

#### **Sophisticated mobile-crane debut**

Vanguard has recently procured what is claimed to be one of the most sophisticated mobile cranes in the world, the GTK 1100, from Germany in a R70-million investment. This crane, the seventh of its kind in the world and a first for Africa, arrived in Port Elizabeth on April 21 2010.

The crane performed its first lift towards the end of May when it installed a 2 MW wind turbine as part of the first commercial wind-farm development in South Africa.

The wind-turbine installation included the erection of a 95 m tower (which is 3 m higher than Johannesburg's Carlton Centre), a nacelle with hub weighing 97 t and blades of 44,5 m each.

The GTK 1100 crane can lift 100 t to heights of more than 100 m. It only requires four trailers to site establish in comparison with 20 to 40 trailers usually required for large super-lift cranes.

In addition, it has a small footprint of 18 m x 18 m to operate (including the boom set-up) and can be ready for operation in just four to six hours; offering reduced project costs and extreme flexibility to site establish.