

280TJ

The award winning
powered access platform...
from MANITOU.



www.uk.manitou.com

 **MANITOU**



Don't miss the UK's number one lifting event

the only specialist equipment
event for the UK and Ireland

If you buy, use or have a professional
interest in Access Equipment,
Working at Height, Mobile Cranes,
Tower Cranes and Loader Cranes, not
to mention Telehandlers then register
now for the UK and Ireland's event for
lifting professionals - Vertikal Days.

See the latest equipment and services,
meet the experts and enjoy a day of
networking, deal-making and socialising.

Vertikal
days

Haydock
Park
June 27th &
28th 2012

email the Vertikal Team at
info@vertikaldays.net

UK Office +44 (0) 8448 155900

www.vertikaldays.net

...new PASMA village..Lorry Loader workshops..IPAF safety
demonstrations..Crane and Access demonstrations...

Readers Letters



Dear Sir,

Although I did not go to the IPAF Summit in Rome I still got a kick out of the coverage you guys ran. Made me wish I had been there, other than that your quotes under the photos were excellent and although I know none of the people you were ribbing I still ready every one...

I know get a life! The way you take a different look at what can otherwise be utterly tedious subjects is what keeps me reading the mag. Keep up the good work.

Chris Briant

Electrician and dab hand cherry picker operator

Leigh

Without a transcript of the case it is impossible to know sufficient detail about the actual case and duty of care breached.

Are we sure there will be no prosecution?

A narrative verdict on a death in a power station resulted in the companies involved still being prosecuted. In this case the coroner apparently said the managing director had breached his duty of care so does this not lead him to prosecution?

Did the duty of care start when the crane was put back into service after the slew ring bolts were changed - as apparently stated by the coroner, or with the original supply of the crane rigged incorrectly which caused the stress in the bolts and their resulting failures?

It is incomprehensible in 2006 that the "method statement" did not state the full build detail of the crane, the details of which are provided in the crane manual, i.e. the relevant part required in this case was the composition of the counter-jib and the relevant counter-weights.

If a manual for the crane was not available the crane should not have been erected. The crane's manual should also be on site for reference to check and confirm any matter arising about the crane during and after erection. Does this indicate poor management and also indicate a breach in duty of care from the original supply of the crane.

The Worthing prosecution blamed the company and the fine and costs stalled the company to the point of insolvency.

The Belfast prosecution (where there were no deaths) resulted in a not guilty verdict but helped destroy the business.

The Battersea inquest would appear to be a clear breach of care and the inquest's verdict appears to open more questions than it closes.

I would like to see the film on U tube of the crane being pulled over at CITB which someone on the Vertikal site claimed to have and wanted to publish not so long ago, is this another cover up or pay off or something? But Denmark is a nice place I did not notice a smell.....

I think this has some mileage to run!

Best Regards,

Bill

We thought that in light of the sensitive nature of this case it might be best to withhold the correspondent's full name - although this was not specifically requested by him.

The letter refers to articles relating to the inquest into the fatal Battersea tower crane collapse in 2006 (Cranes & Access March/April and on www.vertikal.net) and also refers to another fatal tower crane incident in Worthing in 2005, which although caused by human error on site caused WD Bennett to file for bankruptcy. The Northern Ireland one wasted around £250,000 on what was clearly a pointless prosecution from the outset which begs the question regarding consistency.

Ed

Dear Sir,

A few points for clarification.

Balfour Beatty Building Services (BBES) have the same bold commitments and targets as our colleagues in other parts of the BB Group. Our energy and momentum is to continually de-risk our business towards the target of Zero harm.

We therefore operate a strategy of Eliminate, Minimise and Mitigate with the preferred option always to be at the top end of the risk management hierarchy. In addition to working with our internal colleagues, BBES additionally continue to work closely with equipment manufacturers, suppliers and trade bodies.

This includes but is not limited to where and how we can work more closely together, but also sharing knowledge and experience leading to improvements in the safe use of powered access equipment.

Indeed, praise must be given to two of our existing supply chain who acted immediately on receipt of the Alert, both Nationwide and AFI Uplift were very quick to respond and offer support.

Our challenge to them is to demonstrate that there is no realistic likelihood of the type of incident being mentioned in the original alert happening again and that requires

some medium and longer term Improvement activity. However, at all times our immediate and necessary concern lies with our site based workforce after workplace accidents and incidents occur. Our safety alerts, as part of our effective H&S management system, are produced to immediately communicate the incident, contributory causes and what we need to do within the next 48 hours of issue.

These are publicly available documents and are also circulated within the wider BB CSUK business, BB Group and to our external partners.

At no time was myself or my team approached for a copy of what is now a widely available alert. At no time do we keep 'safety secrets' - where is the logical value in that? We will undertake an immediate internal review as to why any formal requests to the BB Group were left unanswered

I look forward to seeing the publication of a more balanced article. Happy to discuss further.

Regards

Allan Shanks

Health & Safety Director

Balfour Beatty Engineering Services Limited

Hillington Park, Glasgow,

The letter was in response to an article we wrote regarding a Balfour Beatty Alert issued in response to an incident it had in which a sub-contractor's clothing became entangled in the live joystick of a scissor lift causing it to drive forward under some racking causing the operator to break a rib.

We received information on the Alert verbally, shortly after it was issued and approached Balfour Beatty through its Press Office as we are 'obliged' or always told we should. After no response or call back we chased up again and this time did receive an acknowledgement that our request was being looked into. In the end we never did receive any information through the formal channels. Eventually we managed to obtain a copy of the Alert from a supplier and finally published our article, which we feel was very balanced. The issue gained more prominence after a leading weekly construction magazine decided to publish a story focused on our "criticism" of Balfour Beatty for not circulating the Alert and its concern more widely. The full story can be found on www.vertikal.net and put Balfour Beatty in the Vertikal News Search box.

Since then Allan Shanks made contact with us directly and has been very open and very clear and very informative. He told us that the Alert was not meant to be prescriptive at all and acknowledged that local interpretations were possibly causing some problems and that as a result he would issue a new Alert with some clarification. Following a suggestion from us he also provided a letter highlighting the Balfour Beatty views and intentions. It clearly states his and the company's position on this and all safety issues and their enthusiasm to share information to the industry as a whole, which we applaud.

Ed

Lomma acquital

I read the news article in your last issue about Mr Lomma being acquitted of all charges, involved with the tower crane collapse in New York in which two men lost their lives and was already surprised and astonished how this could be in the light of all the evidence that has been published. So I went online to learn more and was came across something I find incredulous in the New York papers. It seems that after the verdict he sent emails with photographs of one or more of his cranes lifting the space shuttle to the lawyers of the families of the two men that died in the dent – taunting them following his success in avoiding any justice.

(This reader has not responded to our request to publish at time of going to print so we are withholding his name, he did not provide details of where he is from)

Following last month's Comment a number of you asked if we could publish the FEM letter that it referenced. So here we are: This is intended for guidance only and is published purely for background information.

FEM N 0284 Position Paper**FEM Product Group Cranes and Lifting Equipment -****Sub-Group Mobile Cranes****Regarding: "Lifting Persons with Mobile Crane"****Introduction**

FEM Product Group Cranes and Lifting Equipment Sub Group Mobile Cranes issued the position paper on the use of mobile cranes for lifting of persons (FEM N0284 dated May 16th 2011). The position paper was interpreted in different ways. Thus the position paper was further discussed between FEM, users and end users, namely representatives from the European Association of abnormal road transport and mobile cranes (ESTA) and Events in the Sky (E.I.T.S.) / Fungroup, owners of "Dinner in the Sky" platforms. The technical discussion was based upon the general principles of risk assessment.

This guidance document is intended to publish the results of the discussion and to give further guidance and explanation with regard to the position paper.

The position paper stated that standard mobile cranes are not designed or intended to lift persons; they may be used to hoist and suspend personnel in man baskets only in unique work situations when it is the least hazardous way to do the job. As such the use of standard mobile cranes to suspend persons and/or devices for entertainment purposes is also not intended.

Any use of mobile cranes outside the intended use stipulated by the manual is under the full and sole responsibility of the owner/user.

Consideration

The groups of people being considered in this guidance include employees and guests. Employees are often working near and/or on suspended devices; thus the devices may be considered under national laws as work equipment.

When considering lifting of persons, it is required to perform a full and comprehensive risk assessment for the entire application by comparing the standards to which the mobile crane to be used has been designed and manufactured (e.g. EN13000) with relevant national law and standards first of all for:

- General safety regulation/law (e.g. 2006/42/EC Machinery Directive)
- Safety regulation/law for Work Equipment (e.g. 2009/104/EC Work Equipment Directive)
- Standard for Mobile Elevated Work Platforms (e.g. EN280)
- Standard for Fairground Equipment (e.g. EN13814)

The risk assessment shall consider all relevant risks for the specific application. Furthermore all additional laws and standards in force in the country of use and relevant for the entire application should be considered, thus the list of laws and standards quoted is not exhaustive.

For all risks identified and not covered by design and manufacture of the

Dear Leigh

This is not good PR for our industry in general and looking at the photographs he sent it also looks like they're lifting the space shuttle with no matting under the riggers!

Name withheld

Lomma not guilty

The city of NY actually approved it. They want it both ways. They demand to be the ultimate authority on which cranes are allowed and certified to work in their town and won't allow third party inspections yet they say they aren't responsible for the conditions, when something goes wrong.

We have withheld this name as an editorial decision

These are just a few of a number of emails on this subject -

the above reflects the general consensus and split on the subject

mobile crane adequate counter measures should be defined. Adequate counter measures can be:

- Technical measures
- Limiting the configurations to be used
- Limiting the functions, e.g. switching off certain functions
- Application of defined procedures to abate risk, that are used and practiced

The combination of a standard mobile crane and a device for lifting persons along with the appropriate risk assessment and the counter measures defined creates a new machine for a specific use beyond the originally intended use stipulated in the manual. This new machine has to fulfil the relevant national laws (e. g. Machinery Directive) and is operated under the full and sole responsibility of the owner/user.

National law may require the involvement of qualified third parties in the process of risk assessment and approval of the application.

Findings

The following list contains some major topics to be observed when comparing EN13000:2010 with EN280:2010 and EN13814:2004. The list is not exhaustive and needs to be adapted to the specific application, for example:

- Life cycles of equipment and devices
- Maintenance of equipment and devices
- Work history of the equipment including environmental conditions and overloads
- Safety factors in structure and functional mechanisms
- General design principles of functional mechanisms
- General design principles of control systems
- Requirements for performance levels (PL) of control systems and functions
- Emergency considerations and emergency power supply
- Requirements related to configuration selector switches
- Requirements related to override of safety functions
- Operational environmental conditions

Conclusion

FEM believes that a mobile crane can be used to lift persons if the additional requirements are fulfilled.

As an example of an application for lifting of persons, Events in the Sky (E.I.T.S.) / Fungroup (owners of "Dinner in the Sky" platforms) has used this guidance by engaging with FEM and ESTA to analyse the process of using mobile cranes for "Dinner in the Sky".

It is believed that it is possible that "Dinner in the Sky" could achieve compliance with the Machinery Directive and other relevant regulations once further assessed by third party.

Klaus Pokorny

VDMA

Lyoner Straße 18

60528 Frankfurt Main

**UK and Ireland
Crane service, parts and training**

Brands

Current Models

Manitowoc
Grove
Potain

Older Models

Krupp
Coles
Grove/Coles

Products

Tower cranes
Mobile cranes
Crawler cranes
Industrial cranes

Crane Care Services

Field service

Thorough examination
Inspection
Service
Repair
Load testing
Erection — tower cranes
Dismantle — tower cranes

Training

Manufacturer-approved training
CPCS-approved training

Workshop resources

Repair
Load testing
Structural welding
Full rebuilds
Contract management

Parts

Over 4,500 line items — in stock
Kessler axle parts and wire ropes — in stock
Older model Coles and Krupp parts — in stock

Manitowoc UK and Ireland provides outstanding after-sales support. Parts and service are readily available either at your location or at our workshop facilities at Buckingham.

With our extensive range of new and used equipment, we can help you be more productive.

Call us today for a quote!



Buckingham facility

Manitowoc Crane Group (UK) Ltd.
Manitowoc House, Network 421,
Raddive Road, Gawcott,
Buckingham, MK18 4FD

Tel: + 44 (0) 1280 818830

www.manitowoc.com/cranesdealer

If we don't have it in stock, we'll get it!

It's here!
the all
new **city**
range

of electric
powered platforms
from Versalift

- Low emissions
- Virtually silent operation

Access to
a **greener**
world



www.versalift.co.uk
email us at: electric@versalift.co.uk

Power Pads *The Next Generation*



The fully certified, fully traceable, fully guaranteed, top quality Outrigger support mats

Power Pads are designed, manufactured and certified to the highest standards possible with attention to detail in every aspect in order to ensure the very best value and complete peace of mind.

- All mats carry an indelible unique serial number, a reference code, a batch number and the maximum capacity of the pad.
- Mats up to 600mm are supplied with high quality Certified Rope handles.
- For Mats over 600mm, as standard we use Grade 10 lifting chain.
- All mats carry a clear identity plate with contact details.
- All mats can be branded with the customers corporate identity.

A good set of pads or mats will last a lifetime and provide you with peace of mind that is simply not available with cheaper pads.

For further information on Power Pads contact :
Tel: 01733 211339
www.tmc-lifting.com

Power-Pad[®]

the only fully certified fully traceable mats on the market