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KONECRANES[®]
Lifting Businesses[™]

Oji Paper, Nantong mill, China

KONECRANES – A LONG-TERM PARTNER



The Challenge

First big expansion abroad

Founded over 130 years ago, Oji Paper Group is Japan's biggest paper producer. The company has over 20,000 employees and revenues of USD 13,448.1 million. Most of the company's mills are located in Japan, in more than 20 localities. The Group also operates in Thailand and Germany. The Nantong mill is optimally located in the proximity of increasing demand from Shanghai city area. Oji Paper started its cooperation with Konecranes several years ago.



“The first time Oji Paper used Konecranes machines was about 15 or 20 years ago. It was a single business case back then. In 1998, we used Konecranes in the Fuji-project. After that we have used Konecranes continuously in various projects, such as the Tomioka and Nantong factories”, says **Mr Muraji Nishi**, Construction Team General Manager.

“Konecranes process automation is very advanced. We could even design safety areas in the factory beforehand. We were also impressed with the safety features of the cranes. Things like target positioning and various safety features made us choose Konecranes as our partner”, says Mr Muraji Nishi.

The Solution

The planning of the project started approximately 6 years ago. The application design included all the cranes in the paper production line and sheet cutting area, altogether 5 process cranes on the paper machine and 4 roll handling cranes in the sheet cutting area.



The process cranes were equipped with intelligent features developed by Konecranes, such as Sway Control, Protected Areas, and Load Positioning.

The Results

Konecranes was chosen to not only deliver the new cranes but to also take full responsibility for the maintenance of all the cranes in Oji Paper factory in Nantong:

“The Konecranes maintenance process is advanced. The system calculates all the distances and the loads moved by each crane. It also tells which part to service and when. It's more accurate than the human eye and also informative. We are very pleased with that. Konecranes service technicians have a quick response time which means that we can run the production without interruptions. This is a major benefit for us.”, says Mr Muraji Nishi.

Konecranes delivered three semi-automated process cranes, two manual process cranes, and around twenty smaller industrial cranes to Oji in Nantong. The semi-automated cranes were specifically designed for this purpose, and also patented safety hooks were used in the fixed and rotating lifting beams. The cranes installed in Nantong represent the latest technology from Konecranes.

For the new Nantong paper mill, Oji Paper was looking for the most advanced technology and the most reliable cranes on the market. According to **Mr Hannu Piispanen**, Konecranes Industry Specialist, Pulp & Paper, the Nantong mill emphasizes the role of cranes even more than in older projects.

Contact information:
Konecranes Finland
Hannu Piispanen
hannu.piispanen@konecranes.com
www.konecranes.com