

Quick Return on Your Attachment

It's an investment in increased productivity and safety in specialty applications



A boom-mounted platform attachment extends the versatility of Sign Makers' 23.5-ton Terex truck-mounted crane. In the past owner Eugene Lewis relied on a non-rotational gravity-leveled platform, but last year he purchased a CraneMate pin-on work platform with self-contained hydraulics, and he can't believe the difference.

Whether it's properly positioning people or materials, crane attachments can provide solutions with a quick return on your investment.

Lifting personnel is just as important as lifting materials to sign installation compa-

nies like Sign Makers of Hardin County in Elizabethtown, Ky. The installation and service of high-rise signs comes with the need to safely position both at heights up to 100 ft. When you can do so with one piece of equipment, all the better for increased productivity.

Sign Makers owns a bucket truck and 23.5-ton capacity Terex truck-mounted crane. Boom-mounted platform attachments are one way to stretch the versatility of the crane. In the past, owner Eugene Lewis relied on a gravity-leveled platform that could not rotate. But in late 2013, Lewis purchased a CraneMate pin-on work platform with self-contained hydraulics, and the difference is unbelievable, he said.

Manufactured by Reach-All LLC, Bradenton, Fla., the CraneMate is hydraulically powered to provide automatic leveling. From a comfort standpoint, this feature feels more stable to platform occupants than the constant re-balancing of a gravity-leveled platform. In addition, 180° platform rotation with proportional controls increases productivity. This is perhaps the biggest time-saver for Sign Makers.

"With our previous platform, we couldn't always get square with the sign, which often meant working from the corner of the basket and stretching to reach the work," said Lewis, who combines the functionality of the platform with the crane's radio-remote controls, which allows workers to swing and telescope the crane's boom.

Sign Makers is using a 10-ft. wide, 1,000-lb. capacity platform, which is considerably larger than its old platform. "We can put two workers in the platform instead of one," said Lewis. And instead of using two pieces of equipment on many jobs, now the bucket truck is often not necessary.

Pin-on platform forks for material handling allow Sign Makers to carry sign material up with the workers. The forks are rated for 250-lb. capacity each. "This combination of features speeds things up so much. I estimate that most jobs take a third less time," said Lewis. The savings alone will quickly pay for the new work platform, he said. That proved true on a recent project

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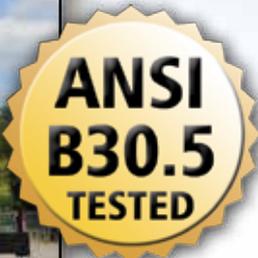
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