

# Chimney challenge

Dismantling four 465-foot tall chimneys required skilled crane operation by a Guay Inc. team.

With two chimneys down and the third one about half way dismantled, crews had gotten the hang of the tedious work at height.



After the cranes were set up and rigged, the sky high work began with a worker in a man basket hanging from the Manitowoc M2250 cutting the steel sections of the chimney and then the operator of the Terex CC2800-1 bringing the chimney section down.



Late in 2013, Sorel-Tracy, Quebec province, Canada-based Guay Inc. was called on to develop an engineering and lifting plan and provide the cranes to dismantle four chimneys that stood about 465 feet tall. The cranes would need to lift 75,000 pounds at a 105-foot radius and would need to be able to move quickly between each chimney with the boom fully erected.

“The challenge was to coordinate the work between the cranes on site,” said Guay Vice President Guillaume Gagnon.

At the jobsite, Guay provided a 700-ton capacity Terex CC2800-1 rigged with 452 feet of main boom, 78 feet of jib and Superlift to hold the chimney pieces. The crane was equipped with 180 metric tons of counterweight and 60 metric tons of carbody counterweight. Each chimney was cut into nine pieces.

The second crane on the job was a Manitowoc M2250 rigged with 200 feet of main boom, 200 feet of luffing jib and 120 feet of jib. This crane was equipped with 95 metric tons of counterweight and 27 metric tons of carbody counterweight. The crane was rigged with a man basket from which a worker cut the steel on the chimney.

“We needed to plan our work really well and assure precise crane operation because each crane’s boom were sometimes really close to each other,” said Gagnon.

As each section was cut and ready to come down, a three spreader-bar system was used to lift each piece.

A third crane onsite was a 250-ton capacity Grove GMK6250L that was used as an assist crane to help with rigging the other machines and to tail the chimney pieces at ground level.