

Date: **2011**
Product / Model: **Crane / PK 50002 EH**
Industry sector: **Gas and heating fuels/motor fuels/plastic/rubber**
Company name: **Wintershall Holding GmbH**

Crane truck and tractor unit all in one

Wintershall Holding GmbH, part of the BASF Group, has been active all over the world for more than 75 years in the prospecting and extraction of crude oil and natural gas. A new crane truck specially tailored to the customer's specifications and equipped with a PALFINGER PK 50002 EH *High Performance* was recently handed over at the Barnstorf site which supports Wintershall's activities throughout Germany. The Gellhaus company was responsible for assembling and mounting the crane. The vehicle construction company situated in Vechta has been supplying its customer Wintershall with special-purpose vehicles for more than two decades.

The new vehicle is also intended to double-up as a tractor unit for a low-loader. This is why the 6x4 ACTROS with its 550 HP engine has a short wheelbase. The 4 stabilizers and a removable ballast weight behind the driver's cab provide a stable base when working with the crane. A significant weight reduction has been achieved thanks to the optimized subframe construction resulting in an improvement of the overall payload.

At the customer's request, the PALFINGER crane has 7 hydraulic boom extensions with a 21 m outreach and a cable winch with a traction force of 3.5 tonnes. The PK 50002 EH is one of the most recent developments and represents a milestone in crane development. With a significantly increased lifting power it is over 200 kg lighter than its forerunner model. It is impressive by virtue of its innovative and operator-friendly product design. With remote proportional control, double slewing system, huge slewing torque and the patented active oscillation suppression system (AOS), it is possible to execute extremely precise crane movements when transporting highly sensitive equipment and to carry out safe installation work at the drill sites.

Stowage compartments for the load lifting gear and tools have also been installed so that everything is in the right place. Safety regulation-compliant, easily accessible supports for the cable winch accessories, ladders, roller with earth cable for earthing the vehicle when in use, fire extinguisher, shovels, spades and brooms all have their precisely defined places. Hans-Joachim Tirre of Tirre GbR, which as PALFINGER's sales partner in the region implemented this project in conjunction with Gellhaus, says, "This equipment is not just an end in itself. The guys as Wintershall know their assignments and what they will need on site."

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PALFINGER AG
Franz-Wolfram-Schererstrasse 24
A-5020 Salzburg/Austria
info@palfinger.com