



MIKE ATKINS & SONS LOGGING CUTTING TIMBER AND SERVICING EQUIPMENT MADE EASY WITH VENTURO CRANE

INTRODUCTION

Mike Atkins & Sons Logging in Selma, North Carolina cuts an average of 50-to-100-acre tracks of timber and provides mechanical work to its fleet and other contractors.

THE CHALLENGE

To keep current projects on track and expand their work volume, Jeffrey Atkins, Mike's son, needed a crane to cut tracks of timber more efficiently. This would mitigate some of the challenges of servicing heavy logging equipment on the jobsite – which is usually off-road in forested areas with rugged terrain.

THE VENTURO SOLUTION

Based on previous positive experiences with Venturo cranes, Atkins worked with Knapheide Truck Equipment in Garner, North Carolina – a Venturo distributor – to purchase and mount a Venturo ET12KX service crane.

The ET12KX is an electric crane with a fully hydraulic boom extension. It is rated at 12,000 lbs., with a 3,500 lb. lifting capacity. It features an electric winch, elevation, rotation and extension. Atkins had the crane mounted on a Ford F-450 truck, which allows him to run the two sets of wheels on skidders. Atkins says he typically uses the crane three days a week on and off throughout the day. He puts large tires and wheels on with the crane and is able to cut in swamps and wet areas. Additionally, Atkins uses the crane to pull engines and other heavy equipment on job sites when needed.

"It handles exactly how I need it to and performs great. Venturo was easy to work with and provided me with exactly the solution I needed. I have no complaints."

- Mike Atkins,
Owner, Mike Atkins & Sons Logging

CONCLUSION

Atkins says he likes the three booms. He can slide one out manually and the other is powered. He also likes the safety features and finds that it requires very little maintenance.

"There is nothing to the maintenance," Atkins said. "I keep the fluid checked and check the cable, but mainly I just run it. I have never had any problems. I know two people who have bought the Venturo ET12KX crane because I like it. I would recommend it to anyone."