

Press Release

## Accident During Overload Test

- **Serious accident during overload test of the offshore crane HLC (Heavy Lift Crane) 295000**
- **According to preliminary findings the crane hook did not withstand the load**

**During the course of tests in line with industry standards on 2nd May 2020 in the international Port of Rostock, the offshore heavy lift crane HLC 295000 was severely damaged following an accident. Comprehensive investigations as to the cause and course of the accident are currently under way.**

Rostock (Germany) 5th May, 2020 – During an overload test of the offshore crane HLC 295000 from Liebherr-MCCtec Rostock GmbH a serious accident occurred resulting in two injured persons having to be taken to hospital for treatment. A further ten persons were treated by paramedics on site.

“At this point we wish the injured persons all the best and hope for a full and speedy recovery,” said Leopold Berthold, Managing Director of Liebherr-MCCtec Rostock GmbH. “Considering the extent of the damages, we are above all thankful that it did not cause more personal injuries. Our priorities currently lie in fully supporting the investigating authorities in order to contribute to the quickest possible clarification of the accident,” added Berthold.

At this stage in the investigations, the responsible authorities and experts unanimously agree that a broken crane hook was the cause of the accident. The exact reasons as to why the hook did not withstand the load are unclear at this stage of investigations. The design and manufacture of the crane hook was purchased from an external supplier. A design or production error of the Liebherr crane can therefore be excluded.

The overload test for the HLC 295000 was planned for a load scenario of 5,500 tonnes. The lift should have been carried out through the hoisting of a barge. Carrying out an overload test is a typical procedure for the industry, whereby the crane is tested for its maximum lifting

---

capacity. Currently known facts indicate that the incident occurred at a load of around 2,600 tonnes causing a chain reaction which led to the accident.

As things stand, the accident has no effect on day-to-day operations at Liebherr-MCCtec Rostock GmbH. According to initial estimates, the damage amounts to a high double-digit million figure.

**About Liebherr-MCCtec Rostock GmbH**

Liebherr-MCCtec Rostock GmbH is one of the leading European manufacturers of maritime material handling solutions. The product range comprises ship, mobile harbour and offshore cranes. Reachstackers and components for container cranes are also included in the product portfolio.

**About the Liebherr Group of Companies**

The Liebherr group comprises more than 140 companies on all continents and has over 48,000 employees. In 2019, Liebherr achieved a consolidated total turnover of around 11.7 billion euros. As a global, family-run technology business, Liebherr is not only one of the largest construction machine manufacturers in the world, but is also recognized in many other sectors as a supplier of technically sophisticated products and services with focus on customer benefit. Liebherr was founded in 1949 in Kirchdorf an der Iller in southern Germany.

**Contact**

Dieter Schmidt

Telephone: +49 381 6006 5021

Email: [dieter.schmidt@liebherr.com](mailto:dieter.schmidt@liebherr.com)

**Published by:**

Liebherr-MCCtec Rostock GmbH

Rostock/Germany

[www.liebherr.com](http://www.liebherr.com)