

Case study 604

Ballasting for crane transportation

When large platforms and other sizeable components need to be moved via the sea, they are normally too heavy to be craned onto the barges which transport them. When this problem arises, self-propelled modular trailers are typically used. Sykes Pumps were contacted by a transport company based in Tyne and Wear, who required our assistance when a 250 crane had to be manoeuvred onto a vessel docked on the River Tees. When these trailers are driven onto moored barges, a load shift occurs which can destabilise them if not appropriately offset. A proven pumping solution was, therefore, required in order to effectively counterbalance the weight of the crane.

After assessing the size and nature of the project, Sykes Pumps delivered and set up eighteen GP150M pumps on the date specified by the customer. These proved ideal for maintaining the barge's position while the loading operation was carried out. Throughout the loading process, water was pumped into various sectioned compartments as ballast, to maintain stability. The engineered unit was successfully driven onto the barge, along with the crane gantry, with the entire assignment completed in less than 24 hours.

Sykes Pumps worked closely with the client to ascertain and provide all equipment needed to execute the task. A team of four engineers attended site to install and operate the GP150M pumps and decommission them once the crane was securely aboard. Having hired pumps from Sykes before, the customer was confident of a professional and efficient service and was impressed with the speed in which we responded.



Weight 1230 kg with fuel / 1133 kg without fuel
Dimension (LxWxH)mm: 2100x1500x1635
Noise level Typical noise level at 1m = 94 - 98 dBA
Fuel Tank Capacity 122 litres
Pipe Connections Suction: 6" table D, Discharge: 6" table D, Bauer couplings option: 6"
Performance Max head: 38 m / Max flow: 90 l/s / Max solid: 52 mm



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