MACTON® Transportation Products

SHALLOW PIT CAR HOIST SYSTEM

MAGAZINE REPRINT

"MAINTENANCE NO LONGER THE PITS"

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For many years, deep pit car hoists were the standard for railcar shops because they offered unlimited access to all lift system components along with a basement storage area if needed. However, the pit depth of 16 to 20 feet required additional costs for construction, excavation, and sometimes extensive drainage systems for shops in high water areas.

As a solution, Macton Corp. developed the Shallow Pit Car Hoist System with a pit depth of only 3 feet 6 inches. The shallower pit reduces excavation and construction costs and increases parts life by simplifying ongoing maintenance. It utilizes an oil-filled caisson in which screws and nuts receive continuous oil bath lubrication every time the lift is raised and lowered.

Because the screws are housed in the caisson and constantly protected from the environment, their wear life is more than doubled. This is not the case in deep pit hoists where there is no oil bath lubrication, and screws and nuts are exposed to the difficult shop environment. The shallow pit also alleviates concern for compliance with OSHA regulations that define a deep pit hoist as "confined space." The result is a safer work environment for shop personnel when they are performing maintenance and repairs to the car hoist.

In addition to choices on foundation configuration, Macton's C-Frame Car Hoists provide options for car hoist function and layout. The "C" shaped supports of the car hoist enable the truck to be lowered and moved under the elevated railcar without the additional need for multiple turntables. This saves space, allowing for a smaller shop configuration. The system comes with two sets of rails: one to continuously support raised vehicles and the other on the shop floor level to allow lowered trucks to pass under the railcar.

For further information, contact:
Denise Louder, Product Manager
dlouder@macton.com; 301.829.1500
or visit www.macton.com.

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The Macton Corporation
116 Willenbrock Road
Oxford, CT 06478
www.macton.com | 800-334-TURN

Macton rail shop equipment consists of a wide range of products which allow rail shop personnel to lift, turn, rotate and otherwise move rail vehicles and truck assemblies for inspection and maintenance purposes. Macton's engineers are available to assist project consultants and rail system personnel in designing the special equipment and facilities needed in these rail system maintenance shops, from the early stages of each project up through the actual installation of the equipment.