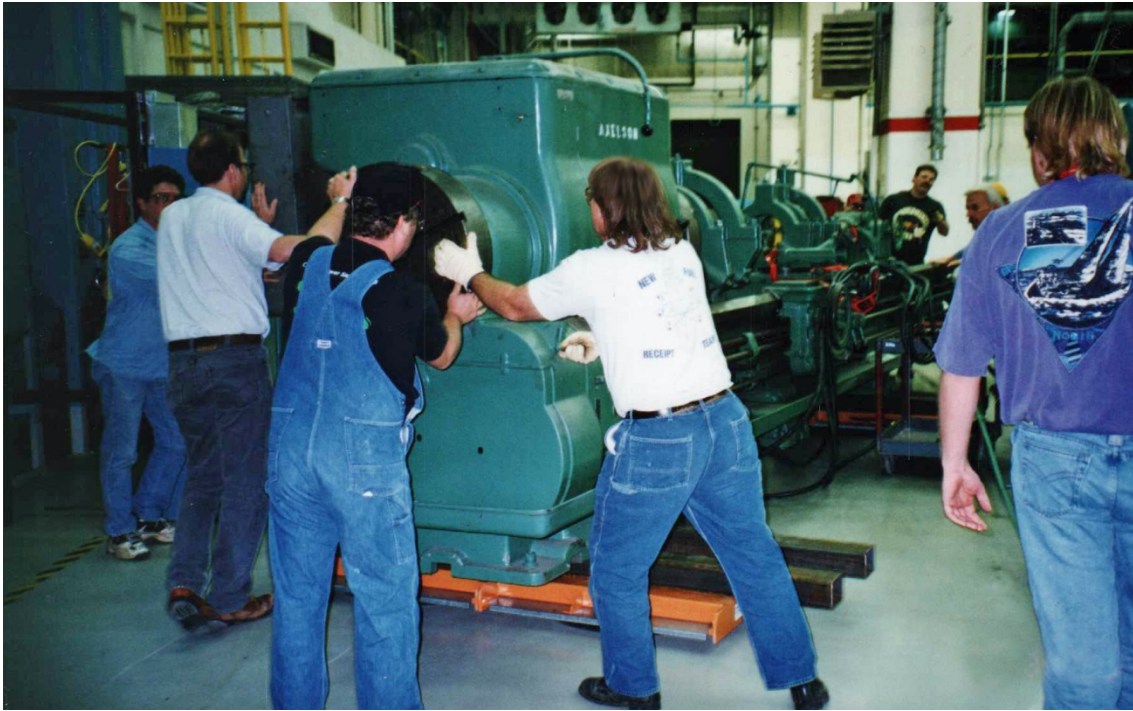


Machinery Move at Nuclear Power Plant



Situation

A nuclear power plant in Central Illinois needed to move a 38,000 lb. engine lathe and a 68,000 lb. vertical boring mill. The facility first considered using their own overhead crane to move the equipment; however, since the crane only has a capacity of 15 tons it would only be sufficient to move half the equipment.

Next, they examined contracting a firm to move the equipment using two massive forklifts. This idea had four main problems associated with it:

- Cost – contractors were going to charge \$450 an hour and estimated that it would take 10 hrs. to complete the job.
- Safety – contractors were going to utilize two forklifts in a delicate balancing act over 200 feet.
- Maneuverability of the forklifts would have been extremely limited due to the close confines of the shop environment.
- Floor loading was not sufficient to hold the weight of the equipment plus two fork lifts.

Solution

Airfloat provided four of its 36-inch air skids, which boast a combined capacity of 125,000 lbs.

Results

The engine lathe was floated over 200 ft. in just eight minutes, saving the power plant thousands of dollars in rigging costs and lost downtime.