countries, the G-7 and the G-20. Some of the talks are multilateral and others are bilateral. President Trump prefers bilateral engagement but seems willing to interact with legitimate international organizations as well.

EU

The U.S. has threatened to impose a universal 20% to 25% duty on imported cars and light trucks on the basis of preservation of national security. Germany would be hardest hit since they run the largest EU trade surplus with the U.S. Their car dealers have even suggested a no tariff policy both ways. The President is also considering a uranium tariff.

In June, there were two failed attempts in the Senate to make the presidential national security prerogative subject to Senate approval. In July, the Senate voted overwhelmingly to require unspecified, unenforceable and thus largely symbolic oversight.

If the EU voted to remove its auto tariffs, they would be required to do so across the board under the “Most Favored Nations” clause of the World Trade Organization. This would open the European market to cheap Chinese imports and also take away a key proprietary bargaining chip.

To circumvent high EU tariffs, Harley Davidson is moving a part of its production to Europe and elsewhere. They already have plants in Brazil and Australia. Perhaps other companies will follow, and in fact Tesla announced on July 10th that it would build a factory in Shanghai.

But, was all the U.S. saber rattling a hardball negotiating tactic designed to rally our allied trading partners against China? The tenor of the White House meeting on July 25th with EU president, Jean-Claude Juncker, would suggest a significant de-escalation of trade tensions between the U.S. and the twenty-eight European Union countries. (The UK has not yet completed withdrawal pursuant to BREXIT.) It would certainly appear that the U.S. and Europe have called a truce and would like to negotiate “zero tariffs” all around. Such an arrangement would leave America free to focus on China trade with allies to back him up. But the devil is in the detail. For example, will the EU buy more expensive liquefied natural gas from the U.S. or the cheaper pipeline product from Russia? For this truce to endure, there must be sacrifices on both sides. Furthermore, this apparent emotional common ground is quite vulnerable to the vagaries of the egos involved in the negotiations.

G-20

International trade groupings often overlap, their only commonality being that they trade with one another. The G-20 is comprised of Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the EU, the UK and the USA. Some of these entities are also members of other commercial alliances, such as the G-7 OR NAFTA. The 28 countries of the European Union, of course, also negotiate separately as do many other countries who enter both bilateral and multilateral trade deals.

The G-20 began talks in Buenos Aires on July 21st. The meeting ended with little progress on resolving global trade tensions. While the theme of the meeting was intended to concentrate on infrastructure development, recent U.S. tariffs and the retaliatory effects thereof were a constant reminder of whether worldwide economic growth would likely be affected by escalating customs duties—the U.S. Secretary of Treasury, Steven Mnuchin, thought not and concluded that in his opinion, the meeting was very productive.
To further complicate matters, in August, the Turkish lira plunged in reaction to U.S. sanctions over the protracted detention of an American pastor accused of espionage. Then on August 10th, President Trump doubled U.S. tariffs on Turkish imports to diminish the attraction of purchasing their goods. Will the deepening wedge now separating the U.S. and Turkey affect our important military alliance?

**Indo-Pacific Region**

In a speech to the Indo-Pacific Business Forum in late July, Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo, said the U.S. administration is dedicated to deeper regional engagement. He emphasized that the U.S. wanted partnerships as opposed to domination. While the U.S. currently has only three bilateral trade agreements in the region (Australia, Singapore and South Korea) there are more than 150 such pacts between other nations in that locale. The U.S. expression of dedication carries with it the President's preference for bilateral trade expansion as opposed to more involvement with coalitions. President Trump's withdrawal from the Trans-Pacific Partnership as one of his first foreign policy moves made his intentions clear on this subject.

The remaining eleven countries in the TPP (Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam) have since changed the group's commercial designation to the “Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership.” Meanwhile, the U.S. military has converted its regional command classification from “Pacific Command” to “Indo-Pacific Command.” It appears that the new labels are only cosmetic, designed to give these partnerships the appearance of renewed vigor.

From August 1st through August 3rd, at the first meeting the ten-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), Secretary Pompeo said the U.S. would make a “down payment” of $113M to help develop the region's digital connectivity, infrastructure and energy resources. Although China is willing to enter multilateral agreements, the U.S. has shunned broad trade deals—instead looking to renegotiate past treaties which it deems unfair. Four of these former trading partners are members of the Trans-Pacific alliance. While Southeast Asia has sought to mitigate the impact of a regional trade war, it is moving ahead with a sixteen country, Chinese backed, “Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership.”

**G-7**

The G-7 is comprised of our three most important trading partners in the EU, Germany, France and Italy; the UK, having voted to leave the EU under BREXIT; Japan and Canada. Trade talks with Canada overlap between the G-7 and NAFTA inasmuch as Canada is a member of both. Russia was once a G-7 participant, but was expelled based upon their behavior in the Ukraine, Georgia and the Crimea. The U.S. believes it would be better than not to have Russia in the G-7, but Russia does not seem to be concerned either way.

The G-7 met near Quebec City on June 9th. There appeared to be some general progress until the following day when Prime Minister Trudeau held a press conference in which he declared that Canada would not be pushed around by the U.S. trade team, which by then was on the way to Singapore to meet with the North Korean delegation. President Trump's reaction to Mr. Trudeau's statement was to go back to square one with Canada, threatening retaliation for their dairy product surpluses. Although President Trump has concluded that the U.S. has a $100 billion overall trade deficit with Canada, they say we have a surplus. In intervention, Germany's Chancellor Merkel has suggested a fact finding panel. Meanwhile, the U.S. has circumvented Canadian dairy tariffs by producing an ultra-filtered dairy product which may be used to make cheese and yogurt.

Canada next retaliated with near threatened duties on frozen pizza, orange juice, ketchup and chocolate. The U.S. then unleashed its 20% to 25% tariff proposal on autos, sending German car dealers to the table to suggest zero tariffs on all vehicles. President Trump says “how many Chevrolets do you see in the streets of Frankfurt?” And BMW, Mercedes and Volkswagen continued to boost production at their plants in the U.S.
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Meanwhile, the EU is in trade discussions with Australia and New Zealand, and Japan wants to make new deals with China. As a further complication, India, the fastest growing large economy in the world, imposed new tariffs on some U.S. products. Donald Tusk, President of the EU Council, called it “the largest bilateral trade deal ever.”

Meanwhile, the EU is in trade discussions with Australia and New Zealand, and Japan wants to make new deals with China. As a further complication, India, the fastest growing large economy in the world, imposed new tariffs on some U.S. products. Donald Tusk, President of the EU Council, called it “the largest bilateral trade deal ever.”

The alternative to renegotiation is total withdrawal from the 24-year-old Treaty, which requires six months notice in writing. The three countries would then be free to negotiate bilateral agreements with each other. Until new agreements were reached, the three countries would be governed by the rules of the World Trade Organization which would amount to an average of tariffs of 3.5% for the U.S., 4.1% for Canada and 7% for Mexico.

Duties on agricultural products would be particularly severe which would be a major hit to U.S. farmers, many of whom rely on exports.

Principal opponents to terminating NAFTA are Canada, Mexico and the U.S. Congress. Domestic differences between the U.S. executive and legislative branches are not easily resolved because of conflicting provisions within the U.S. Constitution. While Congress has the power to regulate foreign commerce, the President has treaty making authority with the advice and consent of the Senate.

At one point in May, the U.S. seemed to be making some progress with Canada on dairy and lumber exchanges. With Mexico, we had dropped the requirement that all cars traded duty-free in the NAFTA bloc have 50% U.S. content and Mexico had agreed that a certain percentage of autos manufactured there would involve high-wage labor.

However, on July 1st, the landscape changed:

1. Mexico elected a new populist President, Lopez Orbador, at that point unknown on trade issues.
2. Canada imposed tariffs on $12.5B worth of goods coming from the U.S., including yogurt, motor boats, ketchup and lawn mowers. The duties range from 10% to 25%. and
3. The U.S. renewed its threat to impose import duties from 20% to 25% on vehicles.

Nevertheless, optimism still prevails:

1. Robert Lighthizer, the U.S. Trade Representative, says he believe we can still reach a NAFTA deal.
2. Congressman Kevin Brady (R-TX), whose House Committee oversees trade, says there is still common ground.

and

3. Canadian Foreign Minister, Chrystia Freeland, notes “meaningful progress.”

The two major unknowns are how the new Mexican leadership will react and whether or not President Trump’s patience will hold out.

Mr. Orbador has begun to reach out to his NAFTA partners, with a new “action plan on trade, security, migration and development.” New talks between the U.S. and Mexico are part of the Trump plan designed to increased exports and lower the U.S. trade deficit. The longer advantage sought is to enlist NAFTA allies in the U.S. standoff with China. If the U.S. is able to reach a bilateral agreement with Mexico on cars, it could lead to a more palatable NAFTA pact for all North Americans. However, a five-year sunset clause remains a serious point of contention.

The following sketch summarizes the timetable and issues of the current negotiations.

Procedure & Timing

1. Follow statutory “Trade Promotion Authority.”
2. President gives notice to Congress 90 days before signing revised three-way Agreement.
3. Preparation of full and finished text.
5. Congress begins debate.
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“I wanted to shoot, but the only option would have been indiscriminately spraying the town with lead. That is not my way; I am a warrior, not a savage. If I could make a beast of myself, then things would be a lot different. Something beyond rage had control of me, but not completely. I kept a small thread of humanity, and so I could not pull the trigger, I will not allow myself to murder in a fit of wrath.”

Knowing right from wrong and thereby making sound ethical decisions can be a challenge during the best of times. In a combat situation like the one described above, where then Corporal Van Wey is faced with having to come to terms with an ambush on his patrol—administering first aid to a friend that has just lost both his legs and having to control a chaotic situation—making the right decision could be the difference between keeping one’s humanity and character intact, or losing oneself to the savagery and psychological trauma of human conflict. One of the keys to making the right decision in combat is a thorough indoctrination to ethics and to ethical decision making.2

The U.S. Military establishment has long incorporated ethics training in all phases of professional development, from boot camp to senior officer education at the various War Colleges.

While the imperative of ethics training is easy to understand for the military, it is equally as important in the business world. Business ethics, or rather the lack of them, is on constant display in the news media. From Enron, to Madoff’s Ponzi scheme, to the latest belated automotive recall, the effects of unethical decision-making are both clear and shocking. But, these dramatic examples are just the tip of the iceberg. The bottom-line is that unethical behavior is bad for business:

• It destroys customer and vendor confidence
• It reduces revenue and profitability
• It erodes employee morale, productivity, and loyalty
• It obliterates enterprise value

If not corrected, unethical behavior at any level, but especially at senior managerial levels, will ultimately destroy an organization. Much like a cancer that is left untreated, it will grow, and it will kill the cultural underpinnings of your business.

As in the combat example described above, the temptations to rationalize behavior and to twist ethical principles to fit the situation are far too frequent in the business world. Business leaders at all levels must form a mental armor against these inducements. Like the military warrior, the business warrior must turn to the study and practice of ethics.

At the next senior leadership, staff, sales, or production meeting, take a few minutes to examine your organization’s stated values and/or business ethics.

• Are your vision and mission statements aligned with your stated values?
• Does the communication and behavior of your managers exemplify these values and ethics?

Take a survey of new employees hired within the last 12 months—what percentage knows the values and/or ethics policies you have in place?

In short, take the ethical pulse of your business, and if it is not where you think it needs to be, turn to a deliberate program of ethics and character training to give you and your team the mental armor you need to survive and to prosper in today’s business world.

1. Leila Fadel, “A Man of Words and Deed” Star-Telegram, October 12, 2004
2. Ethics Training – Mental Armor for Today’s Warrior; Paper presented to the International Society for Military Ethics, http://isme.tamu.edu/ISME07/Pankhurst07.html

“Ethics: Mental Armor for Today’s Business Warrior”

“In looking for people to hire, you look for three qualities: integrity, intelligence, and energy. And if they don’t have the first, the other two will kill you.”

Warren Buffet, CEO, Berkshire Hathaway

“There’s right and there’s wrong, and nothing in between.”

James P. Owen, “Cowboy Ethics”
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WE REMEMBER
Ground Zero - World Trade Center New York City, USA
Fall Fruits and Vegetables

With summer over for another year, you may find yourself eating fewer fruits and vegetables. At least that’s what research has discovered. But research has also found that people who eat fruits and vegetables throughout the year have a lower risk for diseases like heart disease and cancer.

We’re heading into Florida’s fall growing season. And although summer’s flavorful watermelon and squash are heading out of season, fall has its own share of fruits and vegetables that pack a whole lot of health benefits. Here’s a few to consider:

**Avocados.**
They’re loaded with vitamins and minerals, and healthy fats that have been shown to protect against heart disease. They’re also great on salads, sandwiches, and mashed into a delicious guacamole.

**Cabbage.**
Cabbage is more than just an ingredient for coleslaw. Its crunchy texture makes it a perfect addition to salads, or even on top of a taco instead of lettuce. Best of all, it’s loaded with chemicals that are part of our body’s natural detoxification system that helps to fight certain cancers.

**Tomatoes.**
Is it a fruit or a vegetable? Well technically, fruit! Either way, tomatoes are a powerhouse of nutrition. They’re rich in vitamin C and vitamin A, and a great source of potassium. And we’ve learned from the Mediterranean diet, they’re very heart-healthy.

**Carrots.**
This vegetable isn’t just orange anymore. Now, it comes in a rainbow of colors. But that doesn’t change the fact that carrots are loaded with vitamins and fiber. In fact, one medium carrot provides 6% of your daily vitamin C needs. This helps your body to better absorb iron and supports a healthier immune system.

**Apples.**
Believe it or not, they are tasty enough to be eaten without a thick caramel coating! Fall is the perfect season to bring an apple to snack on wherever you go. Apples are low-calorie, surprisingly filling, and are packed with fiber and vitamin C.

To help you get into the spirit of autumn, try this tasty recipe developed by our very own Chef Edwin.

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**Cumin Roasted Carrots**

**INGREDIENTS**
4 cups carrots, bias cut
1 ½ teaspoons extra virgin olive oil
1 ½ teaspoon cumin seeds, toasted
½ teaspoon ground black pepper
½ teaspoon ground cinnamon

**DIRECTIONS**
In a large bowl, combine all ingredients and toss to coat.
Spread carrots in a single layer on prepared baking sheet pan.
Roast carrots at 400° for 25 to 30 minutes, turning carrots once, until golden brown or caramelized.

**Nutrition facts per serving**
(Serves 6):
Calories: 52
Fat: 1.5g
Saturated Fat: 0.2g
Cholesterol: 0mg
Sodium: 33mg
Carbohydrates: 9.6g
Fiber: 2.8g
Protein: 1.3g
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“A Personal Understanding”
STRESS and its Impact on our Lives!

Everyday each of us are faced with some kind of STRESS, may it be our job, kids, family or just the simple fact of the unknown. In almost all studies stress is linked to the illnesses our bodies encounter. I wonder how many of us have considered what life really means and is stress, of any kind, worth our mental and physical health?

Recently, I encountered some STRESS in my personal life; where I was not sleeping well due to my racing thoughts of all the things I had to juggle in life: job, kids and their activities, maintaining a house, being a wife, being a sister, keeping up with social life, not attending church and so on. In the end, I found myself in the doctor's office telling of my fatigue, trouble sleeping, gaining weight, not exercising, grouchiness, overly emotional and, in general, not being my happy self. Yes, I put on a front in public but behind doors I was miserable causing yet more STRESS. Why did I let this happen? In my opinion, it was choices I made, and STRESS was the consequence of my choices.

The reason I am sharing my experience is that when we make the choice not to balance our lives by managing time, exercising, proper eating, sleeping, etc… then STRESS will take over.

To better understand how to take our lives back from STRESS we truly must understand what is important in life and what is not and apply it every day.

Exercise is one of the most of important things to do to eliminate stress: it produces endorphins in the brain that act as natural painkillers which in turn reduces stress. One helpful hint to all of us who travel we say that there is not enough time in the day to get in any exercise. I recently traveled with a co-worker from the Netherlands and when he is in the airport, a lot during the week, he walks the wings which means he walks each terminal to get in his daily exercise.

Sleep is very important for our mental health. When we do not get enough sleep, it causes our stress level to go up due to inability to focus and increased irritability during the day. Experts recommend adults to get eight hours of sleep per night to reduce stress.

Diet is probably one of the most difficult things for us salesmen on the road and individuals to control and reduce stress. Eating well-balanced meals during the day; high in fiber, protein, vitamin C and antioxidants greatly helps reduce stress. Reducing caffeine, sugar and alcohol also helps reduce stress and anxiety.

Job is a necessity for us to make a living for our families. However, a lot of times in our jobs we put more stress on ourselves than our employers do. Managing time and duties are a key factor in reducing our stress on the job.

Social Life is very important to our mental health as well. We need family and friend time to make memories, laugh, and to feel loved. Being loved is probably one of the best stress relievers anyone can have!

Choices always have a good or bad consequence, so let’s work together as an AWRF family and apply some of these techniques in our lives to live a happier, healthier, and an overall reduced stress life.
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What a great opportunity you have to take advantage of the online safety video program that has been set up for AWRF members. With 24/7 access to over 250 safety videos, you can help keep your employees safe. By using the free tokens, you can access the videos from any computer, anywhere! 90% of the videos are available in both English and Spanish with a downloadable quiz. Ask us how to use your free tokens.

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The QHSE committee and the Board of Directors urges that your safety manager/team takes advantage of this important resource. With 2.9 million non-fatal workplace injuries and illnesses reported by private industry, we need to do our part in reducing these numbers.

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Delta Rigging & Tools – A Bishop Lifting Company
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Allison Higginbotham
“N.A.C.M. Scholarship”
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Aaron Hughes
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Jordyn McMullen
WireCo Worldgroup
State Fair Community College

Abigail Paskey
Ken Forging
Kent State University

Celina Roman
“16 Guys Award”
Mazzella Companies
State College of Florida
AWRF General Meeting  
San Antonio, TX  
SCHEDULE OF SPEAKERS AND PRESENTATIONS

Monday – October 15th, 2018

7:00 a.m.   Networking Breakfast

7:30 a.m.   **AWRF Safety Award Plaques** – Presentation to Companies

8:00 a.m.   **Chris Richardson** – Lone Star Rigging – “B30.30 Update”

9:00 a.m.   **Howard Mavity** – Fisher & Phillips LLP – “When Something Fails”

10:00 a.m.  **Lt. Col. Oliver North U.S.M.C. Retired** – “America the Exceptional”

11:00 a.m.  **Book Signing/Meet & Greet** –
Lt. Col. Oliver North U.S.M.C. Retired

Tuesday – October 16th, 2018

7:00 a.m.   Networking Breakfast

8:00 a.m.   **Don Pellow, P.E.** – Pellow Engineering Services – “Rigging Hardware Failures”

9:00 a.m.   **Matt Gardiner, P.E./Kevin Kianka, P.E.** – HAAG Engineering – “3D Drone/Accident Review”

10:00 a.m.  **Greg D’Elia** – Slingmax – “Sling Protection/Pads”

11:00 a.m.  **Bobby LaChapelle** – Able Rigging Contractors – “Tower Cranes”

12:00 p.m.  **Rene Vallant & Nicholas Chase** – pewag Chain, Inc. – “Biometric Presentation”

12:45 p.m.  Adjourn

*Subject to Change*
Chris L. Richardson  Monday 8:00 am

President at Lone Star Rigging, LP in Beaumont, Texas. He started in the Rigging Industry in 1994 and worked primarily with Bechtel in the Rigging and Iron Worker craft. In 2000 he went to work for Maxim Crane Works in Sales and Lift Planning. In September of 2004 he founded Lone Star Rigging. Over the years as Lone Star Rigging has grown, it has expanded into rentals, designing and building a full line of lifting equipment. Chris’s focus is in the crane rental industry where he specializes in wire rope performance issues and in lift design.

Chris is involved in several industry associations such as ASME, AWRF, OIPEEC, WSTD, SC&RA and the Cordage Institute. Chris is an Alternate Member of the ASME B30 Main Committee and a member of ASME B30.30, ASME P30 and is also a member of the AWRF technical board and a former AWRF Board of Director.

Other interests include spending time with his pride and joy, 6-year-old son Jack, building various things in their garage. Chris also enjoys Photography, helping out at his Church, St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica in Beaumont, Texas to fill up the rest of his time.

Howard A. Mavity, Fisher & Phillips LLP  Monday 9:00 am

Howard Mavity founded and co-chairs the Firm’s Workplace Safety and Catastrophe Management Practice Group and has been involved in the acquisition and development of many of the Firm’s 33 Offices in his over 34 years with the Firm.

Howard grew up working in his family’s Wire Rope & Rigging and trucking businesses. He draws on that experience to provide commonsense employment, labor and OSHA solutions. Howard started as a traditional labor lawyer, providing management with legal counsel in over 230 occasions of union activity. He has managed 560 OSHA fatality cases ranging from dust explosions to building collapses. He has dealt with OSHA and employment law matters in almost every state.

Howard has provided legal counsel for over 230 occasions of union activity and guided unionized companies. He was one of the first labor attorneys involved in issues involving unlawfully used drugs, infectious disease, and workplace violence. Howard has been quoted in USA Today, the Wall Street Journal, Forbes, CNBC, and NPR. In 2013 Howard was one of the few attorneys named one of the “50 Most Influential EHS Leaders” by EHS Today. He was recognized as a Top Author in the 2016 JD Super Readers’ Choice Awards, which acknowledges authors for their thought leadership writing. He is editor of F & P’s Workplace Safety and Health Law Blog. Howard was selected as one of the Best Employment Attorneys in the U.S. in 2016 and 2017. He has regularly been featured as one of the “Georgia Super Lawyers” in the Atlanta Magazine survey since. Howard speaks at a national MBA program and at Georgia Tech and the Georgia Tech Research Institute. He is one of the instructors at the AGC’s Advanced Safety Management Training Class and serves on the AGC – National, Georgia, and Carolinas Safety Committees. Howard is a 1981 graduate of Vanderbilt University with a BA in economics with honors, and a 1984 graduate of the Vanderbilt School of Law. Howard is a former ranked runner and a mixed martial arts fighter. He has been involved for over 20 years with inner city and other Boy Scouts programs and various efforts working with the Hispanic community.

LTCOL OLIVER L. NORTH, USMC (Ret.)  Monday 10:00 am

Oliver North is a combat decorated U.S. Marine, a #1 best-selling author, the founder of a small business, an inventor with three U.S. patents, a syndicated columnist, and the president of the National Rifle Association.

North was born in San Antonio, Texas, graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and served 22 years as a Marine officer. His awards for service in combat include the Silver Star, the Bronze Star for valor and two Purple Hearts for wounds in action.

Assigned to the National Security Council staff in the Reagan administration, LtCol North was the United States government’s counter-terrorism coordinator from 1983-1986. He was involved in planning the rescue of 804 medical students on the island of Grenada and played a major role in the daring capture of the terrorists who hijacked the cruise ship Achille Lauro. After helping plan the U.S. raid on Muammar Qaddafi’s terror bases in Libya, North was targeted for assassination by Abu Nidal, the infamous terrorist killed in Baghdad in August, 2002. President Ronald Reagan described North as “an American hero.”

Since 2001, he has been the host of “War Stories” – the award-winning military documentary series on Fox News Channel – and has been embedded with more than 50 U.S. and allied combat units. North has authored fifteen books, each one of them have been national best sellers.

North is the founder of Freedom Alliance, a foundation providing college scholarships to the sons and daughters of U.S. military personnel killed in the line of duty. He claims his most important accomplishment is being “the husband of one, the father of four and the grandfather of seventeen.”
**Don Pellow, P.E., Pellow Engineering Services, Inc.**
*Chair of the Associated Wire Rope Fabricators Technical Committee*

Native of Kansas City • Graduated from the University of Kansas with B.S. in Engineering Physic • Employed at Arnco Steel – Union Wire Rope Division from 1966-198 • Became Director of Technical Services at Union Wire Rope • In 1988, Union Wire Rope Division was sold to Wire Rope Corp. in St. Joseph, MO, where Don stayed as Manager of Engineering Services until 1994 • In 1994, founded Pellow Engineering Services, Inc. which has three main directives: Litigation Services as Forensic Engineer and Expert Witness in crane accidents and wire rope & sling failures, Engineering Consultant to Bob's Industrial Publications, which is the new owner of Bob's Rigging & Crane Handbooks & Rigging Reference Cards and Training of engineers, crane operators and riggers in construction and industrial settings • Licensed and Registered Professional Engineer in Kansas and Missouri • Member of National Society of Professional Engineers • Member of Kansas City Chamber of Commerce and Hispanic Chamber of Commerce • Member of Kansas City Plaza Rotary Club • Chairman of Technical Committee of the Associated Wire Rope Fabricators Association • Authored many articles and given many presentations on Crane Accidents, Wire Rope and Sling Accidents and Engineering Design & Testing.

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**Matthew R. Gardiner, P.E., HAAG Engineering**

Matthew R. Gardiner, P.E., is a Principal Engineer with the nation's oldest forensic engineering firm, Haag Engineering Co., in Sugar Land, Texas. He has been with Haag since 2005, and has investigated over 500 crane and rigging accidents in nearly every state during that time. He is a member of the ASME B30.5 subcommittee for the development and maintaining of our mobile crane standards, and is an alternate on the B30 main committee. Mr. Gardiner is a 1999 graduate of Ohio University with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, and is a licensed Professional Engineer in 24 states.

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**Kevin Kianka, P.E., HAAG Engineering**

Mr. Kianka, a licensed Professional Engineer in six states, serves as the Director of Operations for Haag 3D Solutions, a division of Haag Engineering Co. In this role, Mr. Kianka oversees the services in the southern US, along with office data processing, modeling and deliverable development of all Haag 3D Solutions projects. Specialty areas of service include forensic documentation, building as-built verification, 3D Model creation, 3D Clash Detection, and utility/component conflict identification. Mr. Kianka oversees H3DS' GIS group that specializes in servicing clients with Geographic Information Systems (GIS) needs, including providing on-site consulting and data processing services for several clients.

Mr. Kianka is a FAA licensed sUAS pilot and oversees the UAS (Unmanned Aerial Systems) services for Haag Engineering Co. He is the lead pilot for all forensic and incident scenes for Haag nationwide and is responsible for overseeing the deployment of UAS services both internally and for clients. Duties include establishing standards for maintenance and repair, pre-flight, flight and post-flight procedures and documentation requirements. In addition, Mr. Kianka has worked to establish protocols for data collection so that clients and pilots are aware of what is being requested so that the end product is capable of meeting the client’s needs, whether it be a photograph, video, plan, 3D Model, or other.

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**Greg D’Elia, Slingmax**

**Gregory D’Elia** is Director of Engineering for Slingmax Rigging Solutions. Prior to Slingmax, he had nine years of experience of engineering high performance ropes and strength members. He serves on the American Society of Mechanical Engineers B30.9 and B30.30 subcommittees for slings and ropes respectively. Greg is also the Chair of the Technical Operating Committee and the Roundsling Subcommittee for the Cordage Institute, and the chair of the Cordage and Cordage Slings Subcommittee for the AWRF Technical Committee. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and a Master of Engineering Management from Penn State University.
Robert C. LaChapelle currently holds the position of Executive Vice President and Principal of Able Rigging Contractors. He both manages and oversees field operations for all of Able’s foremost projects and specializes in ultra hi rise rigging: including tower crane erection and recovery, external and internal climbing tower cranes, electrical and mechanical rigging and derrick work.

Robert joined Able Rigging Contractors as a Master Rigger in 1999, and prior to his return in 2003, he served as a Superintendent for Skanska working on their East River Repair and NYP 500 projects.

Mr. LaChapelle has built a successful career in the construction rigging industry that began while working as a young man in his family’s rigging business. Robert is a third generation rigger, became a second generation Master Rigger in 1994 and studied rigging and construction at Pace University.

Nicholas Chase, pewag Chain, Inc. Tuesday 12:00 pm

After 10 years Active Duty in the United Sates Air Force, Nicholas Chase decided to set out on a professional career in triathlon; both as an athlete and coach/business owner. As owner of TRIBAL Multi-Sport with over 5 years of professional racing and athlete development, he has an incredible grasp on what it truly takes excel with performance and overall health. Nick has competed in over 55 triathlons while traveling the world, earning podiums and top-placing among the best in the in the business. As a coach, Nick focuses on communication with each athlete, and balancing training stress with life stress. Finally, as an avid food lover, Nick has plenty of knowledge when it comes to food choices, which can help add value to any training program. While in the military Nick managed the physical fitness program for over 500 Airmen and helped those who struggles to pass physical fitness testing. He loves what he does and will go above any beyond when it comes to helping athletes break through limitations that restrict performance. Nick has just officially joined the Pewag Racing team for 2018 and considers it one of his bigger accomplishments to date.

Rene Vallant, pewag Chain, Inc. Tuesday 12:00 pm

As a business professional and coach, I maintain a leading edge in science and industry knowledge in order to offer the highest quality of services to clients. I am responsible for every aspect of client health and performance, even while leading a highly skilled staff of coaches.

Qualifications

Business Operations: Responsible for contract negotiations with health providers, corporate sponsors, and clients. Oversee hiring and management of coaching staff. Oversee overall facilities management.

Client Services: Conduct scientific client testing in order to clearly define training requirements for both health and performance needs. Maintain an interactive client experience in developing and executing training and performance regimens.

Professional Experience

Vice President, Athletic Director and Manager
2013 to Present

Klagenfurt Austria and world wide

Responsible for all aspects of managing this triathlon racing team, including (but not limited to):

- Negotiating and securing contracts with Professional Triathletes from around the world.
- Maintaining a high level of team performance to represent at the highest level of quality.
- Logistics management in arranging training camps throughout world-wide locations for all team athletes.
- Manage all athletes through event scheduling, preparation of training plans to meet or exceed performance goals, monitor training efforts to adjust workouts as needed.

Continuing Professional Experience – 2000 to Present

- Adjunct Professor: Curriculum development for private academy
- Sport Advisory Board of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber: (2010 to 2015) Lobbyist
- Independent Sports Scientist: (2005 to Present) Provide independent medical evaluation
- Vital Coach: (2004 to Present)
- Sports Medicine Cooperative with Dr. Krösselhuber in Lienz (2004-Present) and Dr. Bitthofer/Dr. Wallner (2003-Present)
- Director/Co-Owner: www.Sport-Control.com Designed and developed the functionality provided by the Sport-Control web-based training management system.

Education

- 2003 – Present: Doctoral studies at the Institute for Sports Science at the Karl Franzens University in Graz, Austria.
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Over 140 years of experience, deep customer intimacy and forward-thinking vision, drive our development of innovative products for tomorrow’s workforce – from innovative manual hoists and rigging to best-in-class shank hooks.

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Maintaining Safety Standards

Article by: Christi G. Chambers, Chant Engineering Co. Inc.

Introduction

In the wire rope and rigging industry, liability risks exist in all areas of your company. From design and development activities, testing and compliance, manufacturing and quality control, to product literature, contracts, supply chain operations, marketing, warranties, and customer contact/field performance, product liability risks exist in everything you do. Chant Engineering Co. Inc. can help manage these risks.

This article will focus on ways to mitigate those liability risks through proper product testing. By taking a proactive approach to mitigate liability risks, you will put your company in a better position to more effectively and efficiently defend against litigation when it occurs. Unfortunately litigation is inevitable. How your company is prepared to defend against such litigation will have a major impact on your company's bottom line and the overall longevity of the company.

Safety Matters in Product Testing

Safety should always be considered the first priority in every aspect of the wire rope and rigging industry. It is extremely important to establish a solid safety plan. Every plan should begin with educating and training team members on proper safety measures and taking every step possible to protect your business and the end user from harm, risk and liability. The Associated Wire Rope Fabricators Association (AWRF) has issued a complete set of comprehensive guidelines for test bed operation, rigging shop safety and many others to help with all aspects of rigging and safety. Every company involved in the lifting and rigging industry should join AWRF as part of their best practices. The knowledge and contacts from AWRF are invaluable. See the conclusion of this article for complete contact information of the contributors to this article.

Testing Machinery

There are many options when buying testing machinery. Chant provides high quality, heavy duty machines that are designed for maximum operator safety. Each test bed is designed with the test area enclosed to minimize exposure in case of an unexpected test specimen failure or a destructive test. Each test bed has hydraulically operated safety guards that are interlocked to prevent the operator testing with the guard open. The test bed frames, load cells and all other components are designed with very high safety factors for full capacity break testing on a repetitive basis. This ensures that the day-to-day production proof testing can easily be run for multiple shifts with no test bed issues that could endanger an operator. We have also taken advantage of our many years of experience to manufacture our test beds with unique features and technology to minimize the operator’s workload.

Operator Safety

Safety measures for testing wire rope, synthetic rope, chains, hoists and other related rigging equipment begin with having the correct test bed in good working order and up to all of the current safety and calibration standards.
The proof test bed operator is next in the critical path for safety and compliance. Best practices include operators being trained and certified to proficiently operate the testing machinery. This can be challenging in the business world today with employee turnover and production deadlines. This means that continuing education and operator training is more important than ever. However, training often times takes a back seat to production. In addition to our on-site hands on training classes, Chant has responded to this by offering remote operator training on all of our machines. This is an efficient and cost effective solution allowing production to continue while Chant technicians work with the operator in real time on the test machine.

“Chant offers a comprehensive training program. Our highly-skilled technicians can quickly train operators how to properly utilize the proof test bed safely and guide them on what safety measures should be implemented in their facility. Training is essential as businesses can’t afford production downtime, especially with the employee turnover we see in rigging shops today. Chant’s training program can rapidly assist new operators to get up-to-speed to prevent time lost. Chant offers on-site and remote training options worldwide to its customers, depending on the situation”, said Sharon Mathis, Customer Relations Manager for Chant Engineering.

For every test an operator performs, they should always follow the best practices for safety. Below are some of the essentials to consider before performing the test on the specimen:

- Operator should be fully trained and authorized to run the test bed.
- Operator should always wear their Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or safety gear for their own safety. Safety gear could include: safety googles, hard hat, and steel or closed toed shoes. Follow the mandatory safety guidelines or rules required by your facility.
- Before any product can be tested, the operator should always perform a visual inspection of the test specimen.
- Know the exact boundaries of the work zone, limits should be clearly marked. Boundaries could be a fence, wall, or painted on the floor.
- Operator should validate whether the space is adequate to perform the test.
- Operator should check area all around the test bed to make sure it is clear. Check for any trip hazards, remove any debris and clean up any slick spots (oil spills) to prevent a potential fall.
- Operator should make sure only authorized personnel are within the designated work zone. Sometimes, if there are guests in-house while testing is going on, they may not understand testing procedures or the dangers that surround them. If an unauthorized employee or guest enters the work zone, stop the testing and warn them to stay away. Do not allow them to distract. Give them a quick consult to stay clear and make sure they are also wearing proper PPE.

Once all of the items above have been completed, the operator should be ready to perform the test.

**Recommended Procedures & General Safety Warnings During Testing:**

For a complete comprehensive guide, contact AWRF for their current Test Bed Safety Guideline.

- Always make sure you are familiar with the Manufacturer’s Operation Manual.
- Make sure that the test bed is functioning correctly and in calibration.
- If the operator is uncertain about the WLL (Working Load Limit) on the machine or fixtures, a supervisor should be alerted.
- Operator will load the test specimen, check for proper seating and alignment,
and make sure there are no kinks or twists on the test sample. The test sample should always be in-line with the travel of the ram.

- Testing set-ups requiring different components other than those specified should always be approved by a supervisor.

- Make sure the crosshead pins are fully seated into the holes with properly sized pin. Never use improper pin size.

- If using a wire rope grip, make sure you are using the correct size adapters and matched set of liners. Never mix and match liners and/or adapters. Mismatched liner and adapter sets can apply extreme forces which can cause a safety hazard, a serious injury or possibly death.

- Never substitute a fixture not designed for your test bed or force.

- Never perform a pull test with the barrier guard open. Operator must fully close the barrier guard. The test bed can produce a tremendous amount of force, which means it is critical to ensure the guard is fully closed. This will help prevent fragments from being expelled into the work space.

- Operator should observe the test from a safe location.

- It is the operator’s responsibility to notify and shout “Clear” to anyone in close in proximity to the test specimen that he/she is about to perform a test, so they know to clear the area.

- Operator can now safely perform the specimen test.

- After the test has been completed, the operator will need to make sure test bed is clear, remove any debris, and open the guards.

- Operator should perform a second visual inspection on the specimen to look for any defects after testing.

- Operator should always print out the test certificate for the product being tested to certify whether it passed or failed the test and tag it to the specimen.

Why Test?

Testing is used to certify that an assembly meets the required proof load or breaking strength. If applicable, testing is also performed to meet the customers required specifications of the specimen. In addition, end user safety is critical which is why testing should be at the forefront of every rigging shop procedures. Testing your finished product is one of your businesses most important services. However, you may not know that your testing is meaningless unless testing machinery is correctly calibrated and in compliance with the ASTM-E4, ISO7500, and by association ASTM-E74 and ISO17025 Standards traceable back to NIST. Along with meeting the standards, test data collection and retrieval is critical to protecting your business. It’s almost a given in today’s world of litigation that any product failure results in a lawsuit. When that happens, the company that calibrates your testing machinery becomes your partner and will need to demonstrate their accreditations, certifications, data retrieval and storage, best practices, etc. Select your calibration and test equipment supplier with this in mind.

**Protect Your Testing Machinery with Precise Calibration Using Industry Standards**

Calibration of testing machinery is to ensure product testing is accurate and the specimen is safe to use in the field. Standards are created for safety, consistency and best practices. Correct calibration will minimize errors and can increase productivity. The calibration of your equipment should be performed using the applicable standards, calibration methods and procedures. Using incorrectly calibrated machines can give wide test variations, invalid readings and increases liability.

The ASTM-E4 Standard requires calibration based on usage, but no longer than 18 months.
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Schedule of Events
AWRF GENERAL MEETING FALL 2018
Hyatt Regency, San Antonio, Texas

SUNDAY – 14 Oct 2018
7:30 – 11:00 a.m. – Board of Directors Meeting – Blanco
11:30 – 5:00 p.m. – Registration – Los Rios Foyer
5:00 – 5:30 p.m. – First Timer’s Reception – Chula Vista
5:30 – 7:00 p.m. – Opening Reception – Rio Grande Ballroom/Foyer

MONDAY – 15 Oct 2018
7:00 – 7:30 a.m. – Networking Breakfast – Regency Ballroom
7:30 – 11:30 a.m. – Safety Plaque Awards & General Business Session – Regency Ballroom
10:00 – 2:00 p.m. – Tour – Meet in Lobby at 9:45 a.m.; Bus departs at 10:00 a.m.
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Reception – Rio Grande Ballroom/Foyer

TUESDAY – 16 Oct 2018
7:00 – 7:30 a.m. – Networking Breakfast – Regency Ballroom
7:30 – 12:45 p.m. – General Business Session – Regency Ballroom
2:00 – 4:00 p.m. (approximately) – Fun Run/Walk – Meet in Lobby
6:00 – 7:00 p.m. – Reception – Regency Foyer
7:00 – 10:00 p.m. – AWRF Banquet – Regency Ballroom

WEDNESDAY – 17 Oct 2018
8:30 a.m. Shotgun – The Quarry – Meet in Hotel Lobby at 7:00 a.m.; Bus Departs at 7:15a.m.
4:30 – 6:00 p.m. – Closing Reception – Garden Terrace

*Subject to Change
Monday 10/15/18, 10:00 am

The Pearl Brewery is a 23 acre compound and community that sits proudly on the banks of the Museum Reach of the San Antonio River. This uniquely diverse community restores and rejuvenates older buildings and, seemingly by magic, turns them into something else. The Historic Pearl Brewery is an excellent example of that magic. The Pearl began as a small brewery in 1883. The perfect combination of German families and an abundance of natural springs in San Antonio gave way to beer production. This was home to the production of Pearl Beer until 2001. Today, Pearl is a culinary and cultural destination offering a dynamic and evolving environment. It is home to The Culinary Institute of America, one of only four in the nation. Additionally, the variety of renown chef owned restaurants, novelty shops and Hotel Emma makes Pearl a historic gathering place for all. After a walking tour, you will enjoy lunch at the Boiler House which is a true piece of Texas history offering a beautiful fusion of past and present day charm and artfully prepared, gourmet Texas Hill Country fare.

After lunch, you will have free time to explore on your own.
The Fun Run/Walk

Tuesday 10/16/18, 2:00 pm

Enjoy all of the beautiful scenery that San Antonio has to offer. Run, walk, skip, jump whatever your preference, take this opportunity to explore the city and get some exercise!

The BQT Entertainment

Tuesday 10/16/18

Comedian Pat Hazell will entertain us at the Banquet in San Antonio. Pat will perform a smaller version of his acclaimed touring show THE WONDER BREAD YEARS.

THE WONDER BREAD YEARS

A fresh and funny salute to Americana, The Wonder Bread Years starring Pat Hazell (former Seinfeld writer) is a fast-paced, hilarious production that gracefully walks the line between standup and theater.

Audiences across the country are enjoying a show that not only restores a much-needed sense of wonder, but leaves audiences laughing and savoring the past like never before. From sitting at the kids table to riding in the back of the Country Squire Wagon, The Wonder Bread Years is a comic bullseye for Baby Boomers everywhere.

Join us and enjoy the show!

The Quarry Golf Club

444 E. Basse Road San Antonio, Texas

Wednesday 10/17/18 - 8:30 am shot gun

Famous for supplying the cement for the State Capitol of Texas, the original rock quarry closed down in 1983 after nearly 100 years of operation. One tradition simply paved way for another, resulting in the unparalleled Quarry Golf Club Experience.

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Icelandic crane rental company DS Lausnir provided lifting and rigging gear, including a frame made of Modulift beams, to lift a 45t boat into water for the first time at a harbour in Hafnarfjörður on the southwest coast of the country, about 10km south of Reykjavík.

Lausnir chose a 250t capacity Grove GMK 5250 (a 2016 model) from its 14-strong fleet of mobile cranes to lift the 5.5m-wide and 12m-long vessel from the dockside into the sea, upon completion of the manufacturing process. Trefjar Ltd. makes a variety of fishing, passenger, and other fibreglass boats, in addition to aquaculture equipment and acrylic parts.

Below-the-hook, Lausnir employed 12m-long, 20t capacity slings and a frame comprised of MOD 50 beams, which each offer up to 50t at 8m or 26 ft. and up to 13m or 42 ft. at a lower capacity, but in this case combined to form a 550cm x 600cm frame utilising CMOD corner frames, from which additional slings were rigged to each of the four corners.

Daníel Sigurðarson, owner of DS Lausnir, said: “It was an easy choice as there is no other approved beam in Iceland that can handle a heavy lift like this. We do own a selection of [Modulift] beams but they are only for internal use, so we sourced the beams for this job directly. Their excellent service and fast response to our demands helps us minimize our own stock. It only took a couple of weeks to get what we needed delivered to Iceland.”

Sigurðarson explained that the engine of the boat, situated at its rear, created a slightly offset centre of gravity that had to be factored into the lift plans. Trefjar provided detailed specifications in advance of the lift so the appropriate lifting and rigger gear could be organised well in advance of the day of the lift.

Spreader and lifting frames are recommended for loads that have more than two lifting points; they are also ideal when headroom is limited. The most economical option is the CMOD modular spreader frame, whereby struts from the beam are combined with four corner units to complete the frame. Customers that already have struts can reuse them with the corner units to achieve four-point lifts. Such frames are also used when there are height restrictions as the height of the rig will be lower than a one-over-two configuration. Not that it was required in this case but Modulift recently developed a T-piece in conjunction with the CMOD, allowing the frame to become a six-point lift with a variety of span sizes.

In addition to its mobile fleet, DS Lausnir also boasts several truck-mounted cranes.
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LANDISVILLE, Pennsylvania – July 2018 – Lift-All Co. has developed a family of sling protection which is divided into two categories, Cut Protection and Wear Protection. Cut Protection Products are designed to improve workplace safety. When placed between slings and edges, cut protection products act as a buffer to help prevent sling cutting and to reduce bearing pressure levels against contact areas. Wear Protection Products serve to extend sling life by reducing abrasive wear and prevent marring of load surfaces.

“I am proud to introduce our new family of sling protection,” said Steve Pacilio, President of Lift-All. “We have spent a lot of time and testing to understand and differentiate cutting from abrasion and their effects on slings and we have developed patented solutions to these problems. Our goal is to help educate our consumers and help them to be as safe as possible”.

The new Lift-All catalog contains an entire section devoted to sling protection including the newly patented line of Cut Protection Products designed for a variety of applications and sling types. The Edge Defender is constructed of multiple layers of protection material with a Kevlar binding. The Edge Defender Flex-Plus is made with a double layer of Dyneema and is offered in a flat and tubular style. The Sling Shield, made from aluminum, offers a magnetic attachment that holds position against steel loads for easier rigging. These styles all have Velcro attachments which allow for removal, so the slings can be inspected.

Lift-All Co. has been manufacturing quality lifting and load securement products for over 50 years. With five manufacturing plants found across the USA, a leading Customer Service Department, highly qualified Engineers, and a solution oriented Field Sales Department, the support you need with the safety you deserve is only a phone call away.
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I was already 27 years into my career when I had a revelation. At the time, I thought I knew a few things about supervision. After all, I had been supervising others—or had been supervised myself—in one form or another for my entire career.

I considered myself to be a pretty good supervisor. Boy was I wrong.

I finally sat down and started studying supervision at a deep level. I read books and took courses from the best in the world on the subject. I then started applying what I learned at work when supervising my employees.

To be clear, I consider effective supervision as getting the job done through others in such a way that is (1) efficient; (2) that meets certain standards of quality and other expectations; and (3) that leads to a high degree of employee engagement.

I didn’t become a better supervisor overnight. There was a lot of trial and error. Some tactics I used when supervising others worked well, and others didn’t. I kept trying and studying more.

Eventually, I started noticing patterns. After enough time, I could take these patterns and turn them into a series of rules. When I followed these rules, my team accomplished more and everyone was happy.

But when I violated these rules, things would backfire quickly. My team got less work done and it was of lesser quality. There also tended to be more “drama” and low morale.

My revelation was this: being an effective supervisor of others comes down to a science. There are a series of rules you can learn that will make you a better supervisor.

It doesn’t matter if you’re the CEO of a major corporation or a construction foreman. It also doesn’t matter what kind of personality type you have either.

If you follow these rules, you will see positive results.

You’ll notice improved output from individual employees. You’ll also see greater synergy when having employees work on teams.

Another one of my favorite benefits? Less drama and improved morale among employees. If you’ve ever been in a toxic work environment, you understand the big toll negative emotions can have on the business. On the other hand, an environment where employees are happy and engaged leads to improved productivity.

I decided to share these rules of supervision because they have been extremely valuable both to me and to the clients I work with. These rules can help whether you have the word “supervisor” in your job title, or whether you’re a manager, or the leader of an entire business.

Over the next several posts, I will discuss what these rules of supervision are and how you can apply them at your business.

I have taken all of these rules of supervision and organized them into larger categories that I call “principles”:

The 11 Principles of Supervising People

My motto on supervision is “give people power to do an excellent job so you can gain power by getting results.”

1. Master the influence process
2. Create focus and alignment around expectations
3. Master thought leadership and change management
4. Set standard of excellence.
5. Give feedback and train people
6. Recognize and reward people
7. Work yourself out of a job (Stewardship vs Directorship)
8. Create a balanced risk-taking culture
9. Build teams for collaboration
10. Build a value based culture to create meaning in work

In upcoming articles, I will be addressing each of these principles. Stay tuned!
So, how do you become a person of influence?
There is a formula:

**Be:**

The “Be” part of the formula is about authenticity and trust. If the other person does not feel you are being authentic, then your interactions will come across as fake. There’s no way of faking authenticity either, which is why any beliefs and values you want the other person to embrace must be genuine.

To develop trust, the other person must not only have trust in your character but also in your competency (i.e., your ability to deliver the end result you are promising). The other person should also feel safe and be willing to open up to you.

**Do:**

The “Do” part of the formula is about two things. First, it involves what actions you must take to motivate the other person to change. Second, it involves equipping or enabling the other person to actually make the change. In other words, the other person must not only want to change but also have the ability to change. Don’t just tell someone to change—get them to want to change along with the tools to do it.

The motivational drive and the skills required to make the behavior change is best captured in the formula below:

You must focus on helping the other person identify “pain” or “gaps” in his/her existing behavior. Provide feedback regarding the person’s behavior or his/her lack of desired results.

But, it’s not just about avoidance of pain. You must also paint a positive picture of the future too.

Both of these things come down to vision. Give the person a vision for what is possible—both in terms of the pain they could avoid and the benefits they could reap.

As for “Small Steps,” this involves getting the person to take certain actions that will take them towards the larger goal you have in mind. The idea is for the person to experience a series of smaller victories so that the larger goal feels much more attainable.

The “Small Steps” could also include providing incentives and accountability tied to any changes the person makes. You can also enlist the help of others to help motivate the person. This sort of social pressure can go a long way.

**Conclusion**

Once you learn how to become a person of influence, your ability to supervise others will improve tremendously. You won’t have to spend so much time micromanaging others, as they will already know what you want of them—and their contributions will be much more impactful.
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Press Release

New-England-based Yale Cordage Acquires One of the Largest Test Beds in Eastern US

[June 14, 2018] Yale Cordage announced its acquisition of a Sahm Splice test bed, with capacity for destructive and non-destructive testing of synthetic rope, wire rope, shackles, chain, and slings up to 1,300,000 pounds in tensile and a low-range capacity of up to 250,000 pounds. With a maximum test sample length of 116 feet with a 15 foot stroke, it is one of the largest and most capable test beds in the eastern United States.

“We are very excited to bring this added test capability to Yale for our existing and future clients,” says Bill Putnam, President of Yale Cordage. “We’re constantly striving to take the synthetic rope industry to new heights and test the limits of our engineering capacity, and this test bed is just the next step in helping us achieve that mission.”

Yale was founded in 1950 by O. Sherman Yale, who early on recognized the value and cost-saving potential for synthetic fiber technology. Now, nearly 70 years later, Yale’s products span multiple industrial applications, and Yale rope, Fortis2 and LOUPS slings, cables, and other products are found on every continent - on the deep sea bed, in outer space, and under the arctic ice.

The machine includes built-in programs and customization available for load testing including cyclic, bend over sheave and proof load testing. All tests can be done wet or dry. Beyond serving to proof load Yale’s products, Yale is also making the test bed available to companies at large for the following services:

- Destructive test for wire ropes according to ASTM A931, ISO 3108, or EN12385-1:2002
- Destructive test for fiber ropes according to CI 1500 or EN2307
- Basic Proof Load
- Proof Load with Unload
- Configurable Proof Load
- Elongation according to CI 1500 or EN2307
- Cyclic testing
- Thousand Cycle Load Level test (TCLL)

Schedule a load testing by calling Yale Cordage at (207) 282-3396.

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Running a Safe Shop is Not the Same Thing as Being in OSHA Compliance

Safety involves two tracks – the first and most important track, is to create a culture where employees know that management expects them to take their time, think, and do the work safely.

The second and almost as important track is to ensure compliance with every jot and tittle of OSHA’s regulations (“Standards”). And trust me, not all OSHA Standards are intuitive … it is possible to be running a safe shop and miss certain OSHA requirements, or you may not DOCUMENT your procedures, training, and reasons for how you perform certain tasks.

Under Fed-OSHA’s current Penalty calculations, most first time Citations will be characterized as “Serious,” and cost as much as $12,934. Serious violations can include failure to have chemical Safety Data Sheets (SDS), an unlabeled switch or hole in an electric cabinet, or a misadjusted guard on a simple grinder.

Repeat Citations are the Big Dollar OSHA Risk

If you go to OSHA’s website, you will see that the biggest OSHA penalties are not for fatalities – these big penalties are assessed for Repeat violations of common OSHA violations, such as:

• Missing or inadequate guarding
• Blocked exits, extinguishers or electric panels
• Failure to have machine-specific Lock Out procedures
• Failure to annually evaluate every machine-specific Lock-Out procedure
• Damaged extension cords, missing labels in electric cabinets, holes in cabinets and wires running to machines that droop and are not adequately supported (and “might” over time pull out from fixtures); or
• Failure to determine if an activity exposed employees above a PEL to hazardous chemical vapors.

Once you are cited for common items, those citations can serve as the basis for a Repeat violation if it is cited again at ANY company location for FIVE years.

If you have multiple locations, what are the odds that a few employees never received documented training on swaging, testing, or pouring sockets. A second Citation could cost as much as $129,336

Smaller Locations, including Rigging Shops, can become Complacent

OSHA is a small Agency with limited resources and smaller locations rarely encounter OSHA. A smaller rigging shop may not have an OSHA visit for 10+ years, and the last inspection may have resulted in insignificant citations and penalties. Accordingly, many employers view OSHA as a paper tiger or wrongly assume that they are in good compliance based on their last visit. However, Federal and State-OSHA has changed, and even under the Trump Administration, penalties are much higher.

Common Problem Areas

Training – the majority of safety-related training is on-the-job and not conducted in orientation or in a classroom. Develop a Checklist for the employee’s supervisor to complete which lists training on the tasks pertinent to their tasks, such as swaging, test bed operation, cutting chain, pouring sockets, etc. The training may not be complex or detailed, but somewhere you need to list out the basic points covered and when the training occurred.

Procedures – in order to train employees, you must have basic written procedures that describe how to do the jobs. AWRF members are fortunate
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Are employees exposed above Permissible Exposure Limits (PEL) when pouring sockets or cutting chain with a laser? In the case of cutting chain, it is not hard to avoid overexposure by proper ventilation and fans, but have you ever documented testing to prove no overexposure occurs? OSHA requires that you document objective basis for such a determination.

**Require Regular Informal Safety Audits (“Walkarounds”)**

Why not simply require different supervisors to every week walk the shop and check about 10 – 15 items? Start with general housekeeping. OSHA rightly assumes that a sloppy work area suggests that lock out and other procedures may be inaccurate. Housekeeping is the first thing that my dad taught me to check at any business, and I’ve never found sloppy housekeeping at a well-run operation.

**Did You Know?**

- If your location has fire extinguishers, every employee must be annually trained to use extinguishers, or you must have an Employee Action Plan (EAP) dictating which employees flee and which employees stay and fight “incipient stage fires.”
- If you conduct any maintenance operations on equipment that must be deenergized, you must have Lock Out procedures specific to that task/machine, as well as train authorized and affected employees, provide them their own personal locks, and annually evaluate their lock out performance. There may be alternatives to lock out, but that is a subject for another longer article.
- Docks present a fall hazard when no trailer is present at the dock.
- Forklifts and other Powered Industrial truck (PIT) operators must be documented as evaluated and retrained as necessary when they have an accident or behave unsafely?

**Conclusion**

We have not talked at all about managing OSHA inspections. Suffice it to say, obtain some experienced OSHA counsel when OSHA shows up and avoid a great many problems. Most of my AWRF friends run fine safe shops, but that may not be enough to avoid costly OSHA citations if an irritated ex-employee files an OSHA complaint simply to mess with you.
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During the recent summer AWRF Board of Directors meeting held in Denver, Colorado, the board members had the unique opportunity to visit the AWRF Preservation Hall located at the Colorado School of Mines. The Colorado School of Mines is a public teaching and research university in Golden, Colorado devoted to engineering and applied science, with special expertise in the development and stewardship of the Earth’s natural resources. Founded in 1874, the Colorado School of Mines is a public institution known globally for the quality of its distinctive graduates, the success of its alumni and the unique expertise in topics related to earth, energy and the environment.

We met with Lisa Dunn who oversees the Arthur Lakes Library, also referred to as The Information Center of Ropeway Studies. The AWRF Preservation Hall is safeguarded within the confines of the Arthur Lakes Library. Lisa met our group and gave us an overview of the library, and most importantly the AWRF section of the library. Many of the items in the AWRF hall were out for exhibit that day, so the board members could view many of the interesting and historical items donated to the hall over its many years of existence.

The Preservation Hall tells a story about our organization, and the industries that many of our members serve. There were examples of various manufacturers’ catalogs throughout the years, samples of wire rope, technical bulletins, past AWRF memorabilia and a variety of other collections donated by our AWRF members.

The Preservation Hall reminds us all about our organization’s rich history. I encourage each member of AWRF to visit the Arthur Lakes Library, and more importantly to continue donating any industry related memorabilia; so that generations to come can see and witness the amazing evolution of our organization. If you have any items you wish to donate, please contact myself or the AWRF office.

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Safeguard Your Business with Accurate Testing Certificates

This article has discussed having a good, solid safety procedure plan for your facility to ensure operators and staff are properly trained on the testing machinery. Proper safety gear must be worn for protection and operators should clearly understand the safety and testing procedures they must follow to successfully perform a specimen test. Also, to avoid liability and risk, it is vitally important that you use a vendor who understands your business and can correctly calibrate your testing machinery to the industry standards. Chant has invested in its people and equipment and we currently have the largest calibration team and calibration gear in the lifting and rigging industry.

Since 1970, Chant Engineering has been the leader for calibration and testing machinery because Chant fully understands that protecting businesses from liability and risk is critical. We know from experience how important this is to the industry. We not only have the largest highly-skilled calibration team in the industry, but we also offer on-site and remote worldwide customer support, troubleshooting support, machine service, software upgrades, and operator training. Chant testing machines come preloaded with our DataTEST™ software for complete data acquisition and testing certificates. DataTEST™ software can be added to older machines and to other manufacturers testing machinery as an upgrade. DataTEST™ software can be incorporated into corporate MRP/ESP systems to make a seamless integrated software system companywide. This can cut down or eliminate paperwork and results in a very efficient corporate system.

Chant utilizes the industry’s best practices and follows all industry and AWRF Guidelines. We hold the following top industry Accreditations: ISO 9001:2015, AS9100D and ISO/IEC 17025:2005 and we calibrate to ASTM-E4 and ISO 7500-1 with certified ISO and ASTM-E74 Standards.

Liability and Risk Management

Corporate liability and risk management is an integral part of running any business. Minimizing this risk is a daily task. Business leaders and managers have a standing obligation to the company and their employees to analyze potential areas of risk and establish best practices. Safety is an area that requires constant attention.

When top professionals manage this process, they need to partner with a company that has positioned themselves properly to ensure their success. Chant Engineering is that business partner. Chant’s commitment to continual improvement and investment in people and equipment allows business owners to know that we will tirelessly explore new technologies and carry the required accreditations that ultimately equate to the best risk mitigation practices. Almost 50 years of industry experience, coupled with Chant’s commitment to serving their customers, is the formula top decision makers count on to minimize corporate liability and manage risk.

A Great Example of Best Practices

Bishop Lifting Products (Houston, TX), and its subsidiary companies Delta Rigging, Morgan City Rentals and Matex, operates 70 test beds across the United States ranging from 100,000 lbs.
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to 3.3 million lbs. Bishop Lifting’s testing capabilities paramount because many of our customers require proof testing as do industry standards on certain types of slings. We rely on Chant Engineering Test Beds to get the job done daily and perform the testing safely. Our test bed operators are trained using AWRF's “Test Bed Safety Guideline”, and Chant test beds are equipped with many unique safety features that help prevent accidents and reduce our liability risks.

Following our ISO 9001:2008 procedures and safe testing procedures, all items requiring proof testing are automatically entered into our online asset management system called “OnGuard”. This cloud-based portal allows customers and employees to access the test certificates, schedule periodic inspections, and review rigging inventory.

In 2010, Bishop Lifting Products in Houston completed construction of a 3.3-million-pound Chant proof test bed. With an overall length of 323’ and numerous safety features, this Chant test bed is still state-of-the-art after almost 10 years in operation. "We promote testing, we take it seriously, and it's what sets us apart and adds value to the slings we fabricate", says Harold King, President of Bishop Lifting Products.

**Conclusion**

Minimizing risk and protecting companies, employees and end users is never ending. How companies and managers choose to incorporate this into their corporate plans can make the difference between high risk exposure and minimal risk exposure. While managing costs there will always be the conflict between investment and doing things right or the low cost “good enough to get by” mindset. As mentioned in the introduction of this article, litigation is inevitable. How your company is proactive and whom you partner with becomes critical in managing potential liability. Contact Chant Engineering for a free evaluation of your testing machinery, calibration or to help guide you with setting up best practices.

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4. Rigging Solutions (Alton, IL), Jim Evans, jim@rigging-solutions.com, 618-463-0333
5. Bishop Lifting, Harold King, www.lifting.com, harold.king@lifting.com, 713-674-2266
Points of Contention

1. Percentage of steel and aluminum contents in SUVs, cars and truck and percentage of each category of vehicles subject thereto.
2. Wage levels and percentages and identity of types of workers affected.
3. Five year “Sunset Clause.”
4. Dispute resolution for anti-dumping matters, countervailing rate cases and other issues.
5. Intellectual property disposition.

China

The first increment of the $50B in U.S. tariffs on imported Chinese goods went into effect on July 6th. The amount was $34B, with the remaining $16B following on August 23rd. These tariffs were imposed under the authority of the 1974 Trade Act after hearings by the U.S. Trade Representative. They were not levied summarily on the basis of national security as in the case of earlier duties on aluminum, steel, or on the contemplated comprehensive vehicle duties. President Trump has threatened another $200B in duties on Chinese products if China retaliates pursuant to its “Made in China 2025” initiative, to be followed by another $200B if there is further provocation. After the first $50B, China did retaliate immediately, in kind, with tariffs on pork, soybeans and some vehicles, hitting the states which have the most Trump supporters. On July 10th, the U.S. began steps to follow through on the first $200B increment. The proposed “final” levy in the amount of another $200B would bring total U.S. tariffs imposed on China to $450B, which would cover a majority of American imports from China ($505.5B in 2017 against $129B in U.S. exports to China). China now threatens another $60B in payback if and when the first $200B increment under review is resolved by U.S. officials. They do not import sufficient products from the U.S. to levy much more.

While President Trump focuses upon trade balances with other nations as the true test of fair trade, many economists say the most important factor should be consumption rather than trade parity. Nevertheless, if the U.S. continues to impose additional tariffs on imported Chinese goods, they are likely to include the following products: advance information technology, robotics, automated machine tools, aircraft and aircraft components, maritime vessels, maritime engineering equipment, advanced rail equipment, new energy vehicles, electrical generation and transmissions equipment, agricultural machinery and equipment, new materials, pharmaceuticals and advanced medical devices.

At one time China had tentatively agreed to augment purchases from the U.S. by $70B and to increase its U.S. agricultural imports. Instead, mutual provocations have incited more reciprocal retaliation. Presently, the EU and China have agreed to form a joint group to study trade rules. Meanwhile, Japan has engaged in discussions with China about new imports and exports between those two countries.

To the extent that China does invoke further tariffs, they will soon run out of U.S. products on which to impose duties. They could then resort to other tactics which would be harmful to the U.S.’s best interests. These actions might include the following actions:
1. Devaluation of Chinese currency making imports more attractive to U.S. purchasers.
2. Sale of U.S. treasury bonds to upset global financial markets.
5. Imposition of restrictions on tourism each way.
6. Manipulation of disruptive policy influences on North Korea.

The new $200B tax on Chinese products will bring the total to $250B.

GSP

The Generalized System of Preferences was conceived in 1976 to bolster the development of poorer countries by granting them tariff-free status with respect to a myriad of products. Exports to the U.S. from 126 countries have been afforded this protection. Factors affecting national disability are periodically reviewed by the U.S. Trade Representative. Considerations have included human rights and child labor.

In October of 2017, the administration began serious scrutiny of their exemptions in order to assure a “level playing field” for American commercial interests. While the GSP program inevitably concentrates on Asian, Pacific, Eastern European and African countries, the current focus is on Indonesia and India, each of whom have established significant trade barriers to foreign products. Within the greater spectrum of U.S. imports ($2.2 Trillion in 2016), GSP countries account for only about one percent or $16B of the total.

Underlying all mercantile decisions is the fact that the current U.S. administration prefers one-on-one arrangements over group trade deals. It seems that brinksmanship and geopolitics have no boundaries.

Some of the products covered are consumer goods, fish such as salmon or tuna, luggage, handbags, mattresses, electric lamps, telephone components, flat panel displays and pet food.

As the U.S. Commerce Department concludes its investigation on the national security effects of foreign car imports, the EU ramps up its objections (especially Germany). Auto manufacturers in Japan and South Korea are also very concerned. The EU has traditionally imposed a 10% duty on auto imports while the U.S. generally charges a 25% entry tariff on light trucks, but comparatively little on other vehicles.
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Reid Gantry Makes Miracle Seal Rescue Possible

The versatility of Reid Lifting’s Porta-Gantry range has once again been demonstrated, this time during the heart-warming rescue of a seal pup trapped by boulders on a South Wales beach, which has since been successfully released to the wild.

The 5,000kg working load limit (WLL) gantry system was erected above the seal, nicknamed Miracle by volunteers, and levelled out on an uneven surface created by rocks on Aberavon Beach in Port Talbot. It was utilised to remove boulders, originally thought to be approximately 1,000kg in weight, which was the linchpin to the whole rescue operation.

Nic de Celis, a Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) inspector, said: “This was, unquestionably, the most technical rescue I have ever been involved with as an RSPCA inspector. The modular-type, specialist-lifting gantry was integral to completing this rescue. We now know the boulders that had to be moved to access the seal weighed approximately 3t. I was also amazed how straightforward it was for one operator to lift such a heavy boulder using this equipment. We’re very grateful to the RSPCA’s Llys Nini branch, which kindly contributed funding towards the hire of the equipment. The whole rescue was a real team effort, and something I am immensely proud to have been involved in.”

The rescue was a multi-organisation operation involving Lifting Gear & Safety, from where the gantry was sourced; the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI); British Divers’ Marine Life Rescue; Sea-Lift Diving Ltd.; Associated British Ports (ABP); and Neath Port Talbot Council.

De Celis continued: “RSPCA animal welfare officer Andrew Harris and I led and coordinated the rescue, with the specialist support of Sea-Lift Diving and a host of other agencies, to whom we’re so grateful. Alongside my RSPCA colleague [animal collection officer Ellie West] we were determined to bring the seal to safety.”

Bryan Waddell, director at Sea-Lift, explained that mounting it on timber chocks levelled the gantry. The surrounding boulders were drilled and fixed into position to prevent cave-in during the rescue, which would have made it unsafe for the rescue team, put the seal further out of reach, and put the pup’s life in greater danger—or worse.

Gary Moorhouse, director at Lifting Gear & Safety, said: “The rescue team quickly identified a need for an overhead lifting solution to remove a large boulder and a crane wasn’t an option due to the nature of the location and environment. They suspected it would be about 1t in weight but they opted for our 5t system to give them plenty of capacity to work with. We frequently supply Reid’s gantries for diverse applications, but this was the first time that one has been used for a wildlife rescue such as this.”

Versatile solution

Nick Battersby, managing director at Reid Lifting, a manufacturer of lightweight gantry and davit cranes, said: “Further to the versatility demonstrated by such a unique application, the seal pup rescue also showcased how a rapid response to an emergency or unscheduled situation can be delivered to an end user through our rental partners. It is also uplifting that the Porta-Gantry is now associated with a human interest story that led to the rescue of a seal pup that captured the hearts of everyone involved with the project—and further afield, as local and national media covered what turned out to be a significant rescue operation.”

It’s not clear how Miracle, thought to be stuck for at least two days, became stranded beneath the boulders; it had got itself trapped, say, 10 ft. from the surface. One media report suggested it was startled by something and took shelter in the rocks. An area of the beach was sealed-off whilst Reid’s gantry was brought in and the site secured. Once freed, the seal, which appeared to be unharmed, was taken to a special sanctuary in Taunton, Somerset.

De Celis concluded: “Moving the boulders was essential in allowing us access to rescue this animal; I’m not sure how else we could have done it, particularly within the timeframe we needed to do it in. When performing a rescue, time is of the essence, as animals can become stressed or suffer due to lack of food and water. Therefore, the outcome could have been very different if we either could not have gained access, or if it had taken too long to do so. I take personal satisfaction that the rescue plan came together and that Marina, aka Miracle, has now been successfully released at Combe Martin on the North Devon coast, along with a number of other seals.”

Sea-Lift’s Waddell added: “We were indebted to a local person who supplied 8 ft. plywood sheets to create a safe pathway [to the site]. I have used such gantries before and know them to be lightweight and versatile—ideal for the job in hand. LGS [Lifting Gear & Safety] were very helpful, as usual.”

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Straightpoint Load Shackles
Monitor Weight of Flying Ship

A series of 12t and 25t capacity wireless Straightpoint (SP) load shackles are monitoring loads on wire ropes supporting a 2t steel ship, suspended above the city of Linz in Austria, to symbolise the water-themed Höhenrausch cultural project, which runs from May to October this year.

Six 12t capacity and six 25t capacity load shackles were supplied by SP distributor Pfeifer, which partnered with a local engineering company to create the spectacle atop a parking area in the country’s culture-centric region. The ship is 21m long, 18m wide and “flies” at around 81m, suspended in part by a wooden tower that was originally erected in 2009 for this exhibition.

Pfeifer, a specialist in the provision of ropes for construction, entertainment, and other projects, said: “The load shackles constantly monitor and provide information about the loads. Safety is of paramount importance because the ship is suspended above an area where pedestrians view the exhibit. It was a landmark, custom project, befitting of the cultural significance of the event.”

The hull of the ship was lifted by mobile crane in one piece; the three masts were raised individually and then attached to the structure. Connection points (orange in colour in the photos) on the ship form the main rigging areas for the complex suspension project. The load shackles were rigged strategically to communicate data via SP’s Multiple Wireless Load Cell Controller (SW-MWLC) software package, designed for use on a multitude of platforms.

David Mullard, business development manager at SP, explained that the operator reads the data on a laptop in a central control station. “SW-MWLC software is used to monitor the load shackles for overloads in the rigging wires for safety reasons as visitors are able to walk directly underneath the flying boat,” he said. “The load isn’t necessarily dynamic but with wind shear the loads would certainly change. Unlike many scenarios, here the load shackles are monitoring the in-situ rigging tensions during the exhibition rather than for the lifting operation itself.”

Mullard highlighted key features of SP’s wireless load shackles including their suitability to limited headroom applications. Each load shackle is proof tested and equipped with a hard anodised aluminium electronics enclosure containing a new internal chassis providing IP67 / NEMA6 environmental protection even with the battery cover plate missing. End users benefit from a range of 700m or 2,300 ft, he added.
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