East African Crude Oil Pipeline





Project overview

Client: Total Energies, EACOP
Project: East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP)
Value: US$4 Billion
Location: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Date: 2023 - Current
Usage: Stacking pipe received from port

Client Total Energies via the EACOP project is building a 1,443km crude oil pipeline from Uganda to the port of Tanga in Tanzania.

The challenge

The line pipe is unloaded from vessels in the Dar Es Salaam port and stacked in the project holding yard prior to onward transport. Due to the tight area for storage, the pipe needed to be stacked up to 8 meters high. It was clear that traditional methods were not going to work for this project.

The solution

To facilitate efficient turnaround of the vessel, the pipe needs to be unloaded from the trucks swiftly and safely. To achieve this, they chose 3 x ARM1500-50 Roborigger units fitted with Vlentec vacuum lifters. This allowed the entire process to be “hands free” meaning a worker never needs to touch or be near the load through the whole lifting process. A diesel generator mounted on the vacuum lifter powers both the Vlentec vacuum lifter and Roborigger allowing 24 x 7 operation.

The benefits

- no need for taglines to control loads. Workers stand clear of crane, loads, and stacked pipe.
- no need for workers to climb the pipe stack to unhook the rigging.
- Only one rigger is required for each crane
- Significant time saving compared with traditional methods.
- Remote control reduces fatigue for riggers.
- Safer, reduced manpower and greater efficiency

Client feedback

“EACOP is focussed on ensuring that its activities adhere to the most stringent social, environmental and safety standards. The best available technology has been incorporated for line lifting operations. Vacuum lifting and ‘Roborigging’ are employed to ensure that personnel are kept out of the line of fire during lifting operations”

EACOP.com ‘EAST AFRICAN CRUDE OIL PIPELINE (EACOP) ANNOUNCES DELIVERY OF FIRST 100KM LINE PIPE IN TANZANIA, PAVING THE WAY FOR PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION.’