



# the OUTRIGGER

DECEMBER 2014

R. Baker & Son Magazine

Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB)

## R. BAKER & SON CHANGES IN NYC SKYLINE: JIB REMOVAL

Earlier this year, R. Baker & Son was commissioned to remove a large jib crane from atop a building at Manhattan's East 14th Street Generating Station.

As workers cut apart steel members, riggers and crane operators utilized a Liebherr LTM 1350 mobile crane with luffer and super-lift and an assist crane to safely lower the jib and mast sections to the street below.



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## BROKK DEMO MACHINES ON PHARMA PROJECT

Oftentimes during demolition projects, R. Baker & Son crews encounter existing factors that can limit equipment access and pose health and safety risks to workers. With considerable advances being made in robotic technology, remote-control demolition machines can often provide the perfect solution to such challenges.

**Demolition robots are extremely versatile and hold many advantages over traditional equipment and hand-operated tools.** These remotely-controlled machines have the ability to venture into confined spaces and other hard-to-access areas, minimizing worker exposure to hazardous materials and physical risks. They are particularly suited for interior demolition applications. Like their larger, fuel-powered counterparts, demolition robots can be fitted with a wide variety of attachments such as breakers, crushers, buckets, grapples, scabblers and drilling equipment, but because they are electrically-operated, they are emission-free and can be safely used indoors.

**R. Baker & Son recently utilized Brokk remote-controlled demolition machines to remove large elevated platforms during an interior demolition project at a New Jersey pharmaceuticals plant.** Crew members operated remote controls from a safe vantage point as several Brokk 400 robots worked simultaneously to break concrete and cut through rebar. The sturdy demolition machines allowed R. Baker & Son to complete the project safely, efficiently, and on-time.



## Giant Crane Arrives at the Tappan Zee

**In October 2014, one of the world's largest floating cranes, the Left Coast Lifter (newly nicknamed ("I Lift New York")), arrived at the Tappan Zee Bridge construction site on the Hudson River in New York after a**



**6,000 mile trip from California through the Panama Canal. The massive \$50 million crane was originally built in 2009 to replace an earthquake-damaged section of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.**

With a boom that extends 328 feet, **the 400-foot-long crane is capable of lifting 1,900 tons at once**, eliminating the need for smaller cranes making multiple lifts, significantly reducing the cost of the bridge replacement by \$1-2 billion, and prompting budget-minded Gov. Andrew Cuomo to gush, "I am truly in love with this crane" during its arrival ceremony.

The new Tappan Zee Bridge is slated to open in 2018.

## ESSENTIAL PPE: HARD HATS

Because there are a myriad of potential hazards in the rigging and demolition industry, wearing the proper protective equipment is imperative to protecting worker safety. Head injuries, which can prove fatal or cause permanent impairment, are particularly dangerous, so one of the most important pieces of PPE in an R. Baker & Son crew member's arsenal is the hard hat.

In general, protective headgear should always be worn in situations in which there is risk of falling or moving objects, fixed objects such as pipes or beams on which one might strike their head, and/or risk of accidental contact with electrical hazards. For construction, rigging, and demolition workers, these hazards are always present and hard hats should be worn at all times. At minimum, hard hats should be resistant to penetration, capable of absorbing the shock of a blow, water and burn resistant, and should display clear instructions for use.

### There are three industrial classes for hard hats.

*Class A* headgear provides impact and penetration resistance and electrical protection up to 2,200 volts. *Class B* is designed to provide maximum protection against electrical shock, up to 20,000 volts, as well as impact and penetration protection. *Class C* offers lightweight impact protection and does not protect against electric shock. R. Baker & Son workers typically wear Class B hard hats.

Hard hats require regular maintenance and daily inspection to ensure they meet or exceed safety regulations and standards. Headgear that is perforated, cracked, or otherwise deformed should be discarded and replaced, well as those that show loss of surface gloss, chalking, or flaking, which can indicate excessive exposure to heat or chemicals. Suspension systems that appear damaged or worn must be promptly replaced. Always replace a hard hat that sustains an impact, even if damage is not visible.



## USS NEW YORK (LPD-21)

Within the bow of the USS New York (LPD 21), the fifth U.S. ship to be named for the state of New York, are 7.5 tons of steel recovered from the fallen World Trade Center towers. The ship and her motto, **“Strength Forged Through Sacrifice – Never Forget”**, honor the victims and first responders of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

R. Baker & Son participated in cutting steel beams recovered from Ground Zero and sent to the Fresh Kills landfill in Staten Island, New York.