Material moving machines

Cranes & Crane Components







RIKON: in-house engineering for dry bulk handling

RIKON is a Latvian manufacturer of heavy lifting equipment based at the Freeport of Riga. The company was established in 1991 and traces its origins to workshops dating back to 1954, giving it more than seven decades of experience in cargo handling equipment. It remains the only portal crane manufacturer in the Baltic States. RIKON designs and builds its cranes through a complete in-house cycle that runs from steel plate preparation and welded fabrication to equipment integration and software development. Its production site covers 35,000m², including more than 10,000m² of fabrication, assembly, painting and testing facilities, with rail and road access and a private 130-metre quay that allows completed cranes to be loaded directly onto vessels.

For dry bulk operators, RIKON's core product is its fully electric Double Jib Level Luffing portal crane, produced as a series under the RPS designation. These cranes work in grab, hook, magnet, lifting beam and spreader modes, which lets a single machine move between bulk, general and container cargo on the same berth. In grab mode, the serial models deliver from 400 tonnes per hour on the compact RPS-300 to 1,600tph (tonnes per hour) on the largest RPS-1600, with higher rates available where a project requires, as almost every crane is tailored to the specific berth and cargo rather than supplied from a fixed catalogue. All motions run on electric drives with energy recovery and without hydraulics. RIKON supplies its cranes complete with matched grabs and receiving hoppers, and, where required, builds "kangaroo" type cranes with a hopper integrated into the gantry. It produces its own grabs for coal, grain, iron ore concentrate, scrap, pig iron and limestone, and for dusty cargoes the cranes can be fitted with dust protection walls and de-dusting filters to limit dust on the quay. In 2025 the company added a fully electric mobile harbour crane, the RMH series, offering a grab capacity of up to 75 tonnes for terminals that need bulk handling without fixed rails.

RIKON's work in dry bulk and industrial handling spans markets across Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia. In Turkey, the company has supplied Double Jib Level Luffing portal cranes to the İsdemir steelworks port operated by OYAK Group, where iron ore and coal are among the cargoes handled; each crane offers a lifting capacity of 63 tonnes in hook mode and 32 tonnes in grab mode, an outreach of up to 36 metres and a total weight of around 550 tonnes. It has also built two further portal cranes for a fertilizer terminal at Ceyhan. The cranes for the Turkish projects have been shipped fully assembled by heavy-lift vessel from RIKON's own berth, allowing them to be put to work shortly after arrival. On the Caspian, it installed an RPS-1600 portal crane at the Port of Aktau in Kazakhstan, a Double Jib Level Luffing crane with a maximum lifting capacity of 63 tonnes and an outreach of up to 32 metres, handling both containers and bulk materials. At Batumi in Georgia, RIKON delivered a fourth RPS portal crane to the port's dry



cargo terminal, rated at 620tph in grab mode with a lifting capacity of up to 40 tonnes. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, under an EBRD-funded renovation of the inland river port of Brčko, a RIKON portal crane works at a nominal 550tph with an 11m³ grab and a lifting capacity of 27 tonnes, supplied together with a bulk cargo hopper for handling coal and other bulk cargoes. In Uzbekistan, the company commissioned two rail-mounted gantry cranes at the First Dry Port Terminal near Tashkent. A further reference is a container terminal in Riga running five RIKON cranes.

Alongside complete cranes, RIKON supplies components to other crane builders, producing heavy welded structures and mechanisms such as travel bogies, complete travel mechanisms, boom sections and portal legs; a recent example is the supply of a travel mechanism to MIP in France. Around 90 per cent of its components are sourced in Germany and France from established suppliers including Siemens, Flender, Sibre and Conductix, with component makers identified on the equipment and a spare parts list provided so that ports can buy directly from the manufacturers or authorised suppliers. The company develops its automation and control systems in-house. Its proprietary RROS (RIKON Remote Operation System) allows cranes to be operated remotely from an office and has been commissioned on rail-mounted gantry cranes at ADIF's terminal in Valencia, while fully automated rail-mounted gantry cranes have been delivered to ADIF's Madrid-Vicálvaro terminal. Remote operation is particularly useful for dusty and heavy cargoes such as coal, and the cranes are also fitted with structural health monitoring and anti-collision protection.

RIKON positions itself as a mid-sized European alternative to the largest German, Finnish and Chinese manufacturers. Because all key tasks, from design through manufacturing, installation and service, are kept in one place, the company builds to a customer's specific requirements rather than to a fixed catalogue. Its fully electric drive lowers operating costs compared with hydraulic cranes, with fewer points of leakage, more predictable maintenance and no hydraulic oil on the quay, which matters both for environmental requirements and for staff working nearby. The cranes are engineered for a wide span of conditions, from Arctic cold to hot and humid climates, using appropriate steels and coatings. The company holds ISO 9001:2015, ISO 3834-2:2021 and EN 1090-1:2009+A1:2011 certification, and supports installed equipment with on-site installation and around-the-clock maintenance.

RIKON is now focused on expanding its presence in Western European ports while continuing to broaden its product range. For dry bulk terminals, its combination of serial portal cranes, an in-house grab and hopper offering and full lifecycle support means RIKON can act as a single accountable partner from design through commissioning.