

# WORK STATION CRANES IN ACTION: ROLL HANDLING

## INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY BY MAKING THE LOAD MANAGEABLE

<b>Industry</b>	Manufacturer of Plastic Film
<b>SIC</b>	3841
<b>Application</b>	Loading packaging material rolls into machines
<b>Solution</b>	Free Standing Bridge Crane with light Aluminum bridges
<b>Results</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased Productivity</li><li>• 1 worker now does the job of 2</li></ul>

### Application:

#### Loading Web Film into Machines

This manufacturer makes plastic products used in the pharmaceutical and medical industries. Workers teamed up to load rolls of web plastic packaging material weighing 150 to 250 lbs. into machines 4 to 5 times each day.

### Concerns with Manual Lifting:

#### Too Many Back Injuries

Heavy lifting on the production floor always invites back injuries, but when the rate of such maladies nears 30%, there are serious implications for worker morale in addition to lost productivity and higher insurance rates.

The rolls of material were packed vertically on their shipping pallet. The operators then had to lift these large, heavy rolls and flip them so they could be loaded horizontally onto the machine. The rolls were awkward to lift and maneuver. In just 12 months, 6 of the 25 workers on this production line had experienced back problems or injuries.

### Gorbel Solution:

The customer incorporated a Gorbel Free Standing Overhead Bridge Crane System into their production line, with steel rails, aluminum bridges, and an air balancer with roll handler. This roll handler rotates the rolls from their vertical shipping position to their horizontal mounting position. The operators no longer have to bear the weight of the rolls while trying to manipulate them onto the machine.

### Results:

#### Back Injuries Reduced 100%

The manufacturer reports that health problems and injuries related to this operation have completely gone away, leading to improved morale on the production line.

#### Increased Productivity

One worker can now do the job that previously required two people. Plus, since heavy lifting is no longer a requirement, the manufacturer maximized their work force because they're now able to use both male and female workers on the line.

- **Back injuries reduced 100%**
- **Product damage was reduced**
- **Productivity was increased**

*Gorbel's Free Standing Bridge Crane increased productivity by transforming this 2-person roll handling application into a safer, more productive 1-person operation.*

