

American Way of WOLFF – WOLFFKRAN launches US versions of the 355 B and 700 B

Munich – January 2016. With the opening of its own branch, **WOLFFKRAN Inc.**, at the gates of Manhattan and rolling out the first red WOLFF luffing cranes in San Francisco and New York City, WOLFFKRAN is writing a new chapter in its 150-year old history. Coinciding with its comeback in the USA, the company is introducing its US versions of the proven luffing cranes WOLFF 355 B and 700 B. The WOLFF 355 B US will be on show at bauma.

Both luffing cranes are among the bestsellers in the WOLFF-pack and have been working on construction sites around the world for many years. "These models are of particular interest to our American customers working on confined high-rise sites in densely populated metropolitan areas," says Gerd Tiedtke, Product Manager at WOLFFKRAN. "That is why we have developed US versions of the European models, which are ideally suited to the needs of the American market," states Tiedtke.

Ideal for high-rise buildings

Most high-rise buildings in the USA are currently built with a solid concrete core surrounded by structural steel elements. For concreting work, quick lifting speeds are of paramount importance, whereas steel constructions require large cranes with high load capacities. "We are able to satisfy both demands with the WOLFF 355 B US and the WOLFF 700 B US respectively," says Gerd Tiedtke. The 355 B US with a maximum load capacity of 28 tons is equipped as standard with a 110 kW hoisting winch, which reaches partial load speeds of up to 185 m/min. It can also be delivered with a 132 kW winch, with which it can lift loads of up to 290 m/min, thereby attaining great turnaround times for concreting work. The WOLFF 700 B US on the other hand is perfect for structural steel work. It can effortlessly lift heavy steel and prefab elements with its maximum load capacity of 50 tons and hoisting speeds of up to 190 m/min. Both hoisting winches have a rope storage capacity of 990 meters (700 B) and 920 meters (355 B) – ideal for when you're aiming high. Together with the second brake on the (auxiliary) hoisting and luffing gear fitted as standard, and the option of mounting an auxiliary hoisting winch, the WOLFF 355 B US and the 700 B US have things pretty much covered when it comes to features required in the US market. Both US models are also

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suitable for internal as well as external climbing, and can just as easily be installed in an elevator shaft as along the outside of a building. To ensure a flexible use on any construction site, WOLFFKRAN has designed both WOLFFs on the basis of the modular WOLFF tower system. For the crane base, customers can choose between a standard WOLFF component or a customized solution developed by WOLFFKRAN engineers to suit a specific project.

WOLFF the American way

The American WOLFFs have two jib versions: Besides the standard jib form, an alternative jib tip piece with a connection for a fly jib is also available. The 75 kW auxiliary hoisting winch with a load capacity of eight tons in the 1-fall operation and a rope capacity of 600 meters is positioned in the first (base) jib piece and can reach partial load speeds of up to 140 m/min. The load can be hooked on to the main jib and the fly jib at the same time in order to rotate loads from a horizontal position into a vertical position – a feature often requested by US customers. The control system for the overload protection monitors the total load torques of both drive mechanisms and switches them off if the load torque of the main hoist is exceeded. By adapting the electrics to the American UL standard and incorporating some structural changes in its US luffing cranes, WOLFFKRAN has taken into consideration the specific regulations of the American building authorities.

WOLFF technology – well thought-out and flexible

A WOLFF is not a WOLFF without its clever technology. The fully electrically operated US WOLFF cranes are fitted with a hoist drive regulated by a frequency converter, making it a real front runner in terms of energy efficiency when compared to conventional electric cranes or diesel-powered cranes. The fact that the control and drive technology are installed in a single cabinet saves on even more power thanks to the potential energy compensation between the drives. Further, the intelligent WOLFF control system recognizes drops in voltage and weak power grids, and then correspondingly limits the lifting capacity as required so that the workflow is not interrupted. This guarantees a high level of operational safety and availability. The hoisting and luffing gear on the American versions are also equipped with an automatic power optimization feature: Regardless of rope layer and load, the full power of the drive is always available and faster working speeds therefore guaranteed – making it ideal for high buildings and tight timeframes.

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WOLFFKRAN has equipped the WOLFF 700 B US with a short counterjib measuring only 7.7 meters, which can be even further reduced to 7.4 meters if needed. The smaller WOLFF 355 B US is equally as space-saving with a tail swing of only 7.2 meters. Short counterjibs are of particular importance on inner-city construction sites, where contractors do not just have to contend with limited space issues, but also comply with strict regulations regarding weather vaning and overslewing of neighboring properties.

Top notch as standard

As with all WOLFFs, the US versions are also front runners when it comes to assembly and transport. The low weight and slender dimensions of the individual components allow transportation on regular semi-trailer without the need for any special road permits. It also means that they can be assembled in less time with smaller mobile cranes – two not to be neglected cost-saving factors for the customer.

The extensive range of standard features and equipment – including the WOLFF *Link* fleet management system, an anti-collision interface and the slack rope monitoring, optional level luffing for the main hoist, hoisting winches with automatic power reduction, safety crane controls with BUS technology, semi-automatic reeving (700 B US), as well as the new WOLFF *Cab* – makes both models undisputed leaders of the pack in the American crane market. "But we don't just have the ideal products, we also offer our customers the complete package with their cranes," says Dr. Peter Schiefer, CEO and Owner of WOLFFKRAN. "Alongside with our newly established local sales organization, we have also set up our service, support and spare parts supply chains, which are up and running, in order to ensure our customers get the best service possible," says Schiefer.

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