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Contractors Services squeezes the Terex® AC 100/4L crane into brewery for expansion

**ZWEIBRÜCKEN, GERMANY**, May 24, 2016 – With revolution-themed brews like Anti-Hero IPA, Coup D'ETAT and Double Fist, Chicago's own Revolution Brewing is riding the wave of microbrew popularity resurgence. Illinois' largest and fastest growing craft brewery, crafting over 50,000 barrels in 2014, Revolution Brewery has set its sights on significant capacity expansion at its N Kedzie Avenue facility, eventually boosting plant capacity to 300,000 barrels per year.

As part of its expansion efforts, the brewery added a 120-barrel brewhouse and multiple 800-barrel fermenters, among other equipment. "The fermenters were 40-ft long with a diameter of 14 ft," says Crane & Aerial Lift Sales Representative, TJ Wicklander, for Central Contractors Service Inc., Chicago, Ill., a division of the ALL Family of Companies. "With a 70-ft-long parking lot as a work space, this does not leave much room for our crane equipment."

The Kedzie facility is located in Chicago's Northwest Avondale neighborhood, so space around the building was at a premium. From the street entrance to the concrete business behind the building to the storage facilities flanking both sides of the business, space was extremely tight for positioning the tanks.

It was a major challenge just to find the right crane capacity and the space to make the fermenter picks. "To one side of the building, ground elevation was about 20-ft higher than where the expansion lifts took place," says Wicklander. "There were fences and power lines surrounding the property and not much room to work."

The concrete plant site, behind Revolution Brewery, was considered as an option, but there were serious and expensive drawbacks to this location. "We would have had to take down power lines," Wicklander adds, "which would stop the brewery's production for one to two days, and we would have had to mobilize a 600-ton crane to work at the extended radius to position the 24,000-lb tanks."

The only way to get to the back of the brewery was to drive straight through the building. And the

only way for that to happen was to select a crane that was compact enough to fit through the narrow 9-ft wide by 13-ft tall door opening. This meant there was only one option for Central Contractors: the Terex® AC 100/4L all terrain crane.

### **Terex Tunnel Vision**

“Only the AC 100/4L could physically drive through the building, due to its compact size, and still offer Central Contractors enough capacity to make all the necessary lifts,” explains Dave Kuhlman, Senior Sales Manager – Major Accounts Team – for Terex Cranes. Wicklander adds, “The lift required a crane with just over 151.6 ft of main boom and a total rigging weight of approximately 25,000 lb at a 58.5-ft radius. We could have brought in a 70-ton class crane to fit through the building, but it would not have offered enough capacity for the lift.”

The AC 100/4L all terrain crane is the only 120-ton capacity class, 4-axle crane with a vehicle width of only 8.4 ft. Carrying 9,900 lb of counterweight and staying within a 26,500-lb axle load, the crane is equipped with a 194.9-ft main telescoping boom and is capable of a maximum system length of 268.0 ft.

Mobilizing the crane for the two-day job required only the crane operator and a truck driver to transport two loads of counterweight. Crews equipped the crane with its full 57,000 lb of counterweight for the heavy lifts. It took approximately 1.5 hours for the crane and counterweight to make the approximately 40-mi trip from Central Contractors’ downtown yard to Revolution Brewery’s N Kedzie Ave. facility, which is standard for navigating busy Chicago streets. “With the travel restrictions we have in Chicago, traffic is always a factor,” says Wicklander.

Once on site, the operator took advantage of the crane’s all-wheel steering to position it for entering the tunnel. “It had to be a straight-on shot to make it through the narrow doorway,” mentions Wicklander. “We had approximately 30 ft. of road in front of the building to get the crane into position.”

Central Contractors’ skilled crane operator carefully drove the AC 100/4L crane through the 9- x 13-ft doorway and down the narrow 200-ft long tunnel to get to the back of the building. The crane’s suspension was lowered and the side mirrors were drawn in, so it could slip through the passage. “He literally had only inches to spare on the sides and at the top of the crane,” comments Wicklander. “This is why we hire only the best crane operators available.”

### **Quick Work**

Once exiting the tunnel into the back parking lot of the building, the AC 100/4L crane was quickly prepped for the lifts. A crew consisting of the crane operator, oiler, truck driver and four workers from the construction contractor, Corcoran Fabrication, had the crane rigged and ready for lifting in just over an hour.



In less than two days, Central Contractors lifted and positioned four 800-barrel fermenters and one each silo, chiller and carbon dioxide tank, along with supporting structures. The crane's compact 26.7- x 23.6-ft outrigger footprint helped to work within the parking lot's confined space, while still delivering the required lift capacity.

After the last pick, the AC 100/4L crane was derigged and the process of carefully driving the crane down the 200-ft long, narrow passageway to N Kedzie Ave was repeated. Both trips through the building were made without putting a scratch on the crane's body.

Had Central Contractors not been able to use the AC 100/4L all terrain crane from the brewery's back parking lot, the alternate concrete plant location would have been used. Wicklander explains that this would have added significantly more work, time and expense to the project.

"Not bringing in the 600-ton capacity crane to lift the tanks from the other lot, saved us and the customer a minimum of \$11,000 in trucking costs alone, not to mention the expense associated with taking down the power lines and the lost production for the brewery," he says.

By using the Terex AC 100/4L crane, Central Contractors supported the Revolution and helped to cost-effectively fulfill the brewery's vision of significant expansion to grow its brand.

#### **About the ALL Family of Companies**

The ALL Family of Companies is the largest privately held crane rental and sales enterprises in North America, with 37 branches operating under the ALL, Central, Dawes, and Jeffers names. ALL is an authorized dealer of Terex in five states. For more information, contact the ALL Family headquarters, ALL Erection & Crane Rental Corp., 4700 Acorn Drive, Independence, OH 44131. Phone: 216-524-6550. Toll free: 800-232-4100. Fax: 216-642-7633. On the Web: [www.allcrane.com](http://www.allcrane.com)

#### **About Terex**

Terex Corporation is a lifting and material handling solutions company reporting in five business segments: Aerial Work Platforms, Construction, Cranes, Material Handling & Port Solutions and Materials Processing. Terex manufactures a broad range of equipment serving customers in various industries, including the construction, infrastructure, manufacturing, shipping, transportation, refining, energy, utility, quarrying and mining industries. Terex offers financial products and services to assist in the acquisition of Terex equipment through Terex Financial Services. Terex uses its website ([www.terex.com](http://www.terex.com)) and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/TerexCorporation](https://www.facebook.com/TerexCorporation)) to make information available to its investors and the market.





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