

ML36CM keeps containers on the move



The efficiency of the Meclift Container Mover ML36CM is proven daily at the Rauma Stevedoring port. The costs in horizontal container moving are only a half of similar operation by means of a reach stacker. In addition, longer transportations can be done with ML36CM only, without any other machinery. Improved work safety and ergonomics enhance smooth operation. Certain technical requirements taken into consideration, the machine can be attached to any terminal tractor.

The Rauma Stevedoring port in the city of Rauma on the west coast of Finland is the third biggest container port and the biggest paper handling port in Finland. The container field covers an ever larger area, since use of containers in freight handling is increasing at a great pace. No wonder that cost-efficient container moving is one of the main points of interest at the port. Continuous lack of space causes longer transfer distances, and puts operating efficiency to a test.

A multi-purpose machine for cost-efficient multi-stage work

Rauma Stevedoring has been operating the Meclift Container Mover ML36CM since the end of 2010. "Today the machine is busy handling containers in two shifts. The total amount of operating hours mounts to 3,000 hours a year with a maximum of 60 lifts per shift", says Petri Viinikkala, head of the repair shop at Rauma Stevedoring.

"ML36CM is the only container mover available that we can use for lifting containers off the ground and transferring them from one place to another, also inside warehouses. ML36CM has proved its power also in financial terms. Using the container mover in horizontal container moves is 50% cheaper compared to a reach stacker. This is especially important when distances are long", Petri Viinikkala adds.



Compact design enables operating through terminal door openings.



"Compared to a reach stacker, ML36CM is 50% cheaper to use in horizontal container moves," Petri Viinikkala says.



The length of the main beam is automatically adjustable for varying container sizes.

Power and availability in motion

Petri Viinikkala remarks, that ML36CM is also powerful in the sense of operability and availability. "The operators are very satisfied with the improved work safety and ergonomics. The forward-visibility from the terminal tractor's cabin is open since the container is lengthwise during the transportation, unlike in reach stacker operation. Due to smooth operation of the machine, there are no sharp impacts on the reaching device, which provides better working conditions and reduces sick absence."

Due to its compact design, ML36CM fits through narrow terminal doors, and under bridges in road traffic. "Use of separate loading beds supports cost-efficient operation between the container field and warehouses. Because of the compact size, transfers inside the warehouses are also possible. This is especially important in winter time when there is lots of snow and the temperatures are low," Petri Viinikkala says.

ML36CM gets good grades also for high usability. According to Viinikkala, there is very little need for maintenance due to the simple structure of the machine. "Sliding surfaces are automatically creased by central lubrication system and the led lights last for seven years or even more. The structures do not wear either, because longitudinal moves are made without a load. In addition, changes in logics can be made on the spot. Use of components from well-known manufacturers supports high availability," he adds.

Joint product development

Viinikkala gives special attention to the great service level they get from Meclift. "Also customization of the mover according to our needs was possible. The collaboration between Meclift and Rauma Stevedoring in the design stage was very helpful and any major modifications

were not necessary after the delivery. Even including the customization, the delivery time was three months only, which is better compared to the average in this field. Control of ML36CM is similar to other equipment used in the port, and therefore fully compatible with our earlier machinery. It is also crucial that the container mover can be integrated with the systems of the terminal tractor, e.g. the installation of options, such as cameras was easy."

EUROPORTS FINLAND in Rauma provides the largest forest products export terminal and the 3rd largest container gateway in Finland. The operations in Rauma also include bulk, general cargo, and project cargo operations.

"Meclift responds to our questions and needs quickly, be it spare parts or need for assistance in problem-solving"

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