Partner of Experts

Pressemitteilung | Press Release

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Test successfully completed: off-standard wire rope hoists ready for shipping to India

STAHL CraneSystems R&D staff have tested seven 30 t hoists in a quarry in Nitzenhausen, near Künzelsau. The explosion-protected wire rope hoists, of the "AS 7 ex" type, are to be exported to India. They will be installed in a steelworks towards the end of the year.

"Strictly speaking, we were not in a position to accept the order," says Martin Klossek, project manager in the International Projects department. The end customer in India demanded a load test of hoist and crab under all load conditions for all seven 30 t wire rope hoists. "There is no way we can do this on our test rig in the plant," Martin Klossek explains. However a solution was found by teaming up with Gerhard Deitigsmann, a member of the customer service department. A rarely used double girder overhead travelling crane with a lifting capacity of 40 tonnes was installed in a building in a quarry 10 km from the STAHL CraneSystems plant. A suspension and a spreader beam were designed specially for the test for attaching the hoists to the crane and suspending the test weights.

On 24 April the great day dawns: ten 2.5 t cast steel standard weights are attached to the spreader beam, together with another six tonnes in the form of solid steel plates. The button on the radio remote control is pressed, the wire rope hoist starts up, the chain slings tighten and 33 tonnes of metal float apparently effortlessly through the building. Test condition "lifting and cross travel" at rated load is met. With the weight suspended on the hook, STAHL CraneSystems' fitters can now adjust the overload device which will cut off the hoist at 110 % rated load. Its correct functioning is subsequently tested with a test weight of 37.5 tonnes. Martin Klossek is satisfied with the result: "The Indian customer insisted on testing in Germany - our AS7 has passed this test." The load tests were preceded by tests spread over several days of the welds, correct functioning, surface treatment and checks that the contract is met as as regards quality and completeness.

The tests were supervised by an inspector from the Hamburg Bureau Veritas. His successful test report and release certificate are necessary for STAHL CraneSystems to be able to ship the hoists.

"The particular characteristic of these hoists is their compact construction and great lifting height, no-one but us was able to offer this," Martin Klossek explains the design: "The wire rope hoists are to work in a narrow corridor between two hoppers for debris. We therefore had to shorten them to a width of 1.27 metres. We managed this by using off-standard travel drives." The result: seven identical wire rope hoists – in explosion-protected design due to the prevalence of coal dust in the plant. Stationary hoist and crab are combined in a single unit. The 8-wheel off-standard crabs are equipped with angle drives. The hoists are operated with a fixed position control.

The hoists from Künzelsau are to start work in the new coal gasification plant in about a year's time according to the schedule. They are needed for maintenance work on coal crushing mills which they lift out of grinding stones and set down at the base of the system, 27 metres down.

The off-standard suspension and spreader beam will be stored in the STAHL CraneSystems plant. "From now on, we can test hoists up to 40 tonnes S.W.L. under real conditions," says Gerhard Deitigsmann proudly. "There are very few manufacturers in Germany who can do that."

Photo material

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