



2989 Kingsgate Way  
Richland, WA 993541-5311  
509-371-1703  
Fax: 509-375-4920

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Contact: Jay K. Shiffler**  
**512-633-7413**

## **Ralf Vieten joins WHECO team in Aiken, SC**

Ralf Vieten has been named the vice president of operations for the Aiken, SC division of WHECO Corp., a crane and capital equipment structural repair and restoration services company.

Vieten will oversee WHECO's East Coast repair center, managing the day-to-day operations at the facility where a team of skilled technicians provide efficient and cost-effective repair solutions to structurally damaged equipment and components.

A native of Germany, Vieten served in the German Air Force and started his career in Siempelkamp. He moved to the U.S. in 1987 to work as Assistant Plant Manager for American Truetzchler in Charlotte, NC. He was promoted to Plant manager and worked for the company until 1997. In 1998 he was hired as Director of Manufacturing and Operations for Sorbilit Inc. in Virginia Beach, VA. In 2002 he was hired as Vice President of Service for Schiller Service Corp., which at the time was a Liebherr Ehingen dealer. He has served as Executive Vice President of Service for Newport News, VA-based Liebherr Cranes Inc. since March 2004.

Vieten earned a degree in mechanical engineering from the German College in Dusseldorf, Germany. He has been married to Sabine Vieten for 28 years. He became an American citizen in July 1998.

“Ralf brings a vast amount of operations experience, talent and resource to our company” said Ron Williams, CEO of WHECO Corporation. “We are very pleased that we could offer Ralf a new challenge and we look forward to his leadership in the company.”

Vieten said: “I am excited about joining the WHECO team and the challenge of meeting the needs of WHECO customers and building on the level of excellence the company has established since it started servicing the East Coast market. I am impressed with the expertise that WHECO offers its clients, and I look forward to forging stronger relationships in this market.”

With more than 29 years experience providing engineered structural repairs for cranes and other heavy equipment, WHECO is based in Richland, WA and operates facilities in Santa Fe Springs, CA and Seattle, WA, as well as a service center on Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands.

At its four full-service facilities, WHECO offers a variety of repair services that are guaranteed to meet or exceed OSHA, Cal-OSHA, AWS and ANSI standards. The company’s facilities are equipped with a complete machine shop, fabrication and assembly area, service bays, paint shop and a hydraulic service center. Using the latest technologies and state-of-the-art equipment, WHECO assures that all work completed involves certified engineers, independent metallurgy lab analysis, non-destructive testing and is guaranteed to conform to and pass all required certifications.

For more information about WHECO call 1-800-937-4772 or visit their website at [www.wheco.com](http://www.wheco.com).