

The-chain[®] experts'

Top 10 considerations

for specifying igus[®] in a port crane tender

igus[®] energy chain systems are in 1000+ STS cranes, as well as 10,000+ RTG cranes, RMG cranes and other port crane applications. With that, we have had the opportunity to work with major port equipment OEMs, several specification consulting companies and many port facilities. During the past 20 years of servicing the port industry, we have learned that with various communication channels and stakeholders, often times users don't get what they want or what they thought they were getting. Here, we will give you advice on how to avoid this, based on our experiences.

While specifying your trolley cable management system and moving away from outdated technologies like festoons, there are ways to make sure your investment performs like the manufacturer said it would. Here is a quick list of points to consider for making your project a success.

1



Not all plastic chains are created equal. Call out the name of the manufacturer when appropriate, otherwise the OEM could substitute an inferior system that may look similar but will not provide the same performance.

2



Be as specific as you can with parts and accessory callouts. Consult with your factory team. There are many options available and technology is always evolving. igus[®] offers many options that the OEM might not consider when planning your system. Even if a particular product has been on a print for years, it does not always mean it is the best choice.

3



Do your research and know what you want. igus® has products that can double the life span for an additional cost. Are you willing to invest 20% more upfront to double the service life of your system? Ask questions and know your options.

4



Specify all components and do not just call out one system.

Make sure you specify standard components like the chain, trough and cables, but also specify the necessary specialty parts like anti-ris protection for the trough, a floating tow-arm for attachment to the trolley, and a hinge point connection (needed for STS cranes with lifting booms).

5



Specify any specialty requests. Explore options such as a fully-enclosed trough or heating system for icing conditions, push/pull detection systems for performance monitoring and safety shut down, or anything else that you and an igus® engineered systems representative discuss given the installation environment.

6



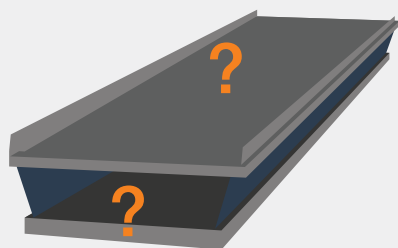
Metal component specification. To cut costs, cheaper galvanized metals can sometimes be used in place of the recommended stainless steel or corrosion-resistant aluminum. Guide troughs, fasteners and mounting hardware, as well as boom hinges and strain relief clamps, must all be made of the appropriate material for the environment in which it is installed.

7



Pre and post-delivery inspections. Even the perfect system can fail if it is not installed properly. Make sure that there are provisions for factory checks before your system leaves the manufacturer, and ask for a commissioning inspection after it reaches your terminal.

8



Where on the crane would you prefer the e-chain® system be installed? Below the girder? Inside the girder? This is primarily for STS applications, but there are multiple installation options available with each providing different benefits.

9



Where will maintenance be performed? Work with the crane OEM to ensure a service platform on the trolley provides ample space for visual inspections and service work. While this is not an igus®-specified feature, it has a direct impact on system serviceability out in the field.

10



Contact your local igus® port equipment industry manager for a technical review. Make sure you are confident in your tender specifications or direct your consulting firm to contact us. We will help you draft your tender to ensure that specification is clear and uses the proper technology.

While these are the top 10 items to consider when specifying igus® in your crane tender, there are many other factors involved in supplying an energy chain solution that lasts. Consult with your industry e-chain® experts to make sure the system exceeds your expectations, from design and delivery to installment and operation.