

5. CRANES AND HOISTS

5.1 The Market

a) Cranes

Australia relies largely on imported cranes with local manufacturers concentrating on the production of a range of components and attachments for inclusion into imported cranes. In cases of building construction work, when combined with site erection costs, such crane equipment may represent a local content of 20 to 25 per cent of a total contract value.

Some local companies also undertake complete manufacturing activity including the design, procurement, fabrication and assembly. Activity of this kind generally entails the import of the more complex crane components, including engines, hydraulics, and any special componentry of high tensile steel and other special materials.

Indicative figures of cranes imported into Australia are:

CRANE IMPORTS

	<u>85/86</u>	<u>86/87</u>	<u>87/88</u>
UNITS	1600	1490	1476
VALUE (AUD. MILLION)	17.10	15.98	19.03

The crane industry is considered a most vital part of Australia's materials handling equipment and, whilst local manufacture of cranes is steadily growing, the ratio of importations is expected to be maintained, particularly in regard to special large heavy duty cranes for big construction in rough terrain conditions.

Overhead travelling & swinging jib cranes are the most commonly used. Order picked stacker, semi-portal and portal cranes represent a smaller portion of the market (20%).

The majority of cranes (60%) are in the 0-15 tonne range.