



WD Bennett fails and re-emerges

UK tower crane company WD Bennett Plant and Services was placed into administration in early May following a difficult trading period and having lost a major accident lawsuit. The Sharpness, Gloucestershire-based company was ultimately owned by Edward and Karen Seager and ran a fleet of 121 tower cranes.

The company had implemented a rapid fleet renewal programme, in response to the increased focus on tower crane safety. However with the recent downturn and law suit, had no choice but to seek protection under the UK bankruptcy rules.

However the company's owners did a 'Pre-Pack' arrangement forming Bennetts Cranes Ltd which then purchased 18 cranes from the Administrator, along with the debtors and the goodwill. He has also purchased a further 24 cranes from various finance companies and will continue the Bennett business from the same premises with the same staff. Seager essentially paid £534,149 for the business, most of which was financed by Lloyds TSB Corporate Finance, the main preferred creditor of WD Bennetts. The purchase price was made up of the encumbered asset value of £458,749, £74,496 of other assets plus £1 for each of the following: customer lists, existing contracts, goodwill and intellectual property rights. Seager provided Lloyds with personal guarantees of £175,000 in order to secure the funding.

Ainscough's first big crawler crane goes to work

The first of Ainscough's big crawler cranes, a Terex Demag CC2500 ordered last August, has started its first job, a long term project in the UK. The crane was originally scheduled for delivery later this year. The 500 tonne CC2500, one of two on order, is understood to be signed up for a job in the London area. Since announcing its first purchases in August 2008 the company has been on a £20 million plus spending spree and has added a 1,250 tonne CC6800 for delivery next year, two 600 tonne CC2800-1, the first of which is also on its way and a 600 tonne Liebherr LR1600/2 for delivery towards the end of this year.

First Youngman Boss X3 delivered

The first batch of Youngman Boss X3 push around scissor lifts have been delivered to London Tower Services (LTS).

The first four Youngman Boss X3's to be delivered.



Traklift acquired

Teupen Hungaria launched a 21 metre Traklift at Intermat

Teupen founder Alfons Thihatmer has acquired a majority stake in Teupen Hungaria which recently launched the Traklift brand. The company, established in 1995, was equally owned by Thihatmer, a colleague and the Fekete family which in spite of owning just 33.3 percent of the shares had a controlling veto.

Teupen Hungaria built the smaller trailer and track mounted spider lifts for Teupen which it sold under the Teupen brand. Teupen Hungaria did much of the design work on the machines it built incorporating Teupen patents into those designs. It began building up its own distribution network with the Traklift name after Nord Holding acquired a majority stake in Teupen last year. This triggered a



legal battle which appeared to be going in favour of the Feketes. However following the recent buy-out, all sales of Teupen Hungaria products under the Traklift banner have been suspended and the future of the marque is still uncertain.

PB goes with Ranger

PB Lifetechnik, the German-based heavy duty and narrow aisle scissor lift manufacturer, has appointed Ranger Equipment, which also trades as The Spiderlift Company, as its distributor for the UK and Ireland. The two companies will formally launch their partnership at Vertical Days later this month. Ranger Equipment has expanded rapidly in recent years and was recently appointed as the UK distributor for Aichi booms and scissor lifts. The company also handles Teupen tracked, trailer and truck mounted lifts and Dinolift trailer and self propelled lifts.

The Spider Lift Company offers the larger and more unusual products for re-rent, and it is possible that it will add a few PB lifts to the fleet in order to help it establish the PB brand in the UK.



PB will be distributed by Ranger Equipment.

Access Rentals in administration

One of the UK's largest aerial lift rental companies, Access Rentals, has filed for administration, appointing KPMG to restructure the business. The business which is/was largely owned by Keith Kendall had piled up debts and fallen out with at least one of its largest creditors.

Alex Lee, the recently appointed managing director left the company in May, although he continues to manage Access Rentals Scotland, in which he has a financial stake and which is not affected by the administration of the English business. At time of going to press Kendall was attempting to obtain the agreement of the finance companies that fund the fleet to acquire the business. However KPMG had given manufacturer Haulotte a period of exclusivity to acquire the business as a going concern.

Elavation acquires Safeline

Elavation, the Milton Keynes-based powered access rental company has acquired the powered access rental division of Safeline Access Solutions, also based in Milton Keynes, for an undisclosed sum. Safeline, which sells and rents the Latchway Mansafe safety system, developed its powered access division to compliment the products it provided to its petro-chemical and industrial power client base, but has now decided to focus its efforts on its core business while Elavation will supply the powered access.

Stuart McClurg, managing director of Safeline said: "The synergy between both businesses made the acquisition a seamless fit. Elavation shares the same core commitments to service and quality that we built our business on. This move will allow us to develop our core business at a time when there is huge innovation and growth in our industry."

Mani Gonzalez of Elavation added: "This is a fantastic opportunity for Elavation to develop its business into this notoriously difficult marketplace, with an existing customer base and innovative machines that command premium rates."



Genie is centralising its European regional distribution in the Netherlands.

New European distribution centre for Genie

Terex AWP/Genie, has announced a restructuring of its European distribution organisation, centralising all logistics and distribution functions for new products and replacement parts into a dedicated logistics centre in Roosendaal, the Netherlands.

The new operation will offer same day shipping for most machines and replacement parts and includes a paint shop offering custom livery options and a workshop for pre-delivery inspections and the fitting of options and accessories. The new operation opened for parts business on June 2nd and is expected to be fully operational by the end of November.

Genie customer support centres in France, Germany, Spain, Sweden, and the UK will remain as the main commercial bases for those markets and will continue to include product

support staff focused on the local market. In the UK, the Grantham location will include the refurbishment, used equipment, parts fabrication, service and training centres, while the Dubai facility includes a local spare parts operation for fast moving items.

The new facility - managed by Howard Wilkinson - will also become the base for Dutch-based sales and support staff, and will include around 30 Genie staff responsible for whole goods and parts inventories for all Genie aerial lifts, telehandlers and Terex lighting towers. Customers will have the option of accessing the new facility via the web, for parts orders or local toll free numbers. They can also continue to call their local Genie service centres. Some jobs will be lost at the local centres, while new jobs will be created in Roosendaal.

Tadano confirms Knecht appointment

Tadano has confirmed that Alexander Knecht, previously chairman of Terex Cranes, has joined the company, succeeding Masaharu Nakanishi as president and chief executive of the Tadano Faun Group. He has also joined the board of Tadano, Japan as director/executive officer.

Knecht will be joined by Minoru Sakuta as vice president Faun GmbH who returns to the German business after seven years in Japan, and Satoru Oyashiki - heavily involved in the acquisition of Faun in the early 1990's - who becomes president of Tadano Faun GmbH, the sales, marketing and service organisation. Oyashiki replaces Shinichi Iimura, who returned to Tadano Japan as director in charge of overseas sales operations.



Tadano president Koichi Tadano (R) welcomes Alexander Knecht



(L-R) Yasuo Ayai (director finance TF), Satoru Oyashiki, Minoru Sakuta, Alexander Knecht, Koichi Tadano, Tadashi Suzuki (senior executive officer Tadano), Rolf Sonntag (director sales administration TF).

Snorkel recall

Snorkel has issued an urgent warning that some of its 120 and 126ft booms, built prior to 2004, may not be fitted with the correct number of boom sensors.

If you own or use any TB126, TB126J or PR0126 models built between 2000 and 2003, they should be checked to ensure that they have the correct boom and boom angle sensors as soon as possible by calling the following numbers: North and South America: Gary Wampler 800-255-0317 Asia-Pacific: Doug Floyd +61 2 9725 4000

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GGR has launched Airlift - the world's first fully ATEX certified Zone 1 compliant series of compressed air powered spider cranes

GGR on air

Unic mini crane master distributor GGR has launched Airlift, the world's first fully ATEX certified Zone 1 compliant series of compressed air powered spider cranes.

Developed primarily for the petrochemical, offshore and underground controlled sectors, the six model AL series of spider cranes have been engineered for working in Zone 1 and Zone 2 environments.

The EU ATEX 94 (Atmospheres EXplosibles) Equipment Directive came into effect in the UK in March 1996 and required the classification of working areas into zones where hazardous explosive atmospheres may exist and prohibits the use of petrol or gas engines.

The six model range spans from the AL529 - 2.9 tonne capacity to 8.8 metres maximum height - to the AL660 with a six tonne capacity and 19.5 metre lifting height. All cranes offer light weight, small footprint, low point loadings and ease of installation with their compact dimensions ideal for working in confined spaces and areas with restricted access.

Van Riel takes first GCK

Dutch-based crane rental company MJ Van Riel has ordered the first Grove GCK3045 city crane. The company - which operates from three locations in Tilburg, Oss and Eindhoven - already runs the 40 tonne, three axle Terex Demag AC40 City crane and so has experience of this type of crane.

The GCK3045, is a compact 45 tonne, three-axle, single cab unit with classic city 'Nose down' design. Its 34 metre main boom is said to be best in class, while the fact that it requires no extra counterweight and offers asymmetric outrigger settings are significant benefits for work in congested areas. The crane has an optional 6.3 to 10.2 metre 'twist' jib which

attaches through a simple elevation of the boom and then a twist of the jib by the operator before pinning into position. The entire operation is said to be a one-man job and can be done within the crane's 2.55 metre overall width, meaning full boom and jib can be rigged in a narrow street or aisle. The hook block stows automatically for travel.

Martin van Riel, CEO and owner said: "I have been running and operating cranes for the past 20 years and this GCK3045 is a perfect crane. The best feature is its size. It is just three metres high so we can get it into all kinds of places. It's also shorter than similar cranes which is another advantage."

(L-R) Eric Etchart, Manitowoc, Martin van Riel, Philippe Cohet and Frans Vanwinkel both of Manitowoc



New Faun on the Horizon

Horizon Reinforcement & Crane Hire of Falkirk, Scotland has taken delivery of a new Tadano Faun ATF220G-5 from UK distributor Cranes UK. The company runs a fleet of All Terrain, truck mounted and loader cranes as well as providing a full, steel reinforcing supply and service.

The new crane now the largest the company's fleet, will allow it to carry out a significantly wider range of work in the area. The company is owned and managed by the Dougall family.



Paul Goodall (L) of Cranes UK hands over the ATF 220G-5 to Steven Dougall of Horizon

And the winners are.....

More than 200 members, associate members, sponsors and guests attended the European Rental Association annual convention at the Midland Hotel, Central Manchester last month.

In the evening was the annual awards dinner and the winners (in no particular order) were:

Rental Product of the year:

Winner: Haulotte H28TJ+

Also nominated: Niftylift HR21 bi-energy, Dust control air cleaner and Hitachi ZX14-3 mini excavator.

Rental Company of the year - more than 10 depots:

Winner: Aggreko

Also nominated: A-Plant and Malthus.

Lifetime achievement award:

Winner: George Burnett former CEO of Ashtead group.

Rental Company of the year - less than 10 depots:

Winner - Lipac of Sweden

Also nominated: Cofiloc, Destination Bulgaria and Høyde Service.

ERA Rental person of the year:

Winner: Mendes Migotto - Venpa Italy.

Also nominated: Pierre Boels of Boels Verhuur, Holland and Erkki Norvio of Ramirent.

Isoli to appoint UK dealer

Following discussions at Intermat, Italian specialist truck platforms, breakdown recovery vehicles and military vehicles manufacturer, Isoli is poised to announce Promax Access as its new UK dealer. Promax continues as distributor for the popular Platform Basket and Bil-Jax machines. The plan is to launch the new partnership at Vertikal Days later this month.

Sholz joins Sany

In a move seen by many to underline Sany's crane intentions, Sascha Scholz, previously with Terex Demag's engineering team, has joined Chinese manufacturer Sany as head of R&D - mobile cranes. Scholz will be based at Sany's new facility in Koln Germany.



Jekko unveils new mini crane

Italian crane manufacturer, Jekko will unveil an all new tracked mini crane at Vertikal Days later this month. The new model, its largest to date, is the SPX1040, with a maximum lift capacity of four tonnes and a maximum tip height of 23.5 metres.



The new Jekko SPX1040

The new model is a narrow-aisle, pedestrian controlled crane although it can pick and carry up to 2.4 tonnes and is available in a variety of configurations. The basic model comes with rubber tracks, a 14.5 metre four section boom and heavy duty 4.8 metre swingaway with optional 2.7 metre stinger extension, which gives it a class leading tip height of 23.5 metres with an offset capability of up to 25 degrees.

The standard counterweight is 700kg, with a 1,000kg option which is normally paired with an optional extendible - 1.45 to 2.05 metre - undercarriage, steel tracks and a shorter, three section, 11 metre boom for maximum 2.4 tonne pick and carry capability. With the narrow fixed chassis and rubber tracks this is reduced to 1,000kg. A load chart will be available for the crane without counterweight, which reduces the GVW to just 5,000kg.

The SPX1040 is equipped with a fully automated rated load limiter and includes automatic monitoring of outrigger configuration and selection of the appropriate load chart. As with larger cranes it also includes an easy to use zone limitation device with automatic cut-out when the crane approaches the restricted area.

So how does it stack up?

The new Jekko fits between the Unic 504/Maeda MC405, the new Unic 547 and the Unic 706 but in some areas competes with the Maeda LC mini crane models, in that with it offers respectable pick & carry duties, particularly with the wider chassis and steel tracks.

Model	Unic 504	Jekko SPX1040	Maeda MC405	Maeda LC785	Unic 706	Unic 547
Max capacity	4.0t*	4.0t	3.8t	4.9t	6.0t	4.0t
Boom	15.7m	14.5m	16.5m	15.6m	19.2m	18.2m
Tip height	17.0m	23.5m	22.0m	22.0m	20.8m	18.6m
Overall width	1.40m	1.40m	1.38m	2.35m	1.60m	1.40m
Overall length	4.80m	5.35m	4.98m	5.00m	5.60m	4.96m
Outriggers max	5.94 x 5.90m	4.17x 4.17m	5.20 x 5.70m	None	5.94 x 5.90m	5.94 x 5.90m
Outriggers min	4.08 x 4.67m	3.00 x 3.00m	4.00 x 4.90m	None	4.08 x 4.67m	4.08 x 4.67m
GVW	4.9t	5.7t	5.6t	10.2t	8.0t	5.0t
Boom	6 section	4 section	5 section	5 section	6 section	6 section
Radius	capacity					
6m	1,550kg	1,600kg	1,680kg	1,010kg	2,900kg	1630kg
10m	750kg	800kg	580kg	450kg	1,200kg	600kg
13m	350kg	500kg	430kg	210kg	700kg	410kg
1,000kg to?	8.5m	8.0m	8.0m	6.0m	11.0m	8.0m+
Pick&Carry	No	2,400kg+	no	2,000kg	No	No

* with extra fall of cable +with extendible chassis and steel tracks O/R =Outriggers

Big Easi Brontos

Easi Uplifts, the Dublin-based rental company, has taken delivery of four new Bronto truck mounted lifts for the UK. The delivery includes a 70 metre S70XDT which will be on display at Vertikal Days later this month and three, 46 metre S46XDT.

All four units include the maximum specification with the S70 destined for the company's new London location while the S46's will be located across the UK. The company is also looking for new staff to man its UK expansion programme.

Martin Keenan (L) of MacDonald Commercials, the Volvo truck dealer with John Ball, MD of Easi Uplifts with the new Brontos



Biggest yet from Comansa

Tower crane manufacturer Linden Comansa has launched its largest standard tower crane to date. The 21 LC 750 is one of the market's most powerful flat-top cranes with a maximum capacity of up to 48 tonnes with up to 7,000kg at its 80 metre jib tip.

The new crane can be climbed with a maximum 80 metre jib to a freestanding height of 75.5 metres and is already available in three versions, depending on its maximum load of 24, 36 and 48 tonnes.

The 21 LC 750 replaces Comansa's LC 8952, and says the company, features technical improvements and be much easier to produce.



The new Linden Comansa 21 LC 750

(For more info see www.vertikal.net)

Six stars for GT Access

GT Access of Bromsgrove, UK, has purchased six Haulotte Star 10 mast booms for its growing fleet. The new units are the first Haulotte products that the company has purchased.



Jonathan Till (L) with Craig Rooke of Haulotte

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Holland Lift to launch Eco range

Holland Lift announced a new Eco Star range of compact battery powered scissor lifts at a 25th anniversary party at its Hoorn headquarters in mid May. The company also displayed an upgraded version of the B-195DL25 with increased lift capacity - now 750kg - yet weighs almost 1,000kg less.

The four model Eco Star range will offer two platform heights - 26ft/7.8 m or 32ft/9.7 metres - and two chassis widths of 1,000 mm or 1,400mm. Lift capacity is 450kg on the lower models and 325kg on the higher. The two wider units are also rated for both indoor and outdoor use. A 900mm roll-out deck carries the same rating as the main deck and platform width extends virtually to the edge of the machine on the narrow units and to within 100mm on the wider. The specification looks strong and one assumes that the Holland lift structural quality will not be sacrificed. The 32ft narrow model could be a very attractive compromise between the 800mm wide Genie 3232 concept with jacks and more normal 1.2 metre wide 32ft scissor lifts. The official launch of the new range will be at Bauma next year.

Around 150 people attended the event.



The new, upgraded Holland Lift B-195DL25



Snorkel launches compact telescopic trailer lift



Snorkel Australia has unveiled the MHP14AT, a compact 13.5 metre articulated trailer lift with telescopic top boom. The unit, which will be built in New Zealand, is based on the company's MHP trailer chassis and incorporates the telescopic boom from the UpRight AB38 self propelled boom lift. It will initially only be offered in the Asian and Australasian markets.

The Snorkel MHP12AT.

A century for Facelift self-drive

Hickstead, based access rental company Facelift has added the 29 metre GSR E290PX to its self-drive fleet taking it up to 100 units. The new lift was chosen for its 28.7 metre working height and exceptional working envelope, with 11 metres up and over reach and more than 15 metres unrestricted outreach - on a 7.5 tonne Iveco chassis.

Facelift has added the 29 metre GSR E290PX to its self drive fleet.



First Octopussy for Jackson



Gordon Jackson with Michela Viviani of Oil&Steel UK at Intermat

Jackson Tools, Scotland has purchased the first Oil&Steel Octopussy 1400 spider lifts in the UK. The order for two units was placed by Gordon Jackson at Intermat. Skylift Hire of Ireland also ordered one of the new platforms. Other orders for the 1400 included 10 units from Dutch distributor Van Beuzekom, which also ordered Snake 2512 Compact and Snake 2010 truck mounts.

Speedy rights issue and results

Speedy Hire, the UK's largest equipment rental company, has announced a fully underwritten, 9 for 1 rights issue to raise £100 million, through the issue of 458,658,900 new shares at 23 pence each.

The company also issued its preliminary year-end results with revenues up 2.3 percent to £476 million while profits plunged from a profit of £30 million last year to a loss of £70.6 million this year, due to £95.3 million of write downs and restructuring costs. (See www.vertikal.net for more info)

Terex seeks new funds

Terex Corporation, owner of Terex Cranes and Genie AWP has announced that it is seeking \$600 million in new financing and that it has agreed a further amendment to its current facility.

The company intends to offer \$450 million in notes and 11 million shares in exchange for the new funding. It will use the proceeds to reduce its current debt and for general corporate purposes.

Tanfield to consolidate shares

Tanfield, owner of UpRight and Snorkel has announced plans to consolidate its shares with a one for five swap and the cancellation of its share premium account.

The move should both help the share price and save the company a considerable sum on registration fees.

New MD for Liebherr GB

Liebherr Great Britain has appointed Richard Everist, previously with HMF (UK), as its new managing director. Everist takes over from David Milne who is set to retire from the business this summer, having spent at over 15 years with the company and 35 years in the crane business. Everist (43), will assume full responsibility from 1st August for Mobile, Crawler, Tower and Harbour Mobile Cranes, Drilling Rigs and Foundation Cranes, Concrete Mixing Plants and Concrete Truck Mixers.



Richard Everist (L) and David Milne

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Liebherr scoops Queens award

Liebherr Sunderland, the UK-based maritime crane manufacturing division of the Liebherr Group, has won a Queens Award for Enterprise in International Trade, the UK's top business performance award. The award recognises companies that have 'demonstrated significant growth in overseas earnings and commercial success'.

"We are delighted to receive this award," said Liebherr Sunderland's managing director Ralph Saelzer. "It is a great honour and one which we could not have achieved without the dedication of our skilled workforce."

Established in 1989, Liebherr Sunderland manufactures ship, port, offshore cranes and mobile harbour cranes, exporting more than 85 percent of its production. China, Singapore and South Korea currently account for more than half of its total volume and exports have increased by more than 40 percent since 2005.

The Sunderland plant is part of the Liebherr Nenzing group, along with Liebherr Container Cranes, Ireland and Liebherr-MCCtec, Rostock, Germany. The formal presentation of the award will take place later in the year.



Liebherr Sunderland.

Urban adds World Lift

Poole-based Urban Access has been appointed UK distributor for World Lift Industries, the manufacturer of Denka Lift and Falck Schmidt spider and trailer lifts. Formed almost three years ago, Urban already offers a wide range of aerial lift equipment from manufacturers such as Genie, Nifty and UpRight.

"The appointment comes at a time when established and new rental companies alike may be looking to diversify and consider alternative types of powered access equipment to compliment their existing range of machines," says Urban Access managing director Neil Wilkinson.



The new Denka DLX15MkII

New Multihandler

After undertaking trials in the UK, the new Sennebogen 310 Multihandler will be launched by UK dealer Hassells at the Futuresource exhibition this month.

The new 20 tonne 310 Multihandler from the Sennebogen Greenline range can lift up to 10 tonnes, has an out reach of 9.3 metres and a massive five cubic metre bucket. An elevating cab gives the operator an optimal view providing efficiency when loading high sided trailers or containers.



The machine can lift up to 10 tonnes, with a 9.3 metre reach and a massive 5 cu m bucket.

The new handler will be exhibited on the 'Innovations' stand and is suited to cope with the demands of the growing waste management industry.

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Zenith

SED down but not out

This year's reduced size SED at Rockingham race circuit near Corby struggled to attract anything like its usual visitor numbers, despite the sunny weather. The total of 12,500 attending is almost 50 percent down on its peak in 2005. Traffic problems - which usually haunt the show at this venue - were non-existent, obviously helped by the reduced numbers of exhibitors and visitors. Halving the show's physical size also helped to create a 'busy' feel with most exhibitors reasonably upbeat and several reported sales.

With very few cranes, access equipment or telehandlers on display, the show appeared to be returning to its original format - general contractor's plant. Those lifting related exhibitors that did attend were reasonably pleased with the results.

Skyking, King's access business, obviously benefited from the lack of competitors at the show as it received a number of enquiries particularly from utilities and local authorities interested in its new Land Rover chassis/Matilsa vehicle mounted boom lift and new Skyking E140TJV telescopic van mount.

NRC had by far the largest crane stand, launching two new models from Link Belt - the 75 tonne HTT-8675CE Truck Terrain and 70 tonne telescopic crawler crane

and the TCC-750 - both making their European debut. NRC sealed a deal with Jones Crawler Cranes of Shaftsbury, Dorset, which became the first company worldwide, to purchase a TCC-750.



The new crane was developed in partnership with NRC and includes numerous features aimed at making it as versatile as possible. These include a telescopic three position undercarriage with load charts for each width, a hydraulically removable counterweight with separate load charts without counterweight and unrestricted side visibility from the operators cab.

Other highlights included the first UK outing for the Unic 547 spider crane and the 15.8 metre working height Leguan 160. Dunham Cranes is now offering the 40 metre Benazzato Gru self-erecting crane (in addition to its FB range) and Baker Access - the new distributor for the SUP Elefant range of platforms - showing off a 15 metre tracked unit.

SED 2010 will be back in Corby for the 18th, 19th and 20th of May.



(L-R) Rod Abbott of NRC, Mark and Alexandra Jones and Bill Stramer of Link-Belt

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- **Palfinger** has merged its two aerial lift operations, **Wumag** and **Bison**, into a single company - Palfinger Platforms.
- **Trojan Batteries** has appointed **Union Power Systems** as its new master distributor/importer for the UK.
- Surrey and Sheffield-based access specialist, **Working At Height**, has appointed **Catherine Deal** responsible for customer relations.
- **Vp** - owner of telehandler rental company **UK Forks** and rental company **Hire Station** - increased both revenues and profits for its full year 2008/9.
- **Senn AG**, of Oftringen, Switzerland has ordered a 1,200 tonne **Liebherr LTM 11200-9.1 All Terrain** crane.
- The Doncaster depot of **Peter Hird & Sons**, has been approved as an **IPAF** training centre and achieved **Rental+** accreditation.
- **David O. Turner** has been appointed as CEO of **Pon's** global aerial lift and materials handling businesses and will be based in Houston, Texas.
- **HSS Hire**, one of the UK's largest general rental companies, has launched **Livehire**, an online hire management system for major accounts.
- **Pon**, the Dutch based CAT distributor and owner of **Gunco**, **HDW** and **Milcon** has announced the merger of its aerial lift and fork truck business into **Pon Material Handling**.
- **Kirsten Skyba**, vice president of global marketing at **JLG** has left the company.
- **Sanghvi Movers**, India's largest crane rental company has reported an upbeat first quarter and is forecasting improved demand for new cranes.
- **Frank Klessens** has been appointed as managing director of **Alimak Hek**, in Holland, taking over from Ernst van Hek who has retired for personal reasons.
- **Holt Crane & Equipment** has opened its new headquarters in Houston to sell and service **Link-Belt** brand mobile cranes throughout most of Texas.
- Australian crane hirer **Huntingdale Mobile Cranes** has been fined A\$70,000 after being found guilty of failing to carry out simple safety checks, causing a fatality.
- **IronPlanet** the online auction company has reported record first quarter revenues up 26% on 2008.
- **Horizon Platforms** the Wakefield-based aerial lift rental company has been accredited and approved as an **IPAF** training centre and achieved the **IPAF Rental+** accreditation.
- **Lavendon UK**, the aerial lift and telehandler rental company that comprises **Nationwide Platforms**, **Panther** and **Skylift**, has announced that seven more depots have achieved accreditation to its **TechX** standard.
- **David Jefferies**, 30, has joined the sales team of UK-based access specialist, **Working At Height**.
- **Cranes UK** has been appointed as the UK/Ireland distributor for **Broderson** pick&carry industrial cranes.
- **Heli Iisakka**, chief financial officer of Finnish-based international rental company, **Ramirent** is leaving the company.
- **Traction Equipment** of Stafford, UK, has added more **Nifty HR15** narrow aisle articulated boom lifts to its growing powered access fleet.
- **Ian James**, general manager of **Access Platform Sales (APS)**, the UK distributor for **Hinowa**, **Omme** and **UpRight** has announced his departure from the company.
- The first **Wumag Palfinger 53** metre **WT530** in Russia has been delivered by local sales and rental company **LTECH**.



Catherine Deal



Frank Klessens



Ian James

- UK-based **Aerial Platforms** has achieved full 'Building Confidence' accreditation run by Achilles on behalf of **Bovis Lend Lease**.
- **Pat Fiscelli**, president of US operations at **Lifting Gear Hire**, has announced his retirement at the end of this month.
- **Bravi UK** has appointed **Clare Lusardi** as a sales and customer service co-ordinator.
- **Finning** has reported a 29% drop in revenues at its UK Crane, access and telehandler rental company **Hewden**.
- **JLG** has promoted **Tim Morris** to the position of senior vice president sales, marketing and customer support and **Chris Mellott** to head up sales in the Americas.
- **Mikael Öberg**, senior vice president of Scandinavia for Finnish-based international rental company **Ramirent** has announced his resignation. The company reported first quarter revenues down almost 25% while profits dipped 96%.
- **Oshkosh**, owner of **JLG**, has agreed to sell **Geesink Norba**, its Dutch-based refuse truck business.
- **Ashtead**, owner of **A-Plant** and **Sunbelt**, has issued a fourth quarter trading statement which indicates a 24% drop in revenues, in line with its forecasts.
- **Iron Planet**, the on-line auction company has appointed **Chad Groves** as managing director of its Australian business.
- US crawler crane rental company **Essex Crane**, has reported first quarter revenues down 15%.
- Loader crane manufacturer **Effer** has appointed **Domenico Polimeni** as its new sales manager.
- **Ahern Rentals**, the Las Vegas based access and telehandler rental company has reported total first quarter revenues almost 25% down on last year.
- **RSC**, one of the largest equipment rental companies in the USA has reported first quarter revenues down 16.8% as well as reporting a pre tax loss.
- **FEM** - Cranes and Lifting product group - has warned crane manufacturers to start modifying their cranes to meet the amended **EN13000**.
- **David Maddicott** of Devon-based **Dainton Crane Hire**, sadly passed away following a heart attack.
- **Facelift Access Hire** is offering a free full colour safety poster for those working at height.
- **H&E Equipment**, the Baton Rouge, Louisiana, based crane, access and earthmoving company, has reported first quarter sales down 24%.
- Finnish based international rental company **Cramo**, has reported first quarter revenues down 15.7% and a loss of €6 million.
- **Palfinger** the loader crane and access company has reported first quarter sales down almost 33% on last year, while posting a €4.7 million loss.
- Industrial, port and overhead crane manufacturer, **Demag Cranes** has approved a major restructuring of its operations as second quarter profits fell 50% and orders 43%.
- **David Galloway** is retiring at the end of the month as a non executive director of **Speedy Hire**, the UK's largest general rental company.
- **Skyjack** owner **Linamar** has reported a 60% fall in first quarter revenues at its industrial division.
- **David Symon** formerly CEO of **Peterhead PLC**, **Cox Plant**, **Cox Hire Centres** and most recently of **Nigg Plant** has died.



Tim Morris



Chris Mellott



Domenico Polimeni (L) with Lorenzo Cipriani of CTE



David Maddicott

- Aerial lift and telehandler manufacturer **JLG** has reported second quarter revenues down 69.4% on last year and has booked a loss of \$942 million.
- **Manitowoc Crane** has posted first quarter revenues of \$673 million - 24 percent lower than last year while operating income dropped 58 percent.
- **Liebherr-Werk Nenzing** has established a new **Mobile Harbour Crane** sales and service station in Antwerp, Belgium.
- **Sparrows Offshore** has been appointed sole agents for Norway for **Stahl Crane Systems EX** explosion protected overhead cranes and hoists.
- **United Rentals**, the world's largest equipment rental company has reported a 23% fall in first quarter revenues and a loss of \$33 million.
- **IPAF** has called for a radical re-examination of harnesses used by female operators of boom lifts and announced a competition to find the best new design.
- **Manitowoc Crane** has added **Latin America** to **Ingo Schiller's** responsibilities as vice president of sales and marketing for the Americas.
- UK-based van mounted lift manufacturer, **Aldercote** has appointed two new dealers, **Logan Inglis** of **Cumbernauld**, Scotland and **Mooretown engineering** in **County Meath**, Ireland.
- **Cargotec** says that it will combine **Hiab** and **Kalmar** sales and services networks in Europe, Middle-East and Africa.
- Tower crane manufacturer **Wolffkran** has signed a partnership agreement with the **Arabian Roots Group** in Saudi Arabia.
- French-based telehandler and aerial lift manufacturer **Manitou** has reported first quarter sales down 46.2%
- **Gordon Gedling**, founder and managing director of **Hoist-it**, the UK-based construction hoist specialist, has retired as MD.
- **Manitou** has announced senior management changes, replacing **Marcel Claude Braud** with **Jean-Christophe Giroux** as chief executive officer.
- **Haulotte** has announced first quarter revenues down 61% down on the same period last year.
- **Aerial Platforms** the Leigh, Lancashire-based rental company has gained **IPAF Rental+** certification.
- **Terex Cranes** has first reported quarter revenues down 29% to \$461 million, while operating profits slumped 70% to \$25.4 million.
- **Terex AWP**, largely **Genie**, has reported a 65% decline in first quarter revenues to \$228.5 million and posted a loss of \$41 million.
- **Ernst Van Hek**, has resigned from mast climber and hoist manufacturer **Alimak Hek**.
- **Manitowoc Crane** has announced a partnership with **Orbcomm**, the global satellite data communications company.
- Ambassador **Susan Schwab**, US trade representative from 2006 to 2009, has been appointed as a director of **Caterpillar**.
- **Giles Marchand**, previously of **Manitowoc France** has created a new company, **Standup**, to buy and sell specific used cranes.
- **JLG** has received an order from the United States Army for 214 **JLG ATLAS II** telehandlers.
- **Cramo**, the Finnish based international rental company has issued a €50 million hybrid bond.
- **Valla UK** the pick & carry crane specialist and **Valla** distributor in the UK, USA & Middle East, has expanded into the rental market with six new cranes and several new appointments.



Ingo Schiller



Jean-Christophe Giroux



Giles Marchand

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