

Heavy lift crane for SA windfarms

In an investment of R70-million, premier heavy lift and relocation specialist Vanguard, in a joint venture with Grindrod and private investors, procured one of the most sophisticated mobile cranes in the world. Designed and manufactured by Grove Cranes, the GTK 1100 arrived in South Africa in April. This acquisition is seen as a massive milestone for Vanguard, who sees the potential of the crane deployed in facilities such as refineries, wind turbine farms and power stations. The crane was designed to lift ultra heavy loads to extreme heights. It can accommodate lifting 100 t to heights of more than 100 m and has a 56 m working radius, centre operated. It was designed to compete in the super lift market dominated traditionally by large, crawler cranes with lattice booms. This crane is one of only seven of its kind in the world and has a small footprint of 18 x 18 m (including the boom set-up) for a minimised job site area and its self-levelling function results in minimal ground preparation. The vertical rigging of the self-erecting tower contributes to the fast set-up; one of the key benefits is that it can be ready for operation in just four to six hours. Helping to lower operational costs, this crane is the best choice for restricted sites as it can negotiate gaps of 3,5 m wide.

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