

Mike Appling
CEO
TNT Crane & Rigging, Inc.

Mike Appling is the CEO of TNT Crane & Rigging, Inc., a premier lifting solutions provider to the industrial and energy markets. Under his leadership, he has grown the company from three branches, 55 cranes and \$37 million in revenue in 2007 to thirty-eight branches, 637 cranes and \$330 million in revenue today. TNT is the only crane company in the United States with a significant presence in the five big markets of refining, petrochemical, power, oil and gas and commercial.

A leader in the North American lifting industry, Appling's reputation and relationships have fueled the acquisitive growth. The best and brightest competitors have sought out partnership with Appling and his team; innovative approaches have set TNT apart as the clear industry leader in financial performance while remaining positioned to withstand economic adversity.

TNT's growth has also been achieved with Appling's uncompromising dedication to safety. The company has received numerous safety awards and boasts an industry-leading safety rating. Most recently, TNT launched "Incident & Injury Free (IIF)", a transformational approach to building a culture of safety and leadership that is based on relationships. Appling embraced *IIF* for TNT because it is in service of building a learning organization capable of solving adaptive problems when technical solutions are insufficient.

Prior to TNT, Appling served as CFO successfully at several companies where, faced with the challenges of overcoming bankruptcy, facilitating growth and profitability and overall performance improvement, he was instrumental at turning his companies around. A founder of the Texas Crane Ownership Association, Appling is also a council member, past President of Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Hilshire Village Cultural Education Facilities Finance Corporation board member and a Cub Scout Den Master.

In June, 2015, Appling was lauded for his dynamic vision and entrepreneurial talents and was awarded by Ernst & Young as "Entrepreneur of The Year" for the Gulf Coast Region's Industrial & Construction Services sector. In November, 2015, he will compete at the national level for Entrepreneur of The Year.