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Houston, Texas



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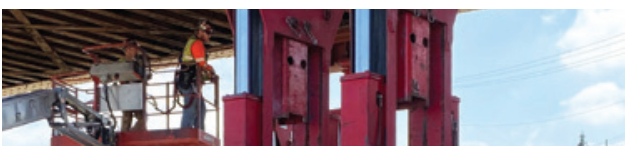
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Houston, Texas



The change in leadership to David Webster was a strategic decision to position the company for the future.

FEATURE STORY

LEADERSHIP CHANGE CARRIES BARNHART'S MISSION FORWARD

In March 2025, Barnhart transitioned leadership from Alan Barnhart to former COO David Webster. Barnhart had led the company, which was founded in 1969, for nearly four decades. During that time, he transformed it from a small family business into an international industry leader with more than 70 locations.

Barnhart continues as Chairman of the Board, but by handing leadership to Webster, he made a strategic decision to position the company to be a “100-year company.” Webster brings more than a decade of experience with Barnhart, having joined the company in October 2014. His move into the president and CEO role represents continuity in leadership and a steady hand for the company’s next chapter.

As Barnhart has progressed under Webster’s leadership, the principles that shaped the company have remained the same. Barnhart’s reputation has never been based on equipment alone. It has been built through its approach to work: careful planning, sound engineering, disciplined execution and a strong focus on safety. Those ideas have shaped the company over time and continue to guide decision-making today.

“In 2025, we had a record year,” says Webster. “And we’re on track for another record in 2026. The system that’s been built at Barnhart works because our people keep improving it. I’ve been fortunate to have Alan’s support as we’ve transitioned leadership and filled key roles, so we’ve moved forward without missing a beat.”

For customers, that continuity is important. Leadership changes can raise questions about what will stay the same. In Barnhart’s case, the values that guided the company under Alan Barnhart have continued under David Webster. That includes a focus on safe operations, thoughtful planning, honest communication and practical solutions to difficult projects.

Customers often call on Barnhart when work is complex, schedules are tight and downtime carries real cost. In those situations, consistency matters. While the company has entered a new era, the principles that have guided its work for decades remain in place. Under Webster’s leadership, Barnhart continues to build on that foundation while serving customers with the same focus and values that have long defined the company.

COMMERCIAL | MISSOURI

GOLD GLOVE INSTALLATION

LOFTY GOALS

Provide lift planning, crane and crew for the installation of a 35,000-pound, 30-foot-tall gold baseball glove atop a sporting goods manufacturer's headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri.

NEWSWORTHY

This high-profile project was designed to make a bold statement, and its visibility required experienced heavy-lift personnel to ensure safe and effective execution.

PERFORMANCE

Barnhart delivered with professional lift plans from the St. Louis branch, supported by a 900-ton hydraulic crane from the Ladd, Illinois branch and expert crews from both teams.

HOME RUN

Barnhart's St. Louis and Ladd branches teamed up to knock this one out of the park.



STEEL MILL | ALABAMA

DUCTWORK REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT



PROJECT SCOPE

A stainless steel mill in Alabama requested advance engineering and the subsequent removal and replacement of multiple ductwork sections.



CHALLENGES

The sections weighed up to 89,000 pounds and were located both inside and at extreme heights on top of plant facilities.



PROCESS

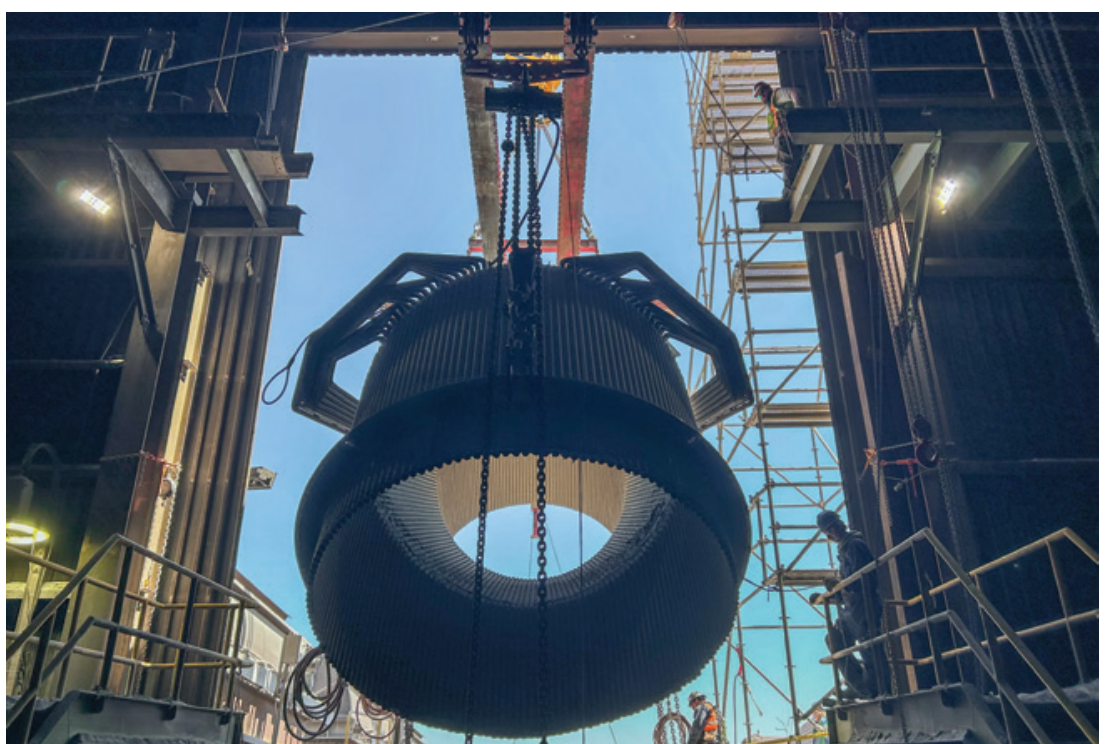
Barnhart Engineering specified the use of its 1,600-ton class crane, Moving Counterweight Cantilever System (MOCCS) and electric chain hoist. The MOCCS and chain hoist combination provided precise vertical rotation and horizontal movement necessary inside the confined workspace.



RESULTS

The surgical replacement of all ductwork sections was safely completed as planned and reduced the customer's schedule by four days.

— A Better Way to —
REMOVE & REPLACE



CARGO LOGISTICS | TENNESSEE

TRANSFORMER TRANSLOAD

RAIL TO BARGE

Barnhart was contacted by a logistics company to transload a 440,000-pound transformer from rail to a deck barge in Tennessee for delivery to its final destination.

ADVANTAGES

Most would struggle to find efficiencies in such a basic scope. But Barnhart's engineering, nationwide branch system, innovative toolbox and specialized facilities created significant advantages for the customer.

IN AND OUT

Barnhart's 1,250-ton capacity derrick crane, nicknamed "Ichabod," and adjacent rail spur at the Port of Memphis were ideal for an efficient transfer to the barge for the remaining journey.

OUTCOME

The job was carried out flawlessly and provided a seamless logistics solution for the customer.



STEEL MILL | MISSISSIPPI TURRET BEARING REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT



PROJECT SCOPE

Barnhart removed and replaced a 10,340-pound slew bearing on a 341,000-pound ladle turret at a Mississippi steel mill.



CHALLENGES

Crews worked 12-hour shifts in a congested and hot environment. The bearing sat at the turret base inside permanent steel housing, between two overhead cranes with limited hook access, and was surrounded by walkways and plant infrastructure.



PROCESS

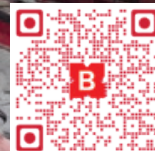
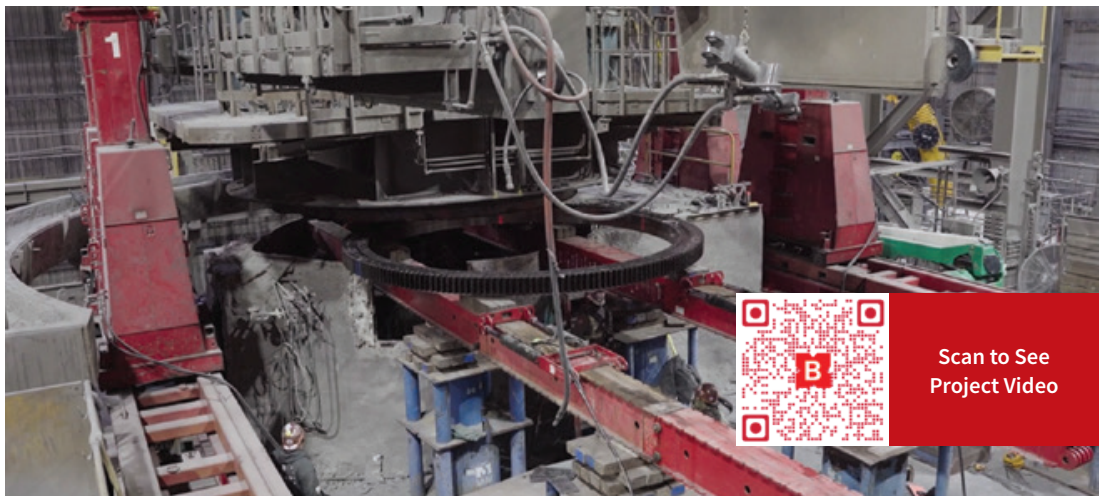
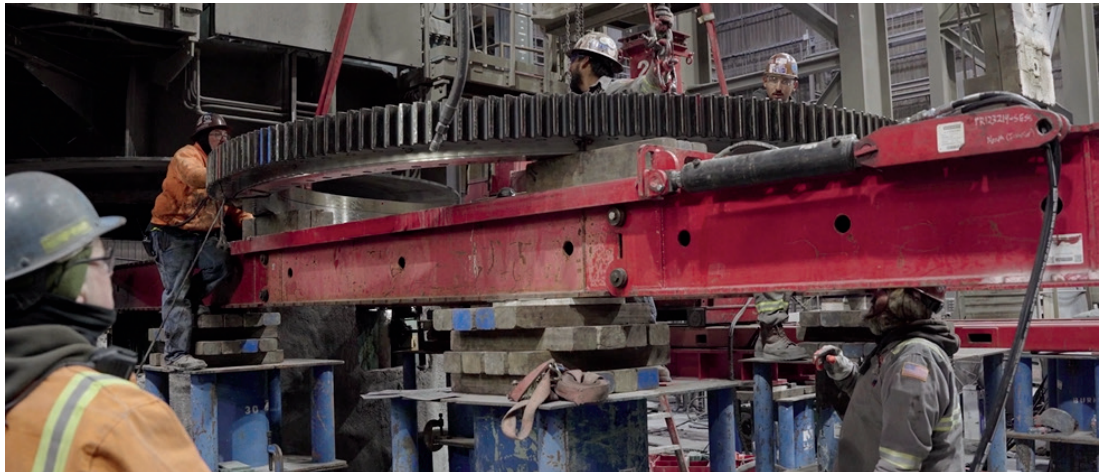
The plant's overhead cranes and an all-terrain crane installed Barnhart's 500-ton gantry and slide system. Equipment was rigged through existing infrastructure. The turret was lifted, and the bearing was slid out to the crane hook for replacement.



RESULTS

The floor-level method improved safety, kept overhead cranes operational, and completed the work ahead of schedule.

— A Better Way to —
REMOVE & REPLACE



Scan to See
Project Video

TURBINES AND GENERATOR HEAVY HAUL

PROJECT SCOPE

Barnhart executed a 2,000-mile super heavy haul of two turbines and one generator from a port in Duluth, Minnesota to a gas-fired power plant in Saskatchewan, Canada.

EXPERIENCE AND PLANNING

Barnhart's international heavy haul experience and months of detailed planning enabled the development of new corridors. Close coordination with utilities and public agencies ensured a smooth cross-border move.

EQUIPMENT

The 403,446-pound LP steam turbine move was permitted using Barnhart's 20-axle GS-800 dual-lane hydraulic transporter. The 25-foot-wide, 345-foot-long configuration was pushed and pulled by two 80,000-pound prime movers.

AWARD-WINNING HAUL

Advanced planning, equipment flexibility, and expert execution overcame route constraints and safely accelerated the project schedule by several days. **This project won the 2026 SC&RA Hauling Job of the Year in the greater than 360,000-pound category.**



NUCLEAR | VIRGINIA VERTICAL FEEDWATER HEATER REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT



PROJECT SCOPE

Barnhart replaced eight vertical feedwater heaters at two Virginia nuclear plants. The largest units weighed 157,000 pounds and measured 41 feet long.



CHALLENGES

Existing plant overhead cranes lacked sufficient lift height to move the heaters across the turbine deck. Modifying the cranes or structure would have significantly increased cost and schedule.



PROCESS

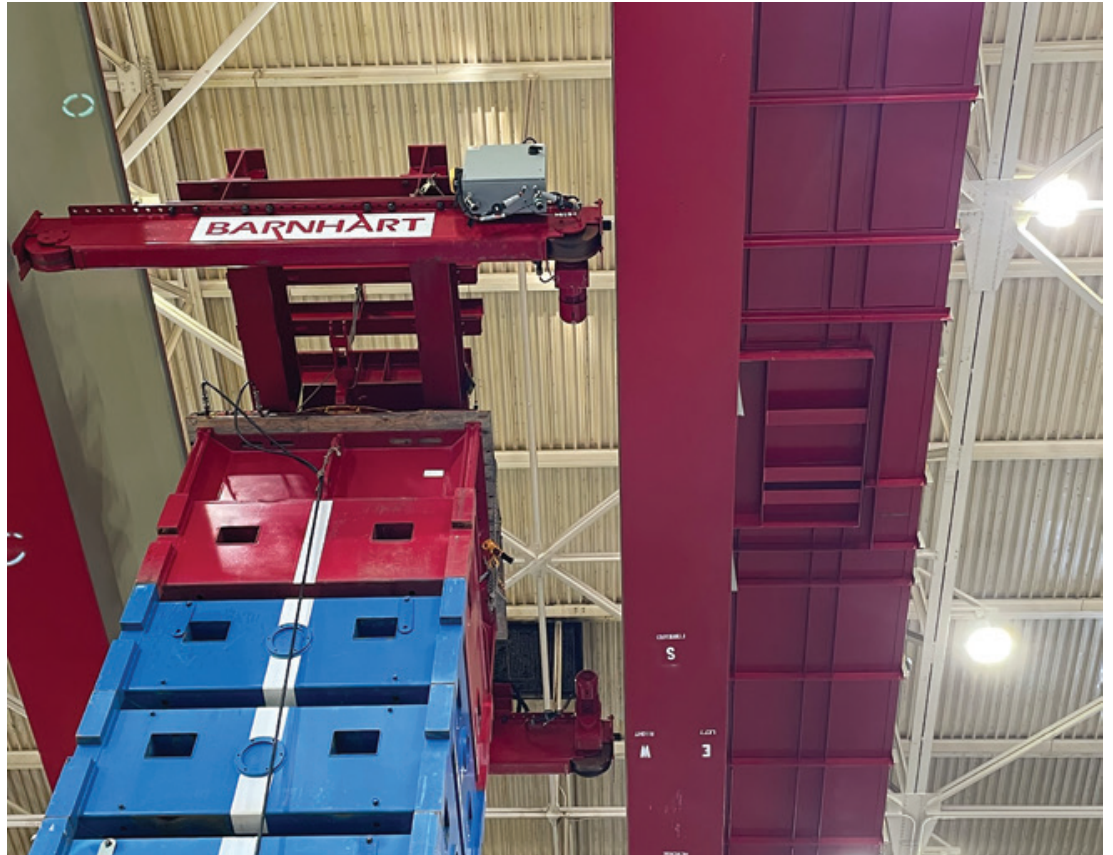
Barnhart engineered a temporary lifting device (TLD) using 50-ton air tuggers and set the TLD with the Barnhart Pushup Unit system and a 500-ton turntable. The heaters were rotated and lowered to a self-propelled modular transporter and hauled to a staging area.



RESULTS

The project showcased Barnhart's innovative design-build and execution capabilities in a demanding nuclear environment.

— A Better Way to —
REMOVE & REPLACE



AGRICULTURAL | MINNESOTA EQUIPMENT SET

PLANT EXPANSION

Barnhart supported an expansion at a Minnesota agricultural plant, receiving and setting a 123,000-pound solar turbine, 186,000-pound Heat Recovery Steam Generator (HRSG) and 30,000-pound economizer.

CHALLENGES

The HRSG arrived on its side and required rotation before installation, with limited space, a tight facility entrance and winter conditions requiring minimized outdoor exposure.

EXECUTION

Barnhart used a 500-ton quad block to rotate the HRSG without a second crane, sliding it inside to a gantry system. Strategic gantry placement allowed direct turbine offload inside the building, while coordinated gantry and bull rigging positioned the economizer from overhead steel.

OUTCOME

Collaborative planning delivered added value, reduced equipment needs and garnered high customer satisfaction.



NUCLEAR | TENNESSEE

PRECAST BEAM TRANSPORT

LOAD, HAUL, BARGE

Barnhart was selected to load, secure and transport eight precast upstream wall beams to a lock and dam site in Tennessee.

PRECISION PLANNING

Each 114' beam weighed approximately 926,000 pounds, requiring precise engineering, specialized rigging and careful route planning. Challenges included sensitive load characteristics, center-of-gravity issues and critical underground cooling lines.

MAKING IT HAPPEN

Barnhart engineered custom rigging and tie-downs, loaded the beams using an 800-ton gantry system, protected underground utilities with temporary bridges and transported the loads using SPMTs configured specifically for the over-the-road and roll-on barge operations.

SUCCESS

All eight beams were delivered safely and on schedule.



COMMERCIAL | PENNSYLVANIA

PLANE INSTALLATION

REPEAT CUSTOMER

A museum in Pennsylvania reached out to Barnhart again to relocate several historic artifacts during a renovation. The artifacts included a Lockheed T-33 jet and a Wright Brothers flyer.

TIGHT CLEARANCE

Barnhart rigged, lowered and stabilized the Lockheed T-33 so demolition work could proceed safely. With roof steel blocked by a drop ceiling, the team designed an alternate plan using a 40-ton gantry system and basket rigging. After navigating tight access constraints, the jet was safely lifted and lowered onto cribbing.

FRAGILE AIRFRAME

The circa 1910 Wright Flyer required exceptional care. Barnhart's rigging and millwright teams lowered the suspended aircraft, disassembled it, transported it through the museum and reassembled it for display. Due to its fragile construction, team members wore cotton gloves during much of the work.

SUCCESSFUL TAKEOFF

The team fabricated a heavy-duty frame and skid to protect the aircraft. The final chain hoist installation was coordinated with two ironworkers working from 45-foot atrium lifts, completing a safe display installation.





The PUG handles heavy, low-clearance lifts with ease, with a working height range of 6'10" to 11'10."



The capacity of each leg is 500,000 pounds, for a combined capacity of 1,000 tons.

EQUIPMENT PROFILE

BARNHART PULL-UP GANTRIES

When headroom is limited and traditional gantries aren't an option, the Barnhart Pull-Up Gantry (PUG) offers a different approach to precision lifting. With a combined capacity of 1,000 tons across four legs (500,000 pounds per leg), the PUG handles heavy, low-clearance lifts with ease. A 60-inch stroke and working height range of 6'10" to 11'10" allows the system to lift loads that are just inches off the ground and raise them in one continuous motion, eliminating the jack-and-crib cycles that drain time and manpower on traditional operations.

"When headroom is limited, the real challenge is finding a way to make the lift safely and efficiently," says Van Thompson, Barnhart Director of Engineering Sales Support. "The pull-up gantry was built to do that by reducing setup time, eliminating repeated jack-and-crib cycles, and giving crews better control during low-clearance lifts."

With each PUG weighing 5,200 pounds, setup time is significantly shorter than a conventional gantry system. No pipe stands are needed for staging, and no overhead beams or rigging are required to lift the load. When work needs to be performed beneath a suspended load, cribbing can be placed in the window of the gantry to take the load off hydraulics. In addition, internal holding valves prevent the loss of pressure and the load should a hose be damaged during the lift.

The PUG is also built to adapt to a wide range of project requirements. It can be configured as a traditional gantry using dead section or second-stage cylinder attachments and pairs with Barnhart's gantry risers when travel under load is needed. Every accessory required to get to work, including four PUGs, steel mats, two lifting beams, and a multipurpose pump, transports together as a single legal load. The crew arrives ready to work rather than coordinating multiple deliveries or chasing oversize permits.



PUGs can block the units, making it safe for crew to work underneath.

BRANCH PROFILE

HOUSTON, TEXAS

Barnhart's Houston branch sits in the middle of one of the most concentrated energy corridors in the world. Surrounded by refineries and petrochemical plants, it operates in a market where the work is demanding, the stakes are high and competition is among the toughest in the industry. From large-scale outages to complex transportation projects, the branch has built a reputation for delivering smart solutions where timing and precision matter most.

"Within 15 minutes, I can be at 15 different refineries or plants," says Branch Manager J.C. Lake. "It's a target-rich environment, but it's also where many of the biggest players in our industry are based, so you have to bring your best every day."

Turnaround and maintenance support for refineries remains a cornerstone of the branch's work. During these planned outages, facilities temporarily shut down units so crews can repair or replace major components. Barnhart's cranes and specialty rigging equipment play a critical role in removing and reinstalling massive pieces of equipment under tight schedules.

"Plants might only have 30 or 60 days to complete a turnaround, and every day they're down they're losing money," Lake says. "Our job is to bring the right cranes, rigging and plan so they can stay on schedule and get the plant back online."

A recent example came during a major outage at a Pasadena refinery. The project required seven cranes—including one of Barnhart's heavy-lift 2800 units—and close coordination with Barnhart's Pascagoula, Mississippi operation to support the broader account along the Gulf Coast. The effort earned recognition when the company nominated Barnhart for a Safety Excellence Award through the Industry Business Roundtable, where the team was ultimately selected as best in class.

The Houston branch has also become one of Barnhart's designated Areas of Excellence for heavy haul transportation. Leveraging its proximity to Gulf Coast ports, the branch frequently integrates barging with over-the-road transport to move oversized cargo efficiently.



The heavy-lift CC2800-1 moves a massive plant component during a critical turnaround, working in sync with six other cranes to keep the outage on schedule.



The CC2800-1 lifts a key component while the Houston crew coordinates every move to deliver a seamless, on-time solution for the plant outage.

The Houston team coordinated every step—from river to road—to deliver critical equipment safely to the data center site.



Transformers weighing 300,000 pounds each arrive in Vicksburg after a barge journey from New Orleans.

One recent project illustrates that capability. Over the course of four months, the team handled 12 transformers weighing roughly 300,000 pounds each. The units arrived at the Port of New Orleans in groups of three, were barged up the Mississippi River to Vicksburg, Mississippi, and then transported by specialized trailers to a nearby data center construction site. The project required detailed coordination with local officials and communities to safely move the oversized loads through town.

“We’re solution-minded, no matter the job,” Lake says. “If cargo can’t move directly from the port by road, we’ll find another path. It’s about working side by side with the client to figure out the smartest way to get whatever it is they need done.”

From refinery turnarounds to multimodal heavy haul projects across much of the country, Barnhart’s Houston team continues to prove that operating in the center of a competitive market only sharpens their ability to deliver.



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