

21 July 2014

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China's car boom

The hour of the chain hoist

The car market in China has grown continuously in recent years, by 21 percent last year alone. 16 million vehicles were sold in the country in 2013. German companies too profit from China's car boom: German brands have a first-class image in China and score points with customers for their outstanding quality. As a German premium manufacturer, STAHL CraneSystems and its hoists are strongly represented in Chinese automobile production. Their Shanghai subsidiary generated around a quarter of its last year's turnover from companies in the automotive sector.

In contrast to the motor industry in Germany, in Chinese production lines many production steps are performed manually. The resulting slower cycle permits the use of chain hoists. Mostly ST series chain hoists are used in production, they are well established in the Chinese market and have a very high reputation. The hoists, able to lift loads up to several tonnes, are used in big production lines for example for lowering vehicle sections into paint tanks or transporting them through paint lines hundreds of metres long. The STD dual chain hoist with its parallel chain lead-offs running completely in sync is used for lifting and transporting car bodies. At present the new SC chain hoist is gaining ground and is used particularly in the field of general manufacturing, e.g. in the motor industry's numerous manual work stations, machining centres and workshops. Around two out of every three chain hoists sold in China are now standard SC series hoists.

STAHL CraneSystems maintains contact with the motor industry through its 12 selected chain hoist partners. Their number is to be doubled by the end of 2014. These partners – generally systems builders for the motor industry – plan new production lines and order the hoists required in large quantities of between 32 and 48 units.

The Chinese market is served by the Shanghai subsidiary. The 22-strong team cooperates with six crane building partners in the East of the country. The crane builders are both former state-owned enterprises and smaller private companies. Due to the extreme distances and the shipping costs involved the partners are mainly active regionally in the vicinity of their facilities.

STAHL CraneSystems offers the most comprehensive range of hoist technology and crane components. They are supplied to crane and systems builders all over the world.

The experience of over 110 years of crane building and the knowledge gained in decades of fundamental research coalesce at their headquarters in Künzelsau. With a highly capable R&D department and countless pioneering inventions STAHL CraneSystems has palpably influenced the technological progress of the industry.

The high degree of vertical integration in the plant in Germany stands for the outstanding quality of our products and forms the basis for STAHL CraneSystems' strong market position. A well thought-out standard programme, developed into sophisticated customised designs and explosion-protected hoists, affords global success. Chain hoists, wire rope hoists, winches, drive and control technology as well as condition monitoring systems; the well-engineered products of STAHL CraneSystems are premium class – both technically and economically.

Photo material (lead and detail photos):



Nine STD 50 dual chain hoists are used in the final assembly of cars by a Chinese automobile manufacturer. Thanks to the STD's synchronous chain lead-offs the vehicles can be lifted perfectly level.

Presseartikel | Press Article



Pairs of ST 50 chain hoists lift whole car bodies. The Chinese company uses more than 150 ST and SC series chain hoists.



Presseartikel | Press Article



STAHL CraneSystems chain hoists have been in use at this automobile manufacturer since 2002. They help lower car bodies into paint tanks then lift them out again.



Presseartikel | Press Article



The new SC chain hoist is gaining ground. Around two out of every three chain hoists sold in China are new standard SC series hoists.