

1250 tonnes

The CC 8800 is a wonder of modern technology. But it is not just the huge lifting capacity that impresses, it's also the attention to detail. **Tim Whiteman** reports on Demag's new 1250 tonne baby

The CC 8800 is a big crane. It has a maximum lifting capacity of 1250 tonnes (20,640 tonne metres) and a maximum working radius of 154 metres. However, its dimensions are smaller than other cranes with similar capacities.

"It took us years of work to get the crane down to these transport dimensions" says Alexander Knecht, Demag's chief designer. His comment betrays the constant conflict that is inherent in heavy crane design. On the one hand the designer wants to get the maximum lifting capacity possible out of the crane, on the other he wants to make all the individual components of these most powerful cranes fit onto standard sized lorries – otherwise no-one can afford to move them from one site to the next.

With the CC 8800, Demag has taken a big step forward. The "bits" that make up the crane are all less than 3.5 metres wide and weigh less than 40 tonnes. In many countries this means no special permits are needed for transporting the crane. An impressively practical feature of the crane is the "power and control module". This is

CC 8800 Fact File

Max. lifting capacity 1250 tonnes
 Max. load moment 20640 tonne/metres
 Max. boom length 216 metres
 Max. radius 154 metres
 Transport weights: < 40 tonnes
 Transport widths < 3.5 metres

Carl Marino (left) receives the keys from Bernhard Düser, Demag's sales director

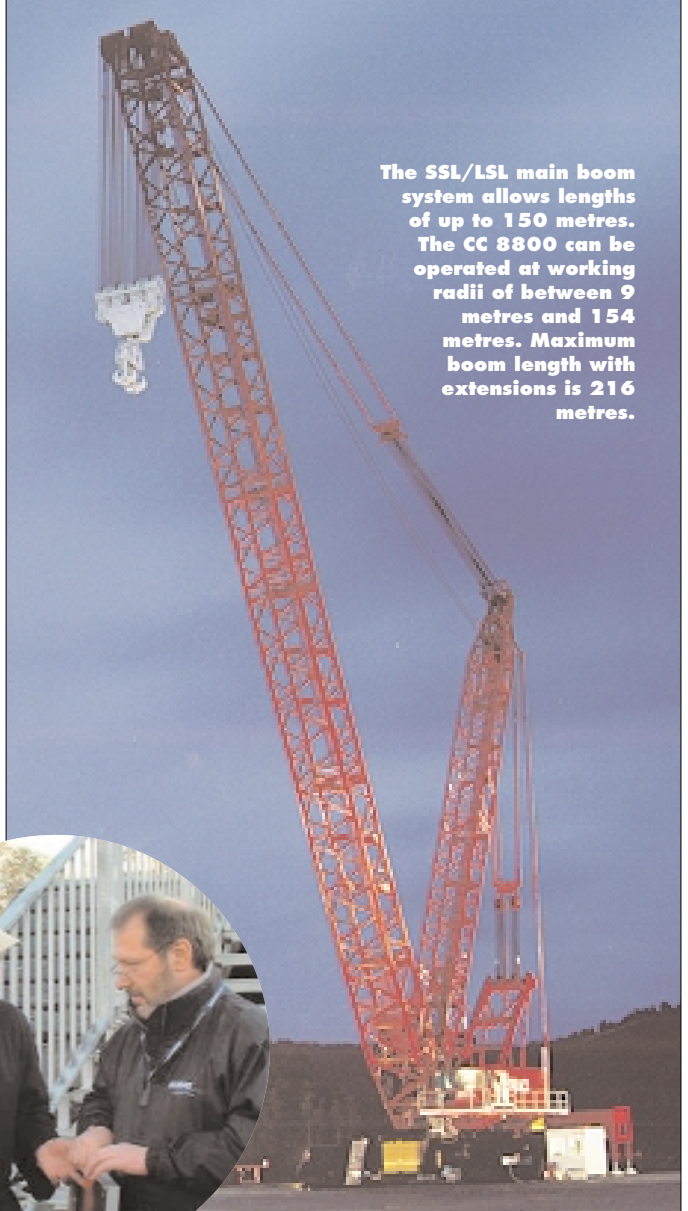
the same size as a standard ISO container and is filled with power pack, winches, electronics and control cabin – this one unit contains the heart of the crane and can be delivered on a standard truck. Even better is the fact that it is completely weather-proof during transport.

Other impressive details include the "modular hook-block". This ingenious design allows the crane owner to add modules to increase capacity rather than having to use four different hookblocks. Thus the one unit can handle loads from 350 tonnes to 1250 tonnes. The only extra hookblock is a small 100 tonne capacity unit.

Other features of the CC 8800 include:

- two day set up time
- quick connect fittings for rope drums, cylinders and hydraulic motors

The SSL/LSL main boom system allows lengths of up to 150 metres. The CC 8800 can be operated at working radii of between 9 metres and 154 metres. Maximum boom length with extensions is 216 metres.



- "off-ground" assembly of boom possible
- use of "standard" Demag counter-weight units
- self-contained power generation
- new crawler units that are interchangeable (no left or right unit) and are largely self-cleaning



The keys to the first CC 8800 were handed over to its new owner, Carl Marino of US-based Marino Cranes, in front of an audience of hundreds of heavy lift specialists from around the world. Marino praised the "superb reliability" of Demag cranes which he said had proved to be a great investment for his company. Marino has ordered two CC 8800s. Three others have been sold by Demag with one going to Sterling Cranes in Canada, another to GH Heavy Lift of Riyadh in Saudi Arabia and the fifth to Al Jaber of UAE. ◆