First Crane Vessel: Stanislav Yudin

The monohull crane vessel Stanislav Yudin is built in 1988 by the Wärtsilä shipyard in Finland. It is named after Stanislav Yudin the Deputy Minister of Oil & Gas in the former Soviet Union in the 1980s. The vessel is part of a barter trade contract where building costs are traded for oil.

Initially, the home port of the Stanislav Yudin is Kaliningrad, which is a port that is known for its fishing boats. The first Yudin crew members are mainly fishermen who are used to being at sea for many months on large factory ships. These ships sail the world and process the fish on-board.

Before Seaway Heavy Lifting takes the crane vessel into operation in 1991, it has only had a few trial runs and then secured three contracts. One contract was to lift a Russian submarine in Danish waters, the second contract was installing one jacket at the Russian Oil Field and the third was the delivery and installation of an oil & gas platform to Cuba.