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# Readers Lett

## **Kevin Bellis** 1950 - 2013

With the sudden and tragic death of Kevin Bellis on the 17th of January, PASMA and the mobile access tower industry at large has lost one of its most popular, knowledgeable and committed champions. Kevin passed away following a long and spirited fight against cancer which, throughout, he fought with courage, determination and typical good humour.



Born on the 12th of September 1950 in Poplar, East London, he attended Sir John Cass Church of England School, both primary and secondary, in the 1950's and 1960's - one of only two schools in the City of London at that time. After leaving school he joined SGB as a trainee manager, but then left the industry to fulfil his ambition to travel around Europe. Upon his return to the UK he joined Stephens & Carter as a

contracts manager and subsequently moved to Palmer Scaffolding as a branch manager. A spell at Grayston Scaffolding followed, again as a branch manager, before he decided to start his own business, Docklands Scaffolding, based in Stratford, East London.

Deciding he needed a change from the tube and fittings industry, Kevin formed Atrium Access on the 14th of

September 1990, specialising in aluminium access towers. At Atrium he was soon joined by fellow director and now long-standing family friend, Gillian Rutter. The company has since gone on to become a prominent supplier of towers and tower training, undertaking a number of large and prestigious contracts in London and the South East.

Kevin's enthusiasm for towers soon translated into what was to become a long standing involvement with PASMA, where his wit and wisdom was much in demand, both as a member of council and, more recently, as deputy chairman. Throughout this period his contribution to the work and development of the association was invaluable and highly prized.

Away from work, he was a devoted family man who enjoyed nothing better than following the sporting achievements of his children who played football and hockey at county and professional level. He also valued his many friendships and kept in regular contact with school friends he had known for over 50 years.

Kevin was a larger than life character who always had a good story to tell. He also knew the name and location of the best café closest to any Atrium job site! A thoroughly genuine and enormously likeable man, he will long be remembered as an outstanding ambassador for both PASMA and the work at height industry.

The council, staff and members of the association send their deepest condolences to his wife Renee, children Adam, lan and Nathalie, and granddaughter, Betty May.

PASMA would like to thank Gillian Rutter and Kevin's brother, Martin, for their help in preparing this obituary.

## Good Morning,

The results of your Cranes & Access 2012 Rental Rate Survey published in the December/January edition of C&A are very useful, and we're currently at the stage of our fiscal year where we're planning and budgeting for the next fiscal year. In order that we can conduct some benchmarking analysis of our own rental fleet against your survey, do you have the data in Excel format? This will allow our financial guys to begin the project.

Many thanks,

We have withheld the name for confidentiality reasons

We have withheld the name for confidentiality reasons. Ed





















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## Readers Lett

## Fake Tadano cranes

The following exchange of letters began on a weekend in early January as we were closing the last issue of the magazine.

## Dear Sir.

I noticed on your website you discuss counterfeit Tadano cranes in China, we are looking to buy one, a 100 tonne TG1000E and am not sure how to tell the difference can you please help us in this.

Haitham Bader



### Dear Mr Sparrow

Thank you for your fast Reply. I am having problems upload the pictures but here is the most important ones i took a screenshot from my laptop, I hope it is clear enough to see. I have attached some picture and the serial Number and plate.

I would appreciate it if you can help us in this it is in Henan province in China and I have read on your website four articles where it shows that they look genuine but in reality its a fake especially the Tadano one.

Here I look on it and I can't figure out if it is a real or fake !!! I would appreciate your expertise on this. I tried to contact the Tadano Company here in China and Japan but I couldn't reach them.

Thank you,

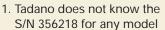
Haitham Bader

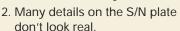
We responded that the machine looked to be a counterfeit, we also contacted Cranes UK the Tadano distributor in the UK and asked if it could check the serial number and also give a second opinion on the photographs.

The response confirmed our suspicions

## Hello Leigh

I'm sorry to have to confirm that the crane shown is indeed a FAKE Tadano.









- 3. The crane doesn't look like a Tadano 100 tonne. No separate counterweight, boom rather small. Looks more like a 50 or 70 tonne.
- 4. AML looks like AML-M1, BUT Tadano AML doesn't have knobs, only push buttons (see letter from Tadano).
- 5. UD Nissan did not build carriers anymore in 2010.
- 6. The model sticker "TG-1000E" doesn't look right. It looks to me the "0" letter typeface is wrong.
- 7. As far as I know Tadano didn't make 100 ton truck cranes in 2010, only 100 ton AT's
- 8. Etc....

This crane cannot be supported in any way by Tadano or it's dealers. It is using the name 'Tadano' without consent from Tadano Co. Our advice would be to avoid this crane. China appears to be the source of many such cranes which find their way onto the market.

The dealer also confirmed this information directly to Mr Bader and he sent us the following letter.

## Dear Mr Sparrow,

I would like to thank you very much for your help. We here in China really appreciate your advice and your support that would help us in finding the reality. Yes indeed it was a fake Tadano as I went back to them again, and they confessed that it was a Chinese brand with part imported components and assembled in China.

They were asking for US\$100,000 for it and when we faced them with our facts they admit and even then they wanted US\$70,000 for it. But as there is so many liabilities that can happen we didn't agree on it.

We give you the permission to publish this if you would like as we don't want anyone to get involved with these people specially in Henan province Zhengzhou as there still some people who go there and buy stuff, without the knowledge that it might be fake.

Again, thank you we appreciate your help.

Best wishes,

Haitham Bader