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## Bragg Companies

**Blankets State With Staff, Equipment,  
Completing Any Possible Type Of Project**

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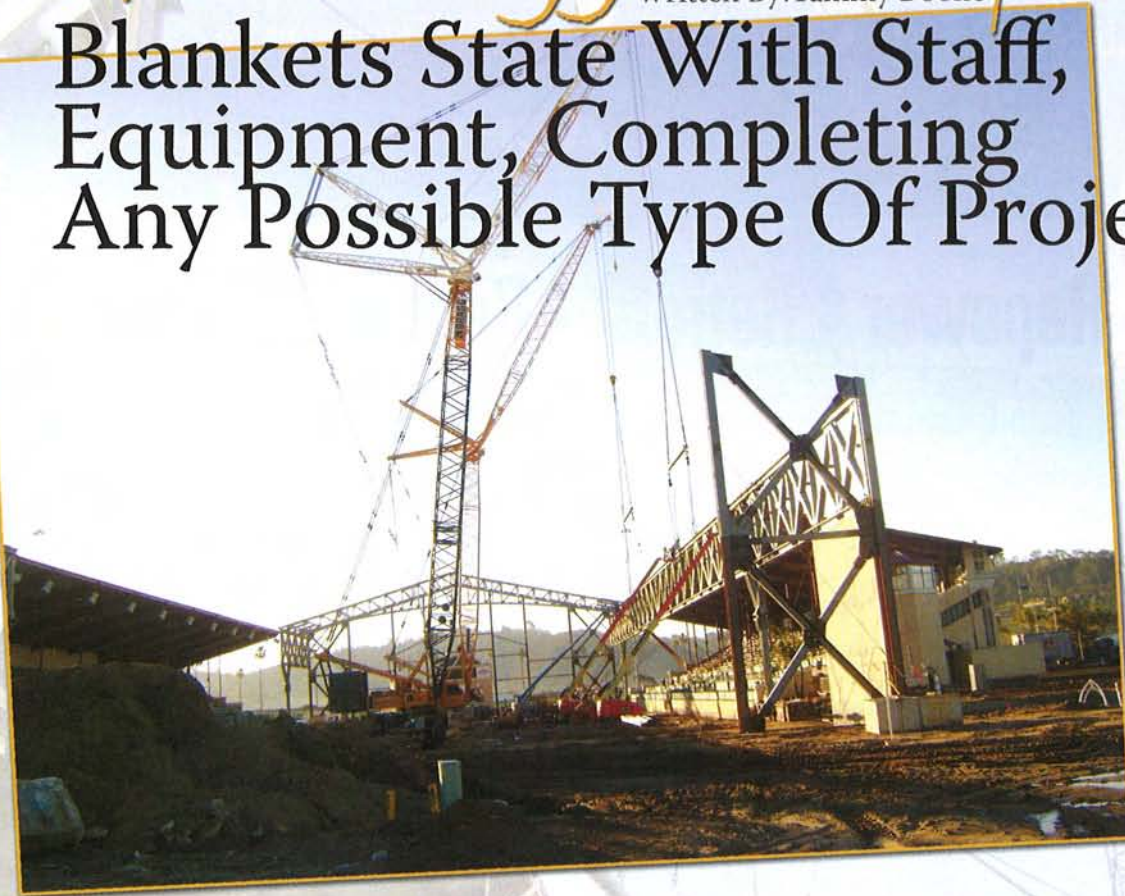
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# The Bragg Companies

Written By: Tammy Boone

## Blankets State With Staff, Equipment, Completing Any Possible Type Of Project

*(Left) Construction on the new horse arena at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club.*



With a fleet of cranes numbering more than 250, and 10 locations in California, Nevada and Arizona, The Bragg Companies—Bragg Crane Service, Bragg Crane & Rigging and Heavy Transport—is one of the largest crane companies west of the Mississippi. Their projects are widely diversified, covering general construction, refinery and wind power industries, tower crane erection/dismantling, tilt panel construction, steel erection and large concrete structures. The company rents equipment with an operator, provides bare rentals, operates and maintains equipment or works hourly, whatever the customer request or job need may be, says Ralph Love, Bragg's Sales Manager for the crane division.

Bragg Crane Service is in the midst of a project at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club working on the construction of a new horse arena for the club. Bragg is supplying two large crawler cranes—a Liebherr LR 1300 330-ton capacity and LR 1400 450-ton capacity—to set the structural steel trusses for the arena. One of the challenges on this project, according to Ralph, is staying within OSHA's requirements for a two-crane pick. In order to ensure safe operating capacity for each crane involved in the pick, OSHA requires a 25 percent deduction in lift capacity. To accommodate this requirement, both cranes are involved with setting each truss and Bragg has set up direct communication between each of the

crane operators and the ground person to coordinate the lift of the 247,000-pound trusses. Bragg is using a main boom and luffing jib on both cranes for this project.

In addition to the two Liebherr cranes, Ralph says that Bragg Crane has numerous other cranes on the job-site, assisting the bigger cranes and doing general work on the project, including setting miscellaneous structural steel. Bragg's customer for the project is Schuff Steel, out of Phoenix, Arizona, and one of the largest steel fabricator/erectors in the United States. The project's general contractor is Turner Construction. Bragg Crane will be on the project for a couple of months, although the Liebherr's were only there for a short time to set the trusses.

*(Right) Bragg operator hard at work.*



*(Left) Liebherr cranes working on the in-field of the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club track.*



In a totally different example of the type of projects the company completes, Bragg Crane has 37 cranes onsite at the Chevron, U.S.A. refinery in El Segundo, which is under total shutdown for a maintenance overhaul. Bragg Crane began work at the refinery in December and will be onsite throughout January. The crane operators—running 8 1/2-ton to 450-ton crawler cranes with heavy lift attachments—are working around the clock, seven days a week. “We basically have operators running two 11 1/2-hour shifts each day,” Ralph says. “That’s a lot of manpower.”

The company, which has its main office in Long Beach, has additional California offices in Fontana, Redding, Richmond, Sacramento, San Diego,

Santa Ana, Yuba City as well as in Reno, Nevada and Phoenix, Arizona. In the Long Beach office alone, there are currently 120 operating engineers working. The company mainly works in the Western United States, but has completed projects in Texas, North and South Dakota, and New York.

Bragg Companies was founded in 1946 and is owned by siblings George Bragg and Maryann Bragg Poole.

Bragg Companies has had the opportunity to be involved in many high profile projects in California over the years. One such project is LA Live, a one of a kind entertainment campus that includes the Nokia Theater, as well as hotels, residences, ESPN Zone, and restaurants. Again working for Schuff

Steel, Bragg Crane was on the job for six months, setting structural steel for the Nokia Theater, an AMC movie theater and the convention center. Bragg had two Liebherr LR 1300 crawler cranes on the project, as well as other types of smaller cranes.

Current challenges for Bragg Companies are riding out the economic downturn, as well making sure all of its fleet is compliant with California Air Resource Board (CARB) requirements. “Our fleet is probably one of the newest in the state,” Ralph says. “We’re constantly replacing equipment and I’d say we’ve purchased 50-plus cranes in the last three years.”

Ralph believes that Bragg Companies diversity—in everything from services

offered to types of projects it completes—is a strength for the company. “There isn’t a facet of construction that we can’t do with both of our crane companies.”

The Bragg Companies project expertise includes: Erection, dismantling, modification, repair and relocation of industrial equipment, plant material, machinery, and production facilities; seismic repair and retrofit of structural steel; pre-cast concrete tilt-up; pre-cast girder and panel installations; tower crane and manlift erection, dismantle, operation and maintenance; theme park ride

“There isn’t a facet of construction that we can’t do with both of our crane companies.”

installations; furnishing and erecting structural steel bridges; nuclear decommissioning and steam generator replacement; power plant construction, including turbine and generator

installation; petrochemical refining, including heavy mechanical and vessel installations; aerospace, including heavy mechanical & tooling installations, and sport stadium/arena seismic repair & retrofit or structural steel.

Additionally, Bragg Companies’ safety record is a big plus.

“Our safety record is unblemished,” Ralph

continues. “We take great pride in the various safety awards we have won.”

Bragg has developed extensive programs for the safety of their employees, customers, sub-contractors, and the community. “Safety is of prime importance for every job task performed by Bragg employees,” the company’s website says. “To maintain successful achievements in safety control, The Bragg Companies rely on the fundamental services of their in-house Safety Department.”

With the company’s diversity, Ralph believes Bragg Companies can look forward to continued growth in the future. “We are adding sales people and staying up to date on all the technical advances in the industry.”

For more information look online at [www.braggcrane.com](http://www.braggcrane.com) or call (562) 984-2400. **CC**

*(Below) The LR 1400 Heavy lift working with a Liebherr LR 1200 on the vessel tail.*



*(Right) Bragg Crane Service supplied a Liebherr LR 1300 330-ton crawler crane and a LR 1400 450-ton crawler crane to set the structural steel trusses for the arena.*

