



**2006 General Assembly
Houston, TX.
May 9-12, 2006**

"Promoting lifting equipment safety through quality training, consulting and inspections."

Spring 2006



ACRP
Association of Crane &
Rigging Professionals
2006
General Assembly
*Crane &
Rigging
Activities for
Offshore
Environments*

HYATT Regency Houston
1200 Louisiana Street
Houston, Texas 77002
• May 9-12, 2006 •

2006 HOUSTON ACRP GENERAL ASSEMBLY

presentations although geared toward the offshore environment offer learning opportunities that each of us can benefit from regardless of the type of environment we work in, whether on land or at sea. We have presentations ranging from; Recent Standard Changes That Effect Our Industry, The Use Of Synthetic And Jumbo Slings, to The Four Elements of Crane Accident Investigation. And these are just a few of the presentations that you will find on the enclosed agenda. As part of the general assembly this year we have also been extended the invitation to tour the impressive 10-acre SEATRAX facility in northwest Houston. SEATRAX is a world leader in the manufacturing of cranes for the marine industry. This field trip has all the signs of being another outstanding tour.

If you have not registered for this event, you are missing the Boat, both figuratively and literally. Danny Bishop and his committee members have put together a fantastic meeting, which you should not miss.

ACRP has set the General Assembly date for May 9-12, 2006. The site is the Hyatt Regency Hotel Downtown Houston, located at 1200 Louisiana Street.

We have a full slate of educational presentations beginning on Wednesday morning. Our theme for the conference is: "Crane & Rigging Activities for Offshore Environments."

We encourage each of you to review the agenda of quality presentations that are scheduled for the week. These

So come one, and all to Houston and experience ACRP firsthand, the place where *"The Trainers Get Trained"*

And have some fun in the process!

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HOUSTON 2006



**James Cahill,
ACRP President**

Greetings to all ACRP members and General Assembly attendees!

Our plans to hold the 2006 General Assembly in Houston, TX, on (May 9-12, 2006) have come to fruition with the Marine and Offshore Lifting theme. I assure you that under Dan Bishop's leadership as chair of the 2006 General Assembly, this will be an outstanding meeting in Houston.

Houston promises to be an even more spectacular event those held in recent years. You will likely come away from the meeting, as I have many times, having learned something you did not expect and having made a contact with another individual whom you can call upon in the future. This is a tremendous (although often unrecognized) benefit to our employers who support us in attending the meetings. The fellowship we share is just icing on the cake! Did I say cake? Yes we will continue the 10th Anniversary celebration in Houston with a cake too (how big is a cake in Texas?). I encourage anyone reading this message to become involved in any of the ACRP committees: Member Services; Public Safety; Regulations; Nominating; Long Range Planning or the Continuing Education Unit. We welcome your participation, you will not be disappointed, and your employer benefits too!

Sometimes I think there are many people out there who do not even know of ACRP and would gladly join us only if they were made aware. ACRP members have been promoting the ACRP to our industry at their various training sessions throughout the country. ACRP's commitment to promoting improved training in the crane and rigging industry is the culmination of the combined efforts of the membership. I thank them for the support they provide in educating end users and challenge them to expand and improve their training efforts through participation in the ACRP where *"The Trainer Gets Trained"*.

We have an exciting year ahead of us and look forward to working with each of you *"to improve crane operations and rigging activities in all industries"*.

Are You Ready for a Great Educational Trip?



Mike Parnell

By joining your fellow ACRP members in Houston, May 17th-19th, 2006, you'll enjoy an outstanding agenda of technical presentations and a super field trip! Our General Assembly Chairman, Danny Bishop has organized a fast-paced program series that will benefit every attendee.

Sessions will address large slings and rigging used in the "big lift" industries, crane accident investigation, high-performance synthetic slings, examination development, barge mounted cranes, updates to the ASME volumes and a tour through a crane builder's facility! Committees will discuss newly proposed changes to federal and state regulations and continue to develop the "training guideline" series.

Be a part of a great organization and learn from others who have faced similar challenges to yours in crane and rigging training and operations. Get a chance to talk with industry leaders who will take your recommendations forward to the national committees for the benefit of all. Help serve our industry and volunteer to steer the Association by becoming an active committee member, officer or board member. All of these opportunities await you! Sign up today and bring others to the 2006 Houston ACRP General Assembly. You'll learn and help others back home gain from the presentations and workshops. See you there!



2006 ACRP General Assembly, Houston

Suzanne's Sights 'n Insights



The Houston General Assembly is shaping up to be quite a show. Many thanks to you early birds who registered promptly. Now it's time for the rest of you to unpile your desk and get that registration into headquarters. You say your desk doesn't have piles like mine, but the registration packet is just not to be found. No problem...just hop on the web site....www.acrp.net, the registration information is there. Away from your computer, call us at 1-800-690-3921 and we'll fax, mail whatever you like, a copy pronto!!! Very Important, however is that the room block expires on **April 17th** and along with it our great rate of **\$112!** So if you even think you're going to make it - get the room reservation made.

There are so many highlights to this year's assembly that it's hard to know where to start. John Sakash, as usual, has done a bang up job in securing a fine course for our annual golf outing. This grows every year and our goal is to entice enough golfers to be able to call this a tournament one day! We planned this for Tuesday afternoon and we hope you will arrive a little early and enjoy the fun ... and help us toward that tournament goal.

As usual, there will be much good food, drink and lively conversation at the Welcome Reception on Tuesday evening. You'll see old friends and perhaps make some new ones before the serious business of the assembly begins. Don't stay

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out too late however, because there is much to learn come the dawn on Wednesday. Danny Bishop, Convention Chairman and his committee have put together a bangup agenda that will keep those brain cells snapping to keep up.

Actually what are we addressing at this assembly? There's the Design and Use of Jumbo Slings for Offshore Environments, presented by Blake Mitchell and Art Garcia. Joseph Levine of the Minerals Management Service of the Department of the Interior will speak on their involvement in the maritime industry. Get up to date on Constructing Written Exams for Instructional Objectives with Paul Naylor; Operating Cranes in an Offshore/Barge Environment with Kenneth Palmer; and the Application/Selection of High Performance Synthetic Slings presented by Mike Riggs. Visit the Four Elements of Crane Accident Investigation presented by Tim Conlon. Don't miss the opportunity to get up to date on Recent Standards Changes that Effect the Crane & Rigging Industry with our own Chairman of the Board, Mike Parnell.

Just when you think that your "sitter" can take no more, we'll jump on a bus and be transported to SEATRAX! Here you'll experience a fantastic tour of their unique facility. The focus is on the maritime industry and what better place to visit than a company that supplies the offshore industry with reliable, cost effective and easily maintained marine cranes.

ACRP is proud to be known as the association where "trainers go to get trained", so it is important that the sessions not only bring you up to date with the industry, but keep you focused on your job of adult education. IACET approved C.E.U.'s are issued for every qualifying seminar. ACRP also encourages member to pursue this accreditation for their own companies and will work with you to achieve this hallmark in education.

As you can see, whether you are looking for the "meat" of the educational sessions, the venue to relax and share some fellowship with your peers, a place to do a little brain "pickin"... or all of the above, the ACRP Assembly is the place to be!

We hope to see you in Houston!

Masterlink is published by the Association of Crane & Rigging Professionals (ACRP), with offices at 16420 S.E. McGillivray, Suite 103-133, Vancouver, WA. 98683-3461, or P.O. Box 87907, Vancouver, WA. 98687-7907. Phone: 800/690-3921. FAX: 360/834-3507. E-mail : info@acrp.net. Editor: Suzanne M. Stilwill, CTC, Executive Director. The opinions expressed in **Masterlink** are those of the individuals involved and do not necessarily represent the official position of the association. Contributed articles are welcomed. However, ACRP assumes no liability or responsibility for the return of unsolicited materials. Publication and Closing Dates: **Masterlink** is published Semi-annually. Issue dates are: April/May and September/October. The deadline for receipt of artwork and/or other advertising space reservations is the 15th of the month prior to the issue date. The deadline for receipt of artwork and/or other advertising materials is the first of the preceding month. ACRP reserves the right to reject and refuse to publish any advertising it deems unacceptable.



MIKE'S MINUTES

Rigging Training Guideline

The Association of Crane & Rigging Professionals encourages employers to incorporate the following subjects into

training programs designed for employees who perform rigging as a part of their work activity. The level and content of this training should be suitable and appropriate for the type of work being performed.

1) **SLINGS:** Employees should be trained in the care, use and inspection of all types of slings used within the workplace. Sling types may include wire rope slings, synthetic web slings, synthetic roundslings, alloy steel chain slings, metal mesh slings and synthetic rope slings.

2) **RIGGING HARDWARE:** Employees should be trained in the proper use and inspection of rigging hardware used within the workplace. Types of rigging hardware may include hooks, shackles, hoist rings, turnbuckles, rigging blocks, eyebolts, links, rings, swivels, wedge sockets, and wire rope clips.

3) **BELOW-THE-HOOK LIFTING DEVICES:** Employees should be trained in the use and inspection of below-the-hook lifting devices used within the workplace. Below-the-hook devices may include spreader bars, lifting beams, magnetic lifters, vacuum lifters, beam and plate clamps, tongs, coil and plate lifters, and custom designed lifting devices developed by a qualified person.

4) **AUXILIARY RIGGING EQUIPMENT:** Employees should be trained in the use and inspection of auxiliary rigging equipment used within the workplace. Auxiliary equipment may include items such as chain lever hoists, portable winches, industrial rollers, jacks, chain falls, beam clamps, and similar equipment.

5) **HITCH TYPES:** Employees using rigging should be trained in the various hitches suitable for a variety of sling types, and the effect of each hitch and connection method on the rated load. Hitches may include the vertical, choker and basket types used in single or multiple leg applications.

6) **LOAD WEIGHT ESTIMATION:** Employees should be trained in load weight estimation. Methods for estimating the weights of loads may include the use of volume, area, gallons and density.

7) **DETERMINING CENTER-OF-GRAVITY:** Employees should be trained in methods for finding a load's CG (center-of-gravity). The effect of the CG in relation to the rigging connection points should be fully understood.

8) **RIGGING TECHNIQUES:** Employees should be trained in rigging methods which promotes acceptable

control of the load while during its transfer process. Proven rigging techniques should enable the user to avoid loss of load control due to sling slippage, sliding, load rotation or load flipping.

9) **SLING ANGLES & TENSIONS:** Employees should be trained in the effects of sling angles and "angle of loading". The correlation between sling angle, sling length, height off the load and sling leg tensions must be understood.

10) **SLING PROTECTION:** Employees should be trained to properly select and use suitable materials which will prevent or minimize damage to slings and rigging equipment from its contact with the load.

11) **TRAVEL PATH, LOAD HANDLING & TAGLINES:** Employees should be trained in the selection of a suitable path for moving the rigged load. Whether by overhead crane, mobile crane or other hoist mechanism, the route from take-off to landing including power line safety should be reviewed along with proper crane or hoist usage. Training should include a short session, which identifies the purpose and proper usage of taglines.

12) **SIGNALS:** Employees should be trained in applicable hand signals for the cranes used within the workplace. If the situation dictates, the employees should be exposed to the correct audible and voice commands for horn or radio communication.

13) **PERSONNEL PROTECTION:** Employees should be trained to recognize and respond to hazards associated with rigging activities such as pinch points, load swing, loads overhead, crush points while jacking or lifting, and potential bodily injury while tightening or adjusting rigging. Training should also address personal protective equipment appropriate to the work environment as recognized by industry standards.

14) **RIGGER'S CHECKLIST:** Employees should be trained to identify the proper steps and sequence needed to conduct a successful rigging operation. These lift specific items should be covered in a pre-lift tailgate meeting. A simple checklist should be covered which addresses the elements listed in this Guideline.

15) **RIGGING STORAGE:** Employees should be trained in proper sling and rigging equipment storage to avoid damage and make ready for its next use.

16) **RIGGER VERIFICATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILL:** All employees should be trained, and tested in writing and during hands-on performance in crane hand signals, and the inspection and safe use of rigging as applicable to their facility.

Revision 02/01/05

The ACRP places emphasis on providing training programs which meet ACRP's published 10 points of "Excellence in Training". Quality training starts with identifying the needs of the participants, having well established goals for the program, providing thorough instruction, giving suitable question and answer time, implementing knowledge checks, conducting hands-on activities whenever possible and finishing with a summary of the training event. For more information about the ACRP and its special workshops and publication visit www.acrp.net



2006

National Assembly & Workshop
A Decade of Excellence in Training

May 9-12, 2006

Tentative Agenda
Hyatt Regency Houston

<p>Tuesday May 9, 2006</p>	<p>8:00 AM 12:00 PM 1:00 PM 6:00 PM 3:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:00 PM 9:00 PM</p>	<p>Board Meeting (Arboretum 1-2 - 2nd floor) Golf Tournament Registration (Regency Foyer - 2nd floor) Welcome Reception - Cocktails & Hor d'Oeuvres (Window Box - 2nd floor)</p>
<p>Wednesday May 10, 2006</p>	<p>7:15 AM 8:00 AM 8:30 AM 8:30AM 9:15 AM 9:15AM 9:30AM 9:30AM 10:45AM 10:45AM 11:00AM 11:00AM 12:00PM 12:00PM 1:00PM 1:00 PM 5:00PM</p>	<p>Breakfast (Window Box - 2nd floor) (Sponsorships Available, Contact Association Office) (All Educational sessions will be in the Regency - 2nd floor) General Session - Welcome, Opening Remarks, Review of Assembly Goals, Introduction of New Members ACRP Rigging Jeopardy - Rigging Basics Break (Regency Foyer - 2nd floor) Presentation - Design & Use of Jumbo Slings for Offshore Environments Break (Regency Foyer - 2nd floor) Presentation - MMS Crane & Material Handling Requirements Lunch (Window Box - 2nd floor) Tour of SEATRAX Facility Dinner on your own</p>
<p>Thursday May 11, 2006</p>	<p>7:30 AM 8:00 AM 8:45 AM 8:45 AM 9:45 AM 9:45 AM 10:00 AM 10:00AM 11:30AM 11:30 AM 12:30 PM 12:30 PM 1:30 PM 1:30 PM 2:15 PM 2:15 PM 2:30 PM 2:30 PM 4:00 PM 4:00 PM 5:00 PM 7:00PM 9:00 PM</p>	<p>Continental Breakfast - (Regency - 2nd floor) (All Educational sessions will be in the Regency - 2nd floor) General Session- Assembly Update and ACRP Jeopardy Challenge Presentation - Effective Testing Design Methods Break (Regency Foyer - 2nd floor) Presentation: Operating Barge Mounted Cranes Lunch - (Window Box - 2nd floor) Presentation - Use of High Performace Synthetic Slings for Offshore Activities Committee Overview/Goals Update Break (Regency Foyer - 2nd floor) Committee Breakout Meetings and Reports (Live Oak & Willow rooms - 4th floor) Election Results and Business Meeting ACRP Banquet (Cottonwood A/B - 3rd floor)</p>
<p>Friday May 12, 2006</p>	<p>7:30 AM 8:00 AM 8:45 AM 8:45 AM 9:45 AM 9:45 AM 10:00 AM 10:00 PM 11:00 PM 11:00AM 11:30AM 11:45AM 1:00PM</p>	<p>Continental Breakfast - - (Regency - 2nd floor) (All Educational sessions will be in the Regency - 2nd floor) ACRP Final Rigging Jeopardy Presentation: ASME Standards Update Break (Regency Foyer - 2nd floor) Presentation: Four Elements Of Crane Accident Investigations Rigging Jeopardy Awards and Closing Board meeting - (Live Oak - 4th floor) All board members are requested to attend</p>

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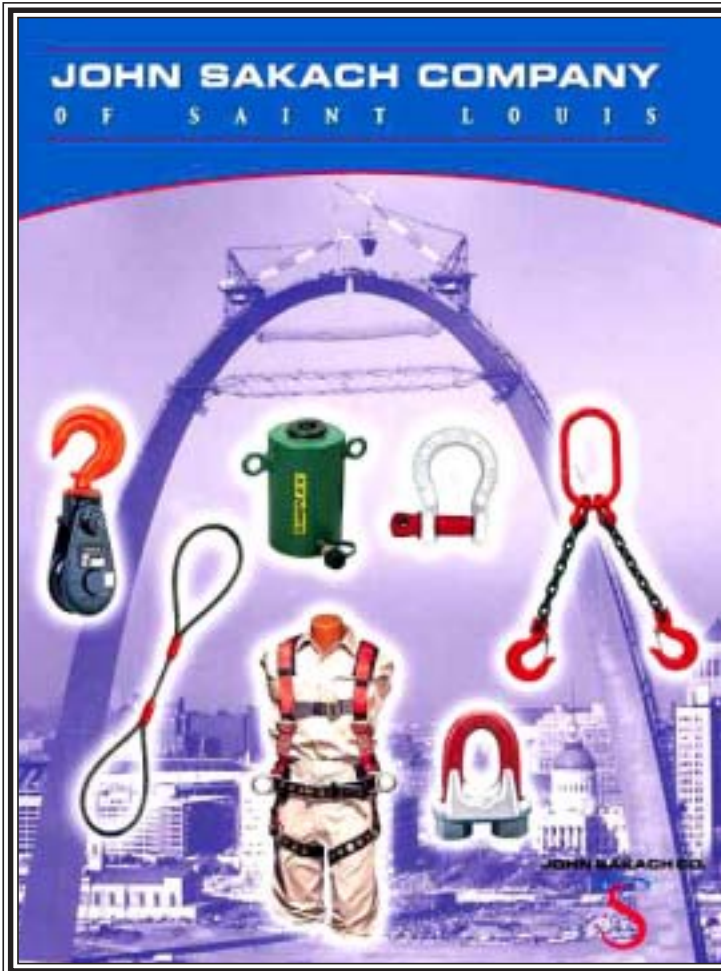
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Start Beating the drum for ACRP and welcome the new members to the organization.

The 2006 Houston General Assembly will be a great place to gather and learn from one another.



JOHN SAKACH COMPANY OF SAINT LOUIS



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*and wherever
Quality and
Safety is #1*

Can you name the world's leading supplier of rigging hardware that:

- Provides the highest quality products available, **Crosby**
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- Utilizes state of the art technology (CD-ROM) in providing valuable product information **Crosby**

If your answer is Crosby, you are correct.

Crosby's training program utilizes interactive CD-ROM to guide you through important rigging information.

**Crosby CD-Rom
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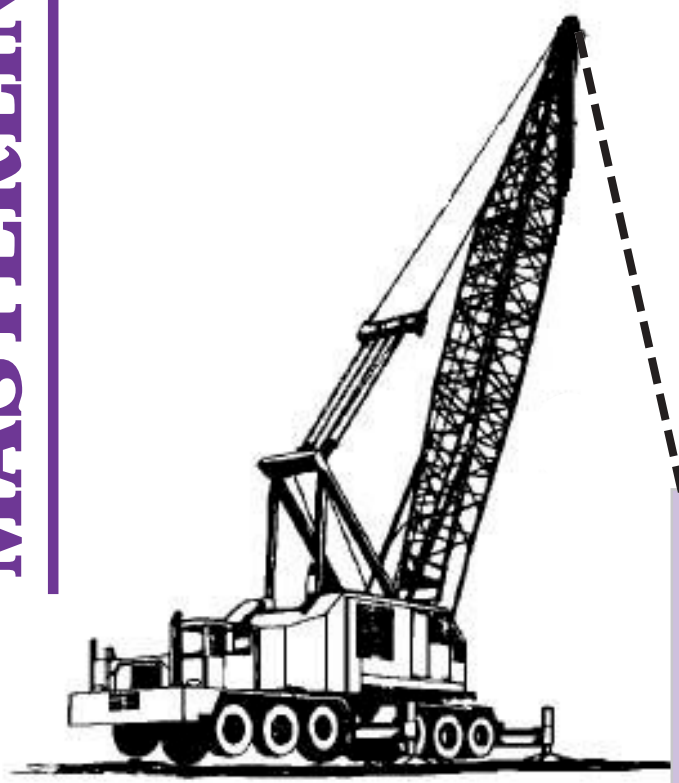
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Contact us for more details on how you can receive a copy of our CD-ROM, as well as additional training tools.

MASTERLINK



**2006 General Assembly
Houston, TX.
May 9-12, 2006**

The ACRP Mission
The purpose of the Association will be to promote lifting equipment safety, improve the quality of lifting equipment training, consulting, and inspecting, and to represent the subject of lifting equipment safety in regulatory forums.

From ACRP's By-Laws, adopted May 20, 1996,
Revised April 2003

THE ACRP GENERAL ASSEMBLY TOUR

SEATRAX

The ACRP facility tour for 2006 may well be one of the most interesting to date and we have had some fantastic tours in recent years. SEATRAX will be somewhat unique from the previous facilities we have viewed due to the nature of their business. This will be a tour to remember.

The engineering team at SEATRAX has established a reputation for innovation by supplying the offshore industry with reliable, cost effective and easily maintained marine cranes. Our numerous U.S. and International patents are proficiency in engineering, design and manufacturing.

With crane manufacturing facilities in both the United States and the United Kingdom, SEATRAX delivers the worldwide marine industry an uncomplicated and easily-maintained offshore crane that is cost-effective to own and operate.



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