



Press Release April 2007

Global logistics specialists, UTI, through its supply chain planning and organisational services, designs and implements customised solutions for companies that improve efficiencies and reduce the overall costs of each customer's supply chain.

"The local organisation's logistics services encompass value-added warehousing and the distribution of goods to meet specific inventory needs and distribution schedules," says Iain Sinclair, commercial manager for UTI's logistics KwaZulu Natal operation. "For optimum efficiency in distribution services, which include cargo loading and unloading, the company has invested in the latest machinery, controlled by highly skilled operators.

"UTI now uses the mobile Mobicon container handling system - one of the lightest container handlers in the world - to efficiently lift loads onto and off trucks and carry containers safely around the Durban site. One of the most important features of this new container handling system, apart from enhanced safety, is faster operating times.

"We are now able to avoid port congestion by receiving containers at night for the next morning's shift. This is a big factor when handling large shipments of containers. It means we are able to dictate our work flow and are not reliant on transporters waiting in a queue at the port. This also further reduces the chances of demurrage costs or over-stay at the port.

"The Mobicon also utilises all parts of the yard. It can easily handle ramps and speed bumps and operates on pavements and in restrictive areas where other container handling equipment cannot go. We are impressed that this system can turn in tight spaces and is also able to drive into the warehouse which is very convenient, especially in wet weather conditions.

"Another advantage of this system over conventional equipment used to load and unload containers is there is no damage caused to our yards and pavements, which eliminates the need for costly yard repairs."

The lightweight Mobicon system has a 33 tonne lift capacity and is able to carry any type or size ISO specified container, without the need for modifications or additional lifting equipment. The low centre of gravity of this system enhances stability, preventing it from rolling over.

uti-mobicon-container-handler...two

The Mobicon, which has the reputation as the safest container handler on the market, also requires minimal maintenance.

The container is lifted from the bottom, which allows the operator to easily handle flat beds, tank containers, half heights, over heights and curtain sided containers. The two tower design provides the flexibility to be able to operate on slightly sloping or uneven surfaces, as well as compacted gravel yards, bitumen or standard lightweight concrete.

The simple design of the Mobicon machine utilises an economical four cylinder 60hp diesel engine, coupled to a hydrostatic drive system, for reduced fuel costs. Consumption is 5 litres an hour compared to 22 l/hr for other machines.

Enhanced safety has been critical in the design of this machine. The operator now has a clear view of the working area and does not have to travel with a container 3 metres in the air. Instead of staff having to work at a trailer's height, they are now able to work safely at ground level.

This new efficient Mobicon container handling system, which is manufactured in Australia, is available exclusively throughout Africa from Big Lift Trucks. The company offers a technical advisory, parts and support service.

Released by Lindy Morton, **Festivitas** Telephone and fax (031) 502 2374 or 083 268 6666

For further information Iain Sinclair, Commercial Manager, **UTI KZN**

PO Box 10480, Marine Parade 4056

Telephone (031) 461 8300

Fax (031) 461 8330

April 2007