



MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY TRUCK CRANE ADDS RELIABILITY FOR BOATING AND DOCKS PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION

The Boating Facility Program for the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry operates and manages public boat access sites for the state. Joe Powers, maintenance coordinator, manages approximately 21,000 square miles of access points across six counties.

THE CHALLENGE

Powers needed a reliable crane to conduct repairs on public boat launch sites and to move and install floating docks and cement products within his large territory. Powers issued a competitive bid with detailed specifications for the product requirements that would meet the department's needs, including a crane that could be mounted on a Ford F-450 diesel truck.

THE VENTURO SOLUTION

Messer Truck Equipment was the distributor selected to fulfill the request and specified a Venturo ET18KX crane, with the following features:

- Electric-hydraulic power
- Hydraulic boom extension from 8 to 12 feet
- Manual boom extension from 12 to 16 feet
- 4,500 lbs lifting capacity
- Continuous power rotation
- ANSI B30.5 and OSHA 1910.180 compliant

"The ET18KX was the perfect solution and we haven't been disappointed. It is well-manufactured and a very reliable piece of equipment that does everything we expected it would do."

- Joe Powers,
maintenance coordinator

CONCLUSION

"It is my responsibility to install and remove floating boat docks and I work alone 95% of the time," Powers said. "The Venturo ET18KX crane is like having two extra people working with me. I am able to lift materials on and off the back of the truck as well as around the jobsite with ease."

"The ease of operation with the remote pendant is fantastic and the controls are very straightforward, easy to learn and easy to repeat," he said.

Powers also said the crane is easy to maintain, especially considering the crane operates outdoors and often in harsh weather conditions.



“In the spring, summer and fall, many areas we travel to are along the coast and there is always a chance for saltwater contamination in the air, which causes corrosion. We replaced the truck and kept the same crane body, and I was able to do the maintenance myself,” he said.

Powers also touts Venturo’s reputation as a well-established company with a great safety record.

“As I travel and talk with other operators, those who see the ET18KX crane in operation are very impressed,” Powers said. “I also meet those who have had positive experiences with Venturo, including an operator who uses a smaller crane in the southern part of Maine. I can’t say enough positive things about the ET18KX crane. It’s a great piece of equipment.”

