

# The spider challenge

Following the appointment of Bristol based Euraccess as the UK/Ireland dealer of Cela, the company held an open day and organised a spider lift challenge. Edward Darwin of Cranes & Access visited to find out more about the company and to see how its latest product - a 24 metre Cela DT24 spider lift - stacked up against two key competitors.

For the last 10 years Euraccess has been providing after sales service and inspections for a number of aerial lift manufacturers and more recently has started to offer IPAF training, refurbishments and equipment sales. Founder Chris Wills had heard that Cela was looking for a UK dealer earlier this year and travelled to its plant in Corefranca, Italy to check out the production facilities and inspect the product range. After a lot of discussion on both sides, details of a distribution agreement were worked out and an announcement made. Talking about the agreement Wills said: "The DT24 spider lift is a brilliant machine which has a lot to offer the UK market which in my opinion other machines do not."

Cela launched the 24 metre DT24 Spyder alongside the 15 metre DT15 Spyder at Intermat in April. The DT24 is currently the largest in the range, although that may well change shortly. It shares its boom and lift structure with the company's 3.5 tonne truck mounted equivalent platform and offers 12 metres of outreach and 13.5 metres of up and over reach. The unit has a 4.8 metre

by 3.55 metre outrigger spread and can reach 4.5 metres below ground level. It is also very compact and weighs only 2,800kg.

Lee Roberts, owner of Bristol based Avon Access, said: "The DT24 is a very good machine and I am particularly impressed with its weight. The hydraulic tubes and electrical wires that run through the boom are easily accessible which eliminates the need to completely take apart the boom when carrying out maintenance work. I am also impressed with the extending height and width tracks which provide better ground clearance and that the boom has zero tail swing."

In order to demonstrate the new model against existing machines Euraccess asked Roberts to volunteer a 23 metre Teupen Leo23GT and a CTE 23 metre Traccess 230. Below is a table containing a breakdown of each machine's measured specifications and the time each took to fully deploy their outriggers and achieve full height.

There is no question about it the Cela DT24 is a top performing machine, as well as being one of the most



Checking the set up speed



Spider line up



Chris Wills and Lee Roberts operating the machine



Good gradability

compact and lightest in the 23 to 25 metre lightweight category. However the 25 metre Multitel SMX250 - although not tested - has an extra metre of working height, is almost 200kgs lighter and has a little more outreach, although it does not offer quite as



CTE Traccess 230

much up and over height. The Teupen Leo 23GT performs relatively well specification wise, but was exceptionally slow in the test, possibly due to the fact that the test machine was an older model which the mechanics were up all night repairing in order to get it ready for the open day! While this side by side evaluation was limited, it does highlight that there are a new generation of machines now coming on the market and a great deal more choice. With Teupen's UK distribution up in the air and CMC likely to make some further announcements the small spider lift market currently dominated by Hinowa, Platform Basket and CTE is about to get more interesting.

## Cela truck mounts

Having initially ordered a Cela DT24 truck mount for demonstration purposes Euraccess decided that the weight issue is all too close for practical purposes and has decided to take the 24 metre unit on a 4.5 tonne chassis rather than the usual 3.5 tonne. While this will exclude younger drivers using the machine on a regular car driving licence, Euraccess believes that having the capacity to legally carry a full tank of fuel, outrigger mats tools and other gear is more important - especially as the authorities start to get more strict over weight limits.

## The three models compared

	Cela DT24	Teupen Leo 23GT	CTE 230
Weight	2,800kg	3,100kg	3,040kg
Stowed Length without basket	4.10 metres	N/A	4.59 metres
Stowed Length with basket	4.80 metres	6.20 metres	5.30 metres
Stowed Height Retracted	1.95 metres	1.97 metres	2.00 metres
Stowed Width without basket	0.8 metres	N/A	0.78 metres
Stowed Width with basket	1.15 metres	0.98 metres	1.1 metres
Working Height	24 metres	23 metres	23 metres
Speed of Setup - Outriggers to Full Height	2min 40sec	5min 40sec	3min 0sec
Working Outreach	12.0 metres	11.2 metres	11.5 metres
Negative Working Envelope	-4.5 metres	N/A	N/A
Up and Over reach	14.0 metres	10.0 metres	11.5 metres
Grade-ability (Driving)	35%	30%	31%
Maximum set up grade	23%	26%	31%
Outrigger Foot Print	3.6m x 3.55m	4.53m x 4.33m	4.29m x 4.49m



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