All Terrain cranes Spider lifts

June 2014 Vol.16 issue

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Vertikal Days review Remote controls



.New Genie booms...40 years for Tadano fraudster...Huisman Rope Luffing Knuckle Boom Crane..





Remote controls 45

Over the past 10 years the use of wireless remote controls in the construction industry has grown exponentially. Ed Darwin takes a look at the benefits of recent developments and

reviews some of the latest systems to enter the market.



preview 51

As well as being a Conexpo year 2014 is also has Apex. However this year the show is different in that it has moved from its long term home of Maastricht to the bright - or should we say red - lights of Amsterdam. Here are some of the interesting and new products that will be on show.

regulars

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All Terrain cranes 17

This month we take a look at the increasing competition in the small All Terrain crane market sector (40 tonners) and cover a variety of

interesting All Terrain applications including a logistically difficult train derailment rescue in Italy.



Spider lifts 27

The spider lift sector has been particularly active over the past few years. Currently manufacturers appear to be concentrating on larger models, including the 40 metre sector as well as making transportation easier and more cost effective. Cranes & Access reports.

Vertikal Days review 35

Moving Vertikal Days to May proved to be very successful in terms of the weather and visitor numbers. Many exhibitors said it was the best show to date - high praise

indeed considering the success of the previous seven shows. Here is an extensive pictorial round-up of some of the highlights.

The next issue of Cranes & Access scheduled for mid-July, will have our Annual dealer guide as well as features on Telehandlers, Industrial cranes and Industrial access/low level lifts. We also will have a full review of the APEX show in Amsterdam. If you have any contributions or suggestions, please contact our editorial team.

A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend. A successful woman is one who can find such a man.

On the cover:

A visitor at last month's Vertikal Days show getting to grips with the new remote controlled two tonne capacity, D12 tracked carrier launched by JT Cranes.





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Lana Turner







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Show-goers paradise!

For those that enjoy going to a trade show - to buy, browse, network or exhibit - 2014 has so far been a good year, with more to come. In recent months we have had Conexpo in Las Vegas and Vertikal Days at Haydock Park in the UK - two totally different shows in terms of size, venue, scope and type of event - but both successful. Apex later this month (purely access equipment

comment

rather than everything at Conexpo and cranes, access and telehandlers at Haydock) will be different again.

What makes a great show is the right blend of equipment, setting, organisation and above all, people - both visitors and exhibitors. Exhibitions provide a focus for new product development and new ideas, where a wide range of buyers and users can see and learn about new and unusual products, ideas or methods that may benefit their businesses as well as serving as a traditional marketplace .

For exhibitors they also provide a prime opportunity to obtain feedback about new and existing products or concepts - the best form of market research - or to find new partners. The exhibition environment is unique with the usual workplace distractions eliminated for both buyers and sellers. And when the mood is positive - as it has been at the shows we have attended this year - visitor and exhibitor minds are open and receptive - the perfect recipe for progress and deal making.

So where is all this going? Well in this issue we have a feature on small All Terrain cranes which asks the question 'are there better or more efficient ways to carry out certain lifts?' The answer is yes, with several alternatives already available - the popular telehandler and loader crane for example - but new solutions are emerging, such as aluminium truck and trailer cranes, which are as far from mainstream as you can get.

This is also applicable for other sectors, with equipment such as spider lifts, tracked mini cranes and mobile self-erecting tower cranes still classified as niche or deemed 'too complicated' for larger rental companies. And as they remain largely unknown to many potential end users they stay that way.

I always think of PR and advertising as the way to solve the 'how can people buy your product or idea if they don't know it exists' problem. Shows are of course an important ingredient in publicising a new product or idea. Whether it then is adopted and becomes mainstream is another matter. If the demand exists then hopefully it will eventually drive product development, supply and availability.

So when you next visit a show do let manufacturers and suppliers have your thoughts and feedback - they are all valid whether you run one machine or a thousand. You never know - you may spur on an important new development....

Mark Darwin

Comment and feedback is most welcome via post, email, fax or phone stating if we may publish them or not: editor@vertikal.net



n e w s





Genie announces new boom lifts

Genie has confirmed that it will launch two new articulated booms at Apex this month, a new/upgraded 60ft class unit to replace the Z-60/34 and an all new lightweight model with a platform height in the region of 34ft to 38ft.

The new 62ft Z-62/40 will be available in all drive and power formats of the current Z-60/34, including 4x4 and Trax versions and will include the Genie's 'Fast Mast' dual riser which can be used independently of the top boom allowing the platform to reach the ground regardless of the position of the riser. The headline improvement is of course the almost two metres of additional outreach which could possibly affect the machines weight?

The smaller of the two new models, the Z-3X/XX, is likely to prove more interesting in that we understand it will take Genie into the market dominated by the Niftylift HR12 and Snorkel AB38, and will be built primarily for the European market, which is where the majority of the

HR12 and AB38s are sold. It might also adopt some features from JLG's new H340AJ, and is almost certain to

certain to incorporate a hybrid or Bi-Energy power pack for indoor/outdoor applications and possibly include a 4x4 version. If this new model does go head to head with the Niftylift, something the company has looked at off and on for more than 10 years, it is likely to help

The new

Z-62/40 replaces the

Z-60/34

Genie

expand the sector and may well suck other competitors into the market, such as JLG, Skyjack and Haulotte.

No details are yet available on the new smaller model



UK-based rental company Lifterz has acquired the rental assets and goodwill of Ranger Equipment, which trades as 'The Spiderlift Company.' The decision by Ranger's owner Steve Hadfield to exit the spider lift rental market will, he says, allow the company to concentrate on its spider lift and mini-crane sales business, which includes CMC spider lifts and Jekko mini cranes.

The details of the deal have not been disclosed, although it includes the placement of an order for several new CMC spider lifts. Ranger will retain the 'Spiderlift' trademark for its sales activities.



Malcolm Bowers of Lifterz (L) with Steve Hadfield of Ranger

New compact crawler scissor

Italian manufacturer Almac Italia has launched a new six metre working height compact tracked scissor lift, the Bibi 630-L. With a total weight of

1,200kg the scissor stack is mounted on an 850mm wide chassis that extends to 1,115mm with up to 250mm of side to side levelling. Platform capacity is 200kg and a 220 volt power unit enables indoor use, while a Honda engine powers it when outdoors. An 'Easy-Drive System' with electronic traction and ramp controls for both start/stop and a counter-rotation, allows the machine to turn within its own length.



Benazzato in the UK & Ireland

Italian tower crane manufacturer Benazzato Gru has appointed Rossa Consulting as its distributor for the UK & Ireland. Rossa will initially focus on the manufacturer's self-erecting tower crane product range and plans to look for a partner company or companies to work with in similar core related markets on a regional or national basis, both on a sales and rental basis. Benazzato also offers a range of city tower cranes.

Rossa is owned by Sean O'Sullivan who has several years' experience working in the construction equipment sales and rental sector with both mastclimbers and tower cranes in the UK and overseas. His involvement with tower cranes dates back to 2006 when he joined Jin Long, part of the Neremat group in Belgium to set up the European distribution network for Yongmao tower cranes. Neremat were also the Benazzato distributors for Belgium at the time. Benazzato is a family owned company established in 1963 and builds self-erecting and city type tower cranes at an 80,000 square metre facility located in Northern Italy, between Milan Malpensa airport and Lake Maggiore. The product range includes self-erectors with capacities up to 5,000kg and 40 metre jibs and city cranes up to 8,000kg with jibs up to 65 metres.

Benazzato self-erector and city crane will now be available in the UK



IPAF issues technical guidance

The International Powered Access Federation has released a new technical guidance document covering the major inspection of aerial work platforms. The document outlines an inspection scheme to validate structural integrity and functionality of critical components and suggests that work platforms should undergo major inspection within 10 years of it initially going into service and every five years after that (10, 15, 20 years). More details on page 61.



New 48 metre from Palfinger

Palfinger Platforms has unveiled the first model in a new 'Jumbo NX' (next generation) range - the 48 metre P480NX. The new two axle lift features a four section main boom and new double link articulated 'X jib', which allows up to 240 degrees of articulation and up to 400 degrees of platform rotation.

Outreach is 31.5 metres, which Palfinger claims is best in class. The lift will be unveiled at Apex this month, with the first unit destined for Dutch rental company Collé. The unit weighs 17.4 tonnes including two operators and full fuel tank leaving plenty of spare capacity for extra cribbing etc... all of which can be stored on the units' underdeck storage chests. The P480NX has also been designed for mounting on a 26 tonne 6x2 MAN chassis allowing an extra three tonnes of counterweight, to provide a greater higher capacity outreach through 360 degrees.



Platform rotation can be up to 400 degrees

40 years for Tadano fraudster

Anthony Chiofalo, the ex-vice president of legal affairs at Tadano America has been sentenced to 40 years imprisonment. Chiofalo, 52, accepted a plea bargain after pleading guilty to having stolen more than \$9 million from Tadano, by issuing and paying fraudulent legal invoices. The 40 year sentence avoided the chance that the jury would hand down a life sentence.

New telescopic from GSR

GSR will launch a new 22.5 metre truck mounted telescopic lift, the B230T Comfort XEV on a Nissan Cabstar chassis at Apex this month.

The new lift features a four section boom which offers up to 13 metres of outreach and a platform capacity of 250kg. Options include automatic levelling and 1kV fibreglass basket. The manufacturer says that the new lift will target local authority work, such as tree pruning and street duties as well as window cleaning etc.





£55 million access spend for Lavendon

Lavendon is to spend more than £55 million on new aerial lifts this year, adding around 1,360 new units to its rental fleet across its European and Middle East operations. In the company's European operations (UK, Germany, France and Belgium) The spend will be allocated to largely replace older machines as part of an on-going programme.

In the Middle East the company plans to continue its fleet expansion strategy to meet increased demand and territory expansion. Most of the new units will be self-propelled boom lifts up to 40 metres, along with some new scissor lifts and vehicle mounted platforms and a few new telehandlers for Belgium and France. A large proportion of the investment has already been committed to Genie, although both JLG and Haulotte have also received orders. The new vehicle mounted platforms include a mixture of Bronto, CTE, Ruthmann and Versalift units.

See an interview with Lavendon's UK managing director Jeremy Fish in the next issue.



news

Palazzani to launch 43 metre spider lift

Palazzani will launch the XTJ 43 a new 43 metre spider lift at Apex next month. XTJ 43 replaces the XTJ 42 and features a metre more working height, six section boom and two section jib giving an outreach of 19 metres.

Standard platform capacity is 230kg (330kg optional) and the platform measures 2.4×0.7 metres with 170 (90 + 80) degrees of rotation. Travel speed is 1.4 km per hour and the unit has a gradeability of 40 percent. The working envelope is automatically set to match the outrigger positions, while the unit also offers advanced diagnostics via a colour touch screen monitor and an electric power controller for optimum power. A new control system allows three functions to run simultaneously without cross interference, thanks to a new hydraulic distributor with the latest generation flow sharing technology.



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n e w s



Palfinger Sany RTs for Russia

Palfinger Sany Mobile Cranes has extended its product range in Russia with the certification of three Rough Terrain cranes with capacities of 35, 55 and 75 tonnes.



The new cranes now have all of the necessary paperwork to commence import and distribution, including the certifications by Belstandard for Belarus and Rosstandard for Russia - and a TPTC, the certificate of compliance for technical requirements of the CIS customs union. Palfinger Sany says it will guarantee on-site service within 48 hours anywhere in Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus during the 18 month warranty period. The company claims to have achieved a market share of 11 percent in 2013, compared nothing in 2012.

Haulotte's new HA16



Haulotte has released more details of its new 46ft HA16 articulated boom lift range.

The three models - all four wheel drive - include the HA16 RTJ with two wheel steer, and 355 degree slew, the HA16 RTJ O is the same as the RTJ but with an oscillating axle and the HA16 RTJ PRO has four wheel steering, oscillating axle, 360 degree continuous slew and in Europe the company's Activ'Shield Bar secondary guarding system. All have a maximum outreach of 8.3 metres with an up and over clearance of 7.65 metres. Speed to full height is just 40 seconds, helped by true multifunction operation. The boom lifts are said to retain the off-road capability of the model it replaces having 380mm of ground clearance, non-slip differential with a manually operated diff lock and 40 percent gradeability. The new Kubota engine is much cleaner and more efficient and includes a variable speed control to of lower noise levels, while reducing fuel consumption by 15 percent.

New Manitowoc crawlers for Bigge

Bigge Crane and Lifting has ordered two of Manitowoc's new MLC300 and MLC650 crawler cranes launched at Conexpo. Bigge marketing manager Ryan Parker said: "We believe these two crawler cranes might set the new standard with their upgrades to weight balance, line pull and capacity. They are ideal for energy-related projects, including refineries, petrochemical installations, and power plants, as well as infrastructure applications."





Huisman Knuckle Boom Crane

Offshore and heavy lift crane manufacturer Huisman has unveiled a patented Rope Luffing Knuckle Boom Crane. The new active heave compensated crane combines the benefits of a normal luffing crane with a traditional knuckle boom crane. As such it offers a high lifting height and good capacities at outreach. By incorporating a knuckle in the design it is possible to reduce the pendulum of the hook and, if extended, it can allow for high lifting heights. Furthermore, the boom of the crane can be stored vertically saving valuable deck space.

Capacities of the new cranes range from 400 to 1,200 tonnes with the ability to cope with up to 5,000 metres of water depth. The main hoisting system comprises a traction and storage winch system and a separate heave compensation system. Other features include a patented anti-twist device and electric drive system. The first crane of this type to be built will be a 900 tonne unit for Subsea 7's 'Seven Arctic', scheduled for delivery in 2016.

CPA hosts Stars of the Future

The UK's CPA presented the annual Stars of the Future apprenticeship awards at Vertikal Days. Now in its second year the CPA received close to 600 entries from young mechanics currently enrolled in Level 2 and Level 3 apprentice schemes in colleges throughout the UK. At the award ceremony two national and 21 regional apprentices were acknowledged, with the winners receiving up to £1,000 worth of tool vouchers from Machine Mart.

Darragh Spencer of Askham Bryan College, employed by Randall Orchard Construction, won the national Level 2 award, with Colt Davis of Bridgend College, employed by Dawnus, taking the national Level 3 award.

The regional winners at Level 2 were: Conor Reuss, Craig Harris, Darragh Spencer, George Bray, George Pyecroft, Jake Beeson, Lee Thompson, Martin Stewart, Rhys Lewis, Steven Reid and Thomas Hughes.

The Level 3 regional winners were: Colt Davis, Christopher Smith, Dane Gendinning, James Prior, Karl Thorne, Luke Holmes, Matt Biggins, Nathun Wadiun, Ryan Hunter and Thomas Hammond.

Finning service engineers Spencer Smirl and Richmond Dykes, from the 'Coldest Journey' Antarctic expedition presented the awards.



Dykes and Smirl (back centre) with the 20 winners of the Star of the Future awards (one winner was unable to attend).



Loxam adds Brontos

Loxam UK has taken delivery of a new 50 metre Bronto S50XTD-J and a 70 metre S70XDT lifts mounted on a three and four axle Volvo chassis respectively.

The new lifts are part of a major investment in new truck mounts for this year. The two trucks are equipped with the latest features including lighting rig and camera pods for media applications, earth bonding for industrial and high voltage electrical work and spark arrestor with Chalwyn valve for refinery and petro-chemical applications. Each machine also has a 300kg winch attachment for specialist lifting tasks such as sheet and glass handling.

Versalift adds two new models

Time Versalift has launched two new platforms, the first on the upgraded 3.5 tonne VW T5 chassis is the 13.8 metre ETM-40-140-F with 6.8 metres of outreach and 200kg platform capacity. Features include two sets of A-frame outriggers, a 180 degree articulated jib and proportional electrical controls. The 300kg extra capacity on the chassis allows more spare payload or a larger platform.

The second new model is the 13.5 metre articulated LAT-38-135-H mounted on a 4x4 Ford Ranger pickup truck. Aimed at the rough terrain sector it has 1kV insulation as standard, with a higher insulation rating available by using a fibreglass insert in the jib. Maximum outreach is 6.4 metres with the standard platform capacity of 200kg which can be increased to 250 kg. Stability is provided by fixed A-frame outriggers at the rear and drop-down jacks behind the cab. Total weight with the single cab truck is just under 2.9 tonnes. The unit will also be available on Isuzu D-Max and Toyota Hilux 4x4 pickup trucks.

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LAT-38-135-H based on the 4x4 pick up is aimed at the rough terrain sector



Terex success at Vertikal Days

Terex Cranes booked a record number of orders at this year's Vertikal Days from customers ranging from Northern Scotland to Cornwall. Nottinghamshirebased McGovern ordered a 40 tonne AC 40 City and will shortly take delivery of a 220 tonne class Explorer 5800.



news

Another company taking an Explorer 5800 is Invernessbased Las Plant - its largest

(L-R) Steve Butterfield of Terex Financial Services, Tommy McGovern, Kieron McGovern and Eddie McGovern of McGovern Crane Hire after ordering an AC40 City at Vertikal Days

crane so far, while Plymouth-based Lifterz Cranes purchased a four axle 100 tonne AC100/4L AT as part of a fleet expansion programme. Julian Dyer of Terex Cranes UK said: "This was our best Vertikal Days ever with a record number of visitors to our stand, allowing us to add to our growing order book."

Hiab cranes for Australian Army

Hiab has received an order for 237 Hiab H099ATD-2 loader cranes and 559 Multilift demountable truck body systems from Rheinmetall MAN Military Vehicles, for a contract with the Australian Defence Forces. The deal is worth more than €40 million to Hiab and deliveries are scheduled to begin in 2016, with the contract due for completion in 2020.



Sinotruk Hiab JV inauguration

Sinotruk Hiab (Shandong) Equipment - a 50/50 joint venture established last November between Hiab and China National Heavy Duty Truck Group - celebrated its official inauguration in TaiAn Shandong province, China last month. The inauguration ceremony was jointly hosted by Cargotec vice chairman Tapio Hakakari and China National Heavy Truck's general manager Cai Dong.

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Loader crane manufacturer Hiab celebrated its 70th anniversary last month. The company was founded in1944 when Swedish ski manufacturer Eric Sundin developed the first loader crane after struggling to unload heavy timber from a truck at his factory.

He engineered a new way to transfer hydraulic power generated by the truck into a useful and lightweight lifting device. He then formed a company to market the new product which he named Hydrauliska Industri AB, or Hiab for short. In 1947 he introduced his first production crane, the Hiab 19 and the rest as they say is history.



The company went on to adapt the concept into cranes for the construction, forestry and recycling sectors, was acquired by Partek in 1977 and followed with a major acquisition. Today Hiab is part of Cargotec, and includes Jonsered, Loglift, Moffett, Multilift, Del, Waltco and Zepro branded products.

Multitel unveils new 37.5m

Multitel unveiled an all new 37.5 metre truck mounted lift at Vertikal Days in May, which it says, is targeted at the replacement market for aging 34 metre Bronto Skylifts.

The new model, the MJ 375, is mounted on an 18 tonne chassis, with an overall length of 8.5 metres and a maximum outrigger spread of 5.9 metres, or 4.9 metres with single side jacking. Its four section main boom and three section articulating jib provides up to 26 metres of outreach and three working envelopes, with 500, 280 or 120kg platform capacities. The 2.2 metre by 900mm platform extends hydraulically to 3.2 metres and includes 180 degrees platform rotation. There is also an option for 360 degree non-continuous platform rotation. The unit, which fits between the company's 32 metre MJ 320 and 42 metre MJ420 also includes a full remote diagnostics package and according to Multitel is priced competitively.



Kimberly returns Genie Z135/70s to fleet

UK-based rental company Kimberly Access placed its fleet of Genie Z-135/70 boom lifts back into service on June 1st, almost a year after standing them up after a fatal accident at its yard near Heathrow airport. The company says that the machines are all fitted with a secondary safety system that it has developed with its engineering advisors. It also adds that the device has been reviewed and approved by independent bodies, which have also stated - according to Kimberly that it would have prevented the incident from occurring.

New work platforms for Magni telehandlers

Magni Telehandlers has launched a range of six aerial work platform attachments for its telehandlers. The new platforms include two regular extending platforms, the first with a 500kg capacity and 180 degrees of platform rotation, extends from 2.4 to 4.5 metres, while a larger version extends from 2.4 to 4.7 metres and offers 1,000kg capacity. Both can be used with a 300kg davit jib with winch, for material handling from the platform. A special extra-long 2.4 to 6.43 metres extending platform is also available with 500kg capacity.

There are also three new telescopic iib mounted platforms. The first telescopes from 4.3 to 6.13 metres and provides 7.25 metres of additional height and six metres of outreach. Platform capacity is 300kg and it includes 180 degrees platform rotation. A second unit extends to 9.77 metres and offers outreach of over 10 metres, while the third features a 5.46 to 7.5 metre telescopic jib and, with 340 degrees of jib rotation. The concept includes a higher mounting post that takes the extra height up to 8.67 metres, but it can also be mounted below the boom nose to provide negative working heights of over minus eight metres. Platform capacity is 200kg.





Magni has launched six new platform options

MEC appoints APS for UK

MEC Aerial Work Platforms has appointed Access Platform Sales (APS) as its official distributor for the UK. The partnership, agreed at Vertikal Days, has now been formalised, with APS focusing on sales of MEC's Titan Booms, the 6092RT Ultra-Deck scissor lift, Crossover Hy-Brid 4x4s and Speed Levels, while providing after-sales support.

MEC's director of international markets, Jim Tolle said: "APS has a great reputation in the UK for listening to its customers and providing them with

the right equipment solution. It shares our ethos of customer engagement and care. We believe appointing high quality, full service distributors like APS is the best route to sustainable growth as we continue to develop our international sales."

APS also distributes Hinowa, Isoli truck mounts, Ommelift, Wienold Lift and is an authorised dealer for Genie and Youngman.



Mobi-Hub takes AC 1000

Berlin, based crane and logistics company Mobi-Hub has taken delivery of a 1,000 tonne, nine axle Terex AC 1000 All Terrain crane, complete with its full suite of optional equipment.

Available with a 50 or 100 metre main boom the crane can travel with the 50 metre boom in place and still meet 12 tonne axle loading requirements. The crane recently



completed its first job - unloading a 175 tonne, 12 metre long power plant column from a barge at the Borsignafen port in Tegel, Berlin.

Six CPL 4x4s for 2 Rent



Jim Warburton (L) of 2 Rent orders six Isuzu-based Socage A314 platforms from CPL managing director Paul Murphy

UK specialist vehicle rental company 2 Rent has ordered six new CPL/Socage A314 platforms on Isuzu 4x4 pickup trucks for its fleet. The order was negotiated at Vertikal Days between 2 Rent's managing director Jim Warburton and Paul Murphy of CPL.

The Isuzu A314, which was unveiled a few weeks earlier at the Commercial Vehicle show, was designed and

constructed as a joint venture between CPL and Isuzu, with full vehicle type approval currently underway, the unit has a working height of 13.2 metres, an outreach of 6.5 metres, 360 degree slew and a 225kg unrestricted platform capacity. It also has five degrees off-road levelling and 400kg spare payload.

"CPL is the only UK manufacturer authorised by Isuzu to mount an access platform on the D Max chassis, which means the conversion will not affect the vehicle warranty in any way," said Murphy.

Buckhurst takes 100 JCB telehandlers

UK rental company Buckhurst Specialist Plant has ordered more than £6.5 million worth of JCB equipment, including 100 JCB telescopic handlers with lift heights ranging from five to 20 metres. JCB EcoMAX Stage IIIB/Tier 4 Interim diesel engine, which offers six percent more torque than the previous model but uses up to nine percent less fuel. Buckhurst now has a fleet of 2,000 machines with depots in Lancashire, Leeds, West Lothian and a brand new depot in Aberdeen.

All the machines apart from several 520-50 Agri are powered by the



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news Financials round-up Tat Hong decl

Manitowoc Crane reported first guarter revenues of \$466.7 million, down 15 percent while operating profits fell 35 percent to \$22.6 million. Its strong order intake - boosted by Conexpo - took the backlog to \$842 million.

Terex Cranes slips into the red

Terex Cranes posted a poor first quarter with sales dropping 16 percent to \$393.6 million, while last year's operating profit of \$32.5 million turned into a \$200,000 loss this year. Order intake was strong with the order book up 34 percent to \$673.4 million.





Genie lifts sales 15%

Genie/Terex AWP achieved first quarter revenues of \$584.9 million, 15 percent higher than last year, while operating income increased 14 percent to \$82.2 million. The

company's order book jumped 77.6 percent over the three months to \$522.9 million, but is still nine percent lower than at this point last year.

JLG lifts profits



JLG reported first half revenues of \$1.53 billion, almost 10 percent up on the same period last year, led by

strong sales of aerial lifts. Operating income jumped 44 percent to \$206.9 million, while the backlog slipped to \$726.5 million, from 778.7 million at this point in 2013. Second guarter revenues grew six percent to \$866 million and



Hb Hiab profits jump

Hiab sales for the quarter increased eight percent to €208 million, while the backlog slipped one percent to €211 million. Operating profits jumped from €2 million last year to €13.4 million this year thanks to lower restructuring costs.

Tanfield transformation

Tanfield, the minority owner of Snorkel posted full year revenues of £2.2 million down 33 percent, while staff costs increased from £2.1 to £2.6 million helping the business to a £1 million operating loss. After a re-evaluation of investments and debt write offs the company made a pre-tax profit of £7.4 million.

JCB profits slide



JCB recorded its third most profitable year

in 2013, with revenues of £2.68 billion, just shy of the record £2.7 billion achieved in 2012. Profits slipped 14 percent to £313 million.

Negative start for Bronto

Bronto Skylift quarterly revenues declined 17 percent to \$24.5 million, creating a loss of \$800,000 compared to a profit of \$700,000 last year. Order intake jumped 52 percent to \$51.5 million, boosting the backlog to \$106.4 million.

Another negative quarter for Essex

First guarter revenues at Essex Crane fell 15 percent to \$21.08 million, while its pre-tax loss for the period increased from \$1.1 last year to \$1.9 million this year.

Strong year for HSS



UK-based HSS achieved full year revenues of £226 million, up 24 percent on 2012, while it turned a £17 million loss in 2012 to a £300,000 profit in 2013.



Tat Hong decline continues

Tat Hong has reported full year revenues down 18 percent at \$684.1 million, while pre-tax profits fell 52 percent to \$48.9 million.

Palfinger rises 18%

First guarter revenues at Palfinger improved 18 percent to €267.6 million, while pre-tax profits grew nine percent to €16.95 million. Most of the growth came from Europe, where revenues climbed over 25 percent.

Mills Rental up 28%

The Rental division of Brazilian-based Mills, saw revenues improve 27.8 percent to R97.3 million (\$43.6 million), while operating income increased 28 percent to R39.7 million (\$17.8 million).

Poor start for Ramirent

First guarter revenues at Ramirent dropped 10 percent to €137.5 million, while pre-tax profits plummeted 78.8 percent to €3.2 million.



Strong first quarter for Skyjack

First quarter revenues at Linamar's Industrial division mostly Skylack - jumped more than 30 percent to \$180.38 million. while operating profits more than doubled, to \$30.3 million thanks to strong sales in the USA and Europe.

89% profit boost for Tadano



Full year results at Tadano showed an 89 percent jump in pre-tax profits to ¥21.4 billion (\$210.2 million), on revenues 35 percent higher at ¥ 181.76 billion (\$1.78 billion).

Manitex up 5%



Crane and port equipment manufacturer Manitex achieved first quarter sales of \$62.5 million up 5.1 percent, pre-tax profits rose 7.5 percent to \$2.78 million. The backlog of \$100 million, is up 29 percent on the quarter.

Kobelco Cranes returns to profit

Kobelco Cranes increased full year revenues by more than 24 percent to ¥56.6 billion (\$560 million) and turned last year's loss of ¥2.25 billion (\$22.2 million) into a profit of ¥3.2 billion (\$31.8 million).

Wacker Neuson doubles profits

Wacker Neuson achieved revenues of €291.6 million in the first quarter, while doubling pre-tax profits to €22.1 million.

Mixed first quarter for Cramo

Cramo reported first guarter revenues of €140.3 million and cut its loss from €2.3 million to €1.6 million.

Speedy edges up

Revenues at UK-based Speedy grew 2.9 percent to £349.7 million last year thanks to a



stronger second half. Pre-tax profits improved five percent to £32.7 million after a £4 million write off in its International Division.





Maltech takes first Bronto S47XR

Swiss aerial lift rental company Maltech will take delivery of the first Bronto S47XR truck mounted lift, following its launch at Apex in a couple of weeks. The purchase is part of an order for four S47XRs and a 56 metre S56XR.

The new S47XR is mounted on a two axle 18 tonne chassis and is the latest addition to Bronto's three-model XR (Extreme Reach) range launched at Bauma last year. Features include a larger working envelope, a short articulating 'sky jib' with 160 degrees of articulation and Bronto's B+ Geometric Control System.



Off-road GSR

Skyking launched the 14 metre GSR E140P aerial lift on a Ford Ranger 4x4 chassis at Vertikal Days. Designed for off-road use and with a GVW of 3,200kg, it offers 300kg a spare payload, six metres of outreach, a 250kg platform capacity, ground level entry to the platform, a choice of basket types, 360 degree slew and four independently operated stabilisers. When stowed for road travel the unit has an overall height of 2.5 metres, making for a more comfortable drive as well as making it more stable off-road.



Manitou restructures

Manitou is to merge its Industrial and Rough Terrain handling divisions to create a new Material Handling and Access product division with Ferdinand Mira as president. The division will manage all of the company's French and Italian production sites - manufacturing telehandlers, rough-terrain and industrial forklifts, truck-mounted forklifts and aerial work platforms all sold under the Manitou brand.

The Compact Equipment division headed by Dan Miller - will continue to be responsible for production and marketing of Gehl and Mustang telehandlers, skidsteer loaders, track loaders and articulated loaders and is largely based in the USA. Lastly the new Services & Solutions Service Division with Maxime Deroch as president will cover all sales support activities, including financing, warranty, maintenance contracts, service, replacement parts, technical training and services to end users such as geo-location/telematics and application advice etc.

The implementation will begin in July and is expected to take 10 months to complete. At the same time previous chief executive Dominique Bamas has re-joined the Manitou board as a non-executive director, replacing Joël Goulet who has resigned.



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News HIGHLIGHTS

Vo

- German forklift rental company Trafö has added its first telehandlers and aerial work platforms.
- Bobcat has appointed Werner Purkart as district manager for Southern Germany.



- **Power Climber** has launched a new and improved PC3 traction hoist for suspended platforms.
- Chinese lithium ion battery maker Sinopoly is looking at a strategic investment in SEV.
- AFI has relocated its Southampton depot to larger premises in Portsmouth.
- Swedish-based Hyr-lift has taken delivery of its first Dino 265RXT self-propelled boom lift.
- Isoli has delivered the first unit to its new distributor for Poland - Gizo.
- France Elévateur has appointed CharterLift to distribute its products in Southern Germany.
- C-Tech Industries has closed its UK operation.
- Sennebogen has opened its new training academy and museum.
- Belgium heavy lifting company Sarens has appointed Magnus Björkman as chief financial officer.
- Magnus Biörkmar Bronto has appointed CharterLift as its distributor in Germany and Austria.
- UK crane industry veteran Colin Burnett has died after a long illness, he was 62.
- Tadano Oceania has moved to new premises in Sydney.
- Dutch rental company HWS Verhuur has ordered MEC 6092RT Ultra-Deck scissor lifts.
- Isoli has appointed Omme Lift Germany as its distributor for Germany and Austria.
- Spanish mastclimber manufacturer OGEI has appointed Mixtrade as its distributor for Algeria.
- IMT has appointed Custom Vehicle Solutions of Denton, Texas.
- Wynne systems has appointed Richard Wildey as director of operations.
- Dueco has appointed Judie Taylor KiChara Wildey as CEO and Marikris Coryell as chief operating officer.
- Australian construction company Alfasi has taken delivery of a Liebherr LR 1300 SX crawler crane.
- Barnhart Crane & Rigging has acquired Hite Crane & Rigging of Spokane, Washington.
- Irish rental company Clerkin Elevation has taken delivery of a new 30 metre Teupen Leo30T.
- The UK's Access Link held its quarterly meeting at Vertikal Days.
- The UK's Access Alliance held its guarterly meeting at Haulotte's scissor lift facility in France.
- Power Climber has appointed Jim Boudreau as regional sales manager.
- Albert Kropp, 68, owner of Chicagobased aerial lift company Kropp Equipment has died.



• Steve Couling, MD of Versalift UK, is to leave in August to invest in and head up an international business.

- UK's MBS Access has taken delivery of a 21 metre CTE Zed21 JHV truck mounted lift.
- Jost Cranes has moved its sales and marketing headquarters to Zorneding.
- UK-based Spot Hire purchased the new Palfinger P210BK at Vertikal Days.
- Gantic battery chargers has appointed Alfa Access Services as its distributor.
- California-based BigRentz.com has appointed Wade Lowe as vicepresident of sales.
- Access and boom truck pioneer Ray Pitman passed away on May 7th aged 89.
- Terex Cranes has appointed EWPA Maszyny Budowlane as distributor for Poland.
- Perkins has produced its 20 millionth engine, 81 years after it was established.
- Deep South Crane & Rigging has taken delivery of the first Terex AC1000 in the USA.
- Terex Utilities has expanded the territory of its largest distributor - Dueco.
- Canadian rental company WesternOne has appointed Ritchie Bros CEO Peter Blake as CEO.
- Mateco has purchased a number of JLG boom lifts, including a 1500SJ.
- UK-based Upward Powered Access is opening its second depot to the West of London.
- JLG has appointed Palmer Johnson Power Systems as its service provider for Minneapolis.
- Dutch-based HWS has ordered several big JLG boom lifts from Riwal.
- Dueco has promoted Ken Vlasman to the newly created role of director of service.
- Tractel UK has celebrated its 60th anniversary.

Access veteran Steve Seiders of JLG, Acme Lift and Falconite has passed away.



- Grace Temple, a Buddhist temple in Malaysia, has taken delivery of a Sinoboom boom lift and scissor lift.
- Dutch rental company Pol Hoogwerkers of Hoogeveen has opened its new depot in Alkmaar.
- Snorkel's distribution business in Australia is being rebranded as Ahern Australia.
- Time Versalift is to launch a van mounted platform based on the latest Ford Transit chassis.
- IPAF has released its 2014 Rental Market Reports which estimates over a million aerial work platforms worldwide.
- Ruthmann has appointed Thomas Heil as regional manager for its Groß-Gerau service centre, Germany.



- Liebherr Maritime Cranes is to supply 20 mobile harbour cranes to port operators in Algeria.
- Promax Access has been appointed the UK distributor for Reedyk Compact Cranes.
- First Quantum Mineral has taken delivery of four Magni telehandlers - the first in Africa.
- Rental company SVMM has taken delivery of the first Terex Explorer 5800 crane in France.
- ALE has moved a world record load of 13,191.98 tonnes.
- Socage plans to launch 12 and 14 metre van mounted lifts.
- Global Cranes has ordered 70 Zoomlion Rough Terrain cranes worth \$20 million.
- Australian aerial lift manufacturer Nifty-Lift has appointed Adam Youl as sales manager.
- Teupen has added two new service partners in Germany.
- UK-based Emsley Crane Hire has taken delivery of a Liebherr LTM 1220-5.2.
- Hiab is to sell its paint shop operation in Hudiksvall, Sweden to IBE Spectrum.
- Rosenbauer International has acquired a 75 percent stake in its UK distribution partner North . Fire.
- MOBA has taken its stake in the Finish manufacturer Novatron to 49 percent.
- Ken Washington, a UK-based crane salesman who for many years sold NCK crawler cranes has died.
- California-based Coastline Equipment has purchased Skyjack ZB2044 telehandlers.
- Ramirent has acquired a majority stake in Safety Solutions Jonsereds, a Swedish fall protection company.
- Trico Lift has appointed Joe Macrone, John Bennett and Jeff Walker to its management team.
- Ramirent has acquired the DCC Dry weather over and scaffold division off NSS Group.



Joe

- Swiss rental company Camillo Vismara, has been recertified to IPAF Rental + the only company outside of the UK with Rental+
- Benazzato tower cranes has appointed Rossa Consulting as its UK/Ireland distributor.
- Ley-Krane has taken delivery of an Omme 2750 RBDJ spider lift and 1550EX trailer lift.
- Manitowoc Crane Care has appointed Sigdo Koppers as EnCORE partner for Chile and the Andes region.
- Palfinger Sany Mobile Cranes has launched a Russian mounted 25 tonne truck mounted crane.
- Konecranes has appointed Paterson Simons as distributor for its overhead cranes in Nigeria.
- Chilean container terminal operator **TPS** has ordered three Liebherr ship to shore container cranes.
- Maltech is to take delivery of the first Bronto S47XR truck mounted lift.

See www.vertikal.net news archive for full versions of all these stories





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Tough time for small A

Wherever you look in the UK and in some other parts of northern Europe, there appears to be a record number of cranes at work. However despite a vast improvement in the construction related workload over the past year or two, rental rates for most lifting equipment - while slowly improving - are still way below a sensible or even sustainable level. Many point out that they are the same or even lower than 20 years ago!

Without discussing the reasons for low rates, the net result is a poor return on investment (ROI) which means that many companies cannot afford to reinvest to replace older equipment. Some companies even struggle to properly maintain their fleets. This falling ROI is just one factor that has forced many mobile crane rental companies to look to the larger capacity All Terrain cranes that command better returns, and where the cost of the operator is a smaller percentage of the rate. Generally the bigger capacity the better, but certainly returns improve when capacities reach the 100 tonne and above mark. The high price tag for All Terrain cranes and low rental rates may well be the reason for the growth in popularity of less costly alternative lifting equipment, such as loader cranes and telehandlers. This growth has certainly hit smaller capacity All Terrain sales and is making rental companies and users question - perhaps for the first time why they buy and use certain types



There are always different machine options available - here a mobile self erecting tower crane sets up in a busy London street - the lift would have required a much larger capacity AT crane set up much further away

TINO CON

of equipment for particular jobs. There are some very good All Terrain crane alternatives available depending on the lifting requirements, particularly where the lift is a combination of reach and relatively low weight (say less than a tonne). This long reach, low capacity work is typical of many housing and small industrial sites for placing items such as roof trusses, false chimney stacks and steel beams. There is also industrial type lifting in a confined space where a compact and manoeuvrable device is essential. One of the applications featured on page 24 required 16 office containers to be stacked inside an industrial building with very little headroom above the upper level. The crane provider opted to use its 40 tonne City crane and 15 tonne boom nose mounted 'runner' with double hook and lifting chains to handle the six metre long, 2.5 tonne containers at a radius of around 10 metres. An alternative installation method may have used a smaller, cheaper, mid sized telehandler. Of course if you have access to a small AT then that is what you would probably use - but is it time for users and in particular rental companies to offer a wider range of less traditional equipment giving customers more - possibly better and cheaper - options? There are several other examples of alternative lifting equipment which

for specific tasks are either the only way of getting the work done or offer a more cost effective/quicker/ safer solution.

Mobile self-erecting tower cranes and tracked spider cranes are two excellent examples of equipment that may not have the ultimate nominal lifting capacity, but through their design are able manoeuvre closer to the load and therefore complete the task with less disruption, as well as being quicker and cheaper?

One alternative for the small All Terrain crane that is becoming more popular - particularly in Germany, Austria and the UK - is the truck or trailer mounted aluminium crane. There are only a few manufacturers that now make this product including Paus - which has two trailer cranes - and Böcker which has a wider range of both truck



all terrain cranes Caa

Böcker AK 32/1500

S C C Starworker 1000





mounted and trailer units. While common for some time in Teutonic regions of Europe, only a rare few individuals and companies in the UK sensed their potential for certain applications, so this type of crane has generally been ignored. Now that Kranlyft has become the Böcker distributor for the UK, this is changing as it manages to attract much more interest and as a result the product has started to sell in reasonable numbers.

For decades German-based Böcker has been making both trailer and truck mounted cranes using its aluminium boom technology. The six models of truck cranes have capacities from 1,200kg to 6,000kg and tip heights ranging from 28 to 41 metres. These are mounted on commercial chassis with Gross Vehicle Weights from 7.5 to 26 tonnes. The five trailer cranes have payloads from 800 to 1,800kg with maximum extension lengths from 25 to 34 metres.

As mentioned earlier, one of the problems for a small All Terrain is that it is relatively expensive to buy. However it is also very expensive to run and maintain. Not using a commercially available chassis means that parts and maintenance are particularly expensive - for example tyres can cost between £1,200 and £2,000 each.

A crane such as the Böcker which - even when fully loaded up with options - is cheaper to buy and more importantly, significantly less costly to run and maintain. And despite its lower nominal lifting capacity, can still carry out a significant proportion of the All Terrains duties.

At last month's Vertikal Days at Haydock Park, Kranlyft exhibited a four tonne capacity AK 44/4000 mounted on a 15.5 GVW Mercedes Atego chassis. The fully equipped demonstration unit - with optional hydraulic luffing jib and 250kg access platform - was purchased at the show by Bedford-based crane rental company NMT Cranes, its first ever truck mounted aluminium crane in its fleet. Even though its maximum capacity is about a tenth of a two axle All Terrain, it can compete against 35-40 tonne ATs particularly when lifting at height or long reach. The AK 44/4000 has

a maximum extended boom length of 44 metres, a 35 metre maximum lift radius where it can lift 250kg, or 500kg at 30 metres, 1,000kg at 22 metres and 2,000kg at 14 metres. Its maximum four tonnes can be lifted at 8.2 metres.

Looking at the chart above comparing the AK 44/4000 with three 40 tonne ATs - the Terex AC 40/2 L, Grove GMK 2035E and Tadano Faun ATF 40G-2 and the 35 tonne Liebherr LTM 1030-2.1, it can be seen that the Böcker is physically similar in size. However at 15.5 GVW it is significantly lighter than the two axle, 24 tonne maximum All Terrains, resulting in lower fuel consumption and general less wear and tear on the drive train components, all of which are designed for long distance high mileage travel. What is also clear is that the Böcker has nowhere near the lifting capacity close in, but from around 22 metres it performs well and offers enough capacity/reach for the types of jobs that these smaller crane are often used. The Böcker also has a fully variable outrigger control system which is not yet

available on most small All Terrain cranes and a boon on challenging and narrow construction sites. The position of each outrigger is monitored by the PLC controls and the lifting envelope is automatically calculated depending on the footprint.

The Böcker also has the option of the two person - 250kg capacity work platform which is either rigid or can have 30 degree left and right rotation. This gives crane operators the option of converting the crane into a platform with a very useful 40 plus metres working height. This can be an invaluable option for many contracts when lifting and placing loads at height and if using a small AT it would need the additional expense of renting in a sizeable access platform.

This is not an article forecasting the end of the small - 30-40 tonne capacity - All Terrain crane. Far from it - there are still many lifting jobs that can only be done with a sizeable capacity but small and compact crane that is manoeuvrable and good on poor ground conditions etc.... What it does highlight however is that there are other options that can offer both the crane rental company and the end user some significant benefits. So don't automatically select a small AT for the job, look at the alternatives which may well manage the lift just as well, but perhaps quicker, with less disruption and possibly be more cost effective.



The Böcker AK 44/4000 truck crane v small capacity AT cranes

	Böcker AK 44/4000	Liebherr LTM1030-2.1	Terex AC 40/2 L	Grove GMK 2035E	Tadano Faun ATF 40G-2
*Capacity @ 35m	250kg	400kg @ 36m	550kg @34m	-	-
*Capacity @ 30m	500kg	1,000kg	950kg	800kg	600kg
*Capacity @ 22m	1,000kg	1,300kg	1,350kg	1,400kg	1,200kg
*Capacity @ 14m	2,000kg	3,500kg	3,600kg	3,900kg	3,400kg
*Capacity @ 8m	4,000kg @8.2m	9,100kg	9,400kg	9,400kg	8,600kg
Max capacity @ with 12t per axle counterweight	4,000kg @ 8.2m	33.4 @ 3m over rear	35.0t @ 3m over rear	33.5t@3.1m over rear	31.3t @ 3.0m
Max system length	44 metres	45m	45.4 m	46 metres	47 m
Overall length	10,550mm	10,310mm	10,689mm	10,215	11,031
Overall width	2,550mm	2,550mm	2,550	2,550mm	2,550mm
Overall height	3,940mm	3,495m	3,320mm	3,523mm	3,551mm

*with road going (max 12 tonnes per axle) counterweight installed

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Crane work of art

An old sea port crane has been installed on the quay of the River Limmat in the old town of Zürich as a temporary work of art. The 30 metre high crane weighing 90 tonnes was voted the winner of the "Zürich Transit Maritim" project competition organised by the Commission for Art in the City. The retired crane was dismantled in Rostock and shipped to Zurich where two Liebherr cranes - a 130 tonne LTM 1130-5.1 and a 70 tonne LTM 1070-4.2 - from Feldmann



unloaded and erected it on the quay. The heaviest lift was the port crane's pillar which weighs 27 tonnes, well within the capability of the LTM 1130-5.1. After this the LTM 1070-4.2 was brought in for a tandem lift to install the 35 metre long, eight tonne boom.



Quicker bridge lifts with new spreader

Australian crane rental company Universal Cranes used a 450 tonne, seven axle Grove GMK7450 All Terrain for a bridge lift in Central Queensland using its own specially designed lattice spreader.

The crane unloaded and installed 22 precast concrete beams - each measuring 33 metres long and weighing 74 tonnes - over a two week period on the 64 metre long Bruce Highway Bridge near Calliope after being transported to the site from its base in Brisbane 450km away. The crane was fully rigged with its Mega Wing superlift system in less than four hours and was able to reposition in less than two hours thanks to its carrier allowing travel while partially rigged.

Universal Cranes used a specially-designed, purpose-built lattice spreader to lift the large loads with sling angles as low as five degrees against the beam inserts, reducing stress on each insert while perfectly balancing the load. The unique set up also reduced rigging time as the crew could quickly and easily sling the beam.

Rescuir a deraile train

Recovering a derailed train can be challenging at the best of times however when it happens on a stretch of line squeezed between the sea and cliffs it is a logistical nightmare. This was the scenario when an Intercity 660 train and carriages derailed on its way to the Italian town of Andora due to a landslide near the cliffs of Capo Mimosa on the south western Ligurian coast. Fortunately there were no injuries, however recovering the train was a major headache for Italian Railway Network Ferroviaria Italiana, which brought in specialist lifting company Vernazza Autogrù to carry out the work.

"After an initial survey we set to work on a range of feasible proposals for recovering the train intact, trying to keep the complexity and cost to a minimum," said Diego Vernazza, one of the owners of Vernazza Autogrù. "The plan we adopted required minimum preliminary work near the cliff and on the tracks, safety and time were the two main priorities, however we were at the mercy of certain key variables including the weather and sea currents".

The solution was to build a 90 metre long, 27 metre wide crane barge with an overall capacity of 11,700 tonnes. The plan was to use the barge to transport the cranes to a position close to the cliff and then act as a dock from which to carry out the lift. The two cranes selected for the main lifting duties were a seven axle 450 tonne Grove GMK7450 and a 700 tonne, nine axle Terex AC700. A 100 tonne four axle Terex AC100/4L was also used, along with a small cab down Rough



The solution involved a 90 metre long, 27 metre wide barge with a capacity of 11,700 tonnes

Caa all terrain cranes

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A 100 tonne Terex AC100/4L was lifted from the barge next to the train



Terrain for routine material handling duties. The barge had to be extensively modified for the work.

"We had to reinforce the basic structure of the floating dock in order to support the weight of the cranes and add a compartmental balancing module for levelling. Once the barge was properly reinforced and modified, we secured the AC 700 and GMK7450 in place as an integral part of the barge. These two cranes carried out most of the heavy lifting. After this we got the official Italian Marine Registry ("Registro Italiano Navale") certification needed for the navigation phase and for the subsequent lifting activities," added Vernazza.

"While the barge was being fitted out in the port of Genoa we sent an initial operations team to Andora to secure the train and create the attachment points needed to lift it. At the same time, a team of divers surveyed the seabed using a hi-tech depth-finder to identify any critical points. With the aid of a diving team and two tugboats, the barge was towed into position and moored in a spot almost touching the base of the cliff. At this point we started the complex part of the operation. We lifted the AC 100/4L from the barge on to the railway line where it was used to stabilise the train as it was lifted."

After the slings were installed on the locomotive the two barge mounted cranes - both fitted with superlift systems - were ready to tandem lift the 90 tonne train back on the tracks. However during the derailment, the locomotive buffers had penetrated deep into the first carriage solidly jamming the two together. After making several unsuccessful attempts to separate them with cutting gear, the team used multiple 35 tonne air-cushions to help extract the locomotive from the carriage. When everything was ready, the train was lifted back on to the tracks to return to the rail yard.









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all terrain cranes Ca Cold boxes lifted

Two 400 tonne Liebherr LTM 1400-7.1 cranes from partner companies Kran Saller in Deggendorf and Kranverleih Saller in Winhöring completed a tandem lift of two cold boxes at the Port of Passau on the River Danube.

The refrigeration chambers are used at very low temperatures, for example in air separation systems or gas treatment systems. Each chamber weighed more than 150 tonnes and measured 28 metres long, eight metres wide and five metres high and were lifted from a low loader on to a freighter for onward shipment. The Port of Passau plays a major role in goods handling at the point at which Bavaria, Bohemia and Austria meet.







Stacking challenge

Sometimes the simple jobs can be the most difficult - particularly when working in restricted conditions. Stacking containerised offices is usually an everyday task, but when this is carried out indoors with very little space to manoeuvre, it is far more difficult. When faced with stacking 16 containers at a logistics warehouse near Ingolstadt in southern Germany, crane rental company Schmidbauer chose a compact Terex AC 40 City for the job.

With an overall height of less than three metres and a chassis length of 7.34 metres, the crane is ideal for work in restricted spaces. The three-axle unit also has independent rear-axle steering and a 7.8 to 31.2 metre main boom and a maximum load of up to 34.4 tonnes.

To perform the lifts the Schmidbauer team used the 15 tonne boom nose mounted 'runner' with double hook and lifting chains to handle the six metre long, 2.5 tonne containers at a radius of around 10 metres. In this configuration the upper containers were able to be placed without interfering with the ceiling or any lighting fixtures or pipes. The job was successfully completed in 10 hours.

"There weren't any viable alternatives - no other crane had the design characteristics required to handle the job," said Christian Schlagbauer, Schmidbauer's Ingolstadt branch manager. "Without the AC 40 City crane, we simply wouldn't have been able to take on the project. In addition to the lack of space, the project had to be carried out on a single Saturday in order not to disturb the production work at the warehouse. The AC 40 City's ease of mobilisation and fast assembly proved invaluable and the team was able to drive the crane to the jobsite and set it up in just 30 minutes."

Floating building tandem lift

Three Grove All Terrain cranes installed the foundation of an unusual floating building - a new tourist information and exhibition centre - on the river Mosel in Schengen, Luxembourg. Two of the cranes - a 300 tonne GMK6300L and 220 tonne GMK6220L - completed a complicated tandem lift, placing the 64 tonne base of the building which measured 34 metres long and six metres wide. A GMK3055 was also on site for support. All three cranes were supplied by local rental company Megalift which worked closely with the local Manitowoc dealer MobilKranTechnik to find a solution for the project.

The cranes were carefully positioned for the lift on a residential road next to the sloping riverbank. The GMK6300L used its 80 metre main boom while the GMK6220L used its 72 metre boom to lift the foundation from a truck and slew it through 180 degrees to face the river. Having travelled 60km from Megalift's headquarters in Colmar Berg to the job site, the three cranes took half a day to set up and spent two days on the project. River traffic was halted during the lift, but despite the large load and the difficulties in preparing the narrow riverbank, the job was completed with time to spare.

"Grove cranes are easy to

manoeuvre, quick to set-up and make light work of even demanding lifts," said Uwe Döring, general manager of MobilKran Technik. "It was extremely important that the two cranes worked together to lift the load smoothly. The cranes caused minimum disruption to the surrounding area, performed the lift very efficiently and were on their way to the next job site in no time."





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spider lifts

Mission mpossible:

The advent of super-strength, lightweight steels combined with computer aided design has resulted in a new breed of access equipment that is lighter yet has improved performance. Of all the different types of access equipment available, the spider lift must be the most complex, combining an ever greater platform height and outreach from a compact and narrow tracked base capable of travelling through door openings before unfolding its outriggers and often working in difficult, space restricted areas.

The most popular working heights of spider lifts have steadily increased over the years from 13 metres to 15 to 17 metres. Two years ago we reported that the 23 to 25 metre spider lift sector was the up and coming sector with several manufacturers offering products of this size range. Last year it appeared the most significant launches were from manufacturers developing lifts between 30 and 35 metres. In terms of user demand - which often tends to lag behind the latest products by a year or two - the 15 to 17 metre machines are currently the most popular, although this is slowly increasing with the usage of 20 metre lifts growing and becoming more mainstream.

Recent product developments on all size of platforms - include improved basic performance (working height and outreach) as well as making machines easier, safer and more environmentally friendly to use. Single button outrigger set up, power options including lithium ion battery packs and hybrids, advanced remote controls and movement memory all help make this relatively complicated machine more appealing to end users as well as rental companies which are always looking for 'easy to use' machines.

Transport solutions

Increasing fuel and driver rates mean that transportation costs are an increasing concern, particularly as machines with increased working heights are heavier/larger and more difficult to move to and from site. Teupen is one manufacturer looking into providing specialist solutions for transporting its machines. It recently launched another version of its customised 3.5 tonne GVW chassis with modified deck specifically



made to carry the 2,950kg 21 metre Leo 21GT. The main advantage of this system is that the lift can selfload and unload using its own spider legs to raise it clear of the truck. The company initially designed the concept for the heavier 3,100kg Leo 23GT but has expanded the range as it sees increasing demand for specific custom-made transport solutions.

Irish rental company Easi UpLifts has also invested in specialist spider transport. It has added a seven tonne lveco mini articulated tractor unit and a specially designed Veldhuizen trailer for its specialist spider lift division. The company says the custom-built trailer will allow for quick and easy loading operations and has a payload of almost six tonnes as well as offering improved fuel efficiency.

Easi UpLifts' transport manager David O' Keeffe said: "The new Iveco mini artic and trailer will allow us to deliver a high bulk but low weight products such as spider lifts anywhere in the UK cost effectively



and this is one way we feel will be of benefit to us and our customers."

Largest spiders

Despite the general increase in the more popular working heights, the maximum working height of the largest spider has remained roughly the same for some time. Teupen the first company with a 50 metre unit around eight years ago - was rumoured to be working on a larger spider but although demand is relatively constant for its biggest machines - about five a year - it does not appear to be growing and looks unlikely to see the light of day for some time yet – if ever.





The 52 metre Falcon - launched by Falck Schmidt (now TCA Lift) in 2010 - assumed the mantle of the largest spider lift but has since been joined by the 52 metre Palazzani Ragno XTJ52 which was launched at Bauma last year. Most of the sales of these very large spiders are made directly to end users - rather than rental companies - specifically to maintain large buildings, hotels or shopping centres which feature a high atrium.

Two new 40 metre platforms

With the growth of the 30 to 35 metre lifts and the tallest 50-52 metre platforms, there has been a dearth of products in between. This will be somewhat rectified with the introduction of two new platforms at Apex later this month - the 42 metre Omme 4200 RBDJ and the 43 metre Palazzani XTJ 43. Omme's new 4200 RBDJ has resulted from growing global customer demand and is its largest tracked boom to date. The platform uses a seven section telescopic boom and has an outreach of up to 15.2 metres with a 130 degree articulating jib. The boom can be raised and extended simultaneously helping to reach the required height in the shortest possible time. Autolevelling outrigger deployment and retraction is a standard feature.

The diesel/battery hybrid drive train ensures the 4200 RBDJ is equally suited to work in outdoor and indoor environments.The 400Ah battery pack - which is automatically recharged whenever the diesel engine is deployed - completely eliminates the well-known 'voltage drop' issue, which can significantly impede the operation of a mains-



powered machine, even when using a relatively short power cable.

The two speed crawler undercarriage allows the lift to rapidly reach its working position. Weighing 6,805kg the unit can climb inclines of up to 27 percent allowing the platform to work comfortably outdoors in many areas unsuitable for conventional big booms. A Genie 135/70 or JLG 1350SJP straight boom which have slightly higher working heights, weigh more than 20 tonnes as well as being physically much bigger *(see chart)*. The new 40 metre tracked spiders compared to a Genie or JLG selfpropelled boom.

The compact dimensions of the Omme spider lift allows it to gain access into confined spaces particularly with a height of less than two metres and length of 8.90 metres. If required, the basket is easily detachable reducing its length from 8.9 to 8.30 metres.

43 metre Palazzani

Following the launch of its 52 metre platform at Bauma 2013, Palazzani is also set to introduce its new 43 metre working height ATJ 43 at Apex later this month. The lift replaces the XTJ 42 with slightly increased working height, six section boom and two section jib giving an impressive 19 metres of outreach. Standard platform capacity is 230kg with 330kg optional and the platform measures 2.4 x 0.7 x 1.1 metres with 90 + 80 degree rotation. Travel speed is 1.4 km per hour and gradeability is 40 percent.

Palazzani says that the outreach is automatically set to match the

How they stack up

	Omme 4200 RBDJ	Genie ZX135/70	Palazzani XTJ 43	JLG 1350SJP	Falcon FS420C
Working height	42.0m	43.15m	43.0m	43.3m	42.0m
Max outreach	15.2m	18.03m	19.0m	24.4m	17.0m
Platform capacity	200kg	272kg	230kg/330kg	450kg	200kg
Over All Length	8.9m	12.93m	×	11.86m	8.25m
Stowed Height	Under 2.0m	3.09m	*	3.05m	2.10m
Minimum width	1.35m	2.49m	×	2.49m	1.22m
Operational width	5.33m	5.03m	*	3.81m	6.54m
Weight	6,805kg	20,502kg	*	20,400kg	8,200kg

*information unavailable until launch







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spider lifts

stabiliser position, while advanced control diagnostics are available via a colour touch screen monitor and an electric power controller provides optimum power. The new radio control allows more than three operations to be performed at the same time thanks to a flow sharing technology.

New Bluelift

Other new products include Italian spider lift manufacturer Bluelift which has launched a new C22/11 hybrid model seen at the recent Vertikal Days. Bluelift says the new 22 metre lift "is the first compact spider lift to combine a lithium battery with a petrol or diesel engine". Dual power systems with conventional battery systems and a combustion engine - it says - have been used on the larger lifts but it has never been possible to develop a battery system small enough to fit on a sub 29 metre tracked unit.

The new lift can be powered by either power source or in 'Hybrid Auto' mode using the patent pending BMS (Bluelift Management System) which selects the most power efficient usage at the time.



For example in Auto mode when lowering the main boom the BMS system automatically selects lithium electric power and when raising the boom or driving (where higher hydraulic pressure is required) it selects the combustion engine. The lithium battery system is also detachable allowing it to be moved from one machine to another. Other new introductions will see Imer add its 13 metre IM R13 - first seen at Bauma - and commence production this summer although

the 23 metre version is on hold, JLG with its 20 metre X20J Plus with 230kg unrestricted platform capacity and Platform Basket with a new 18 metre electric Spider 18.90 PRO-E with lithium ion battery pack.









A REAL PROPERTY AND Bluelift C22/11



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On the initial of the

Italian manufacturer Hinowa builds more spider lifts than any other manufacturer and has been at the forefront of product development being the first company to launch a Lithium-ion powered machine - a Goldlift 14.70 - at the end of 2009. More recently it has expanded and reorganised its manufacturing facility in Nogara, to the south of Verona. Mark Darwin reports.

Although spider lift specialist Hinowa was formed in 1987 by current president Dante Fracca, the company's history dates back to 1950 when his father and partner Mr Coelati started a company called Cofra which built excavators on ex-US army Chevrolet truck chassis that were plentiful in Italy after the Second World War. These machines were popular for post war rebuilding work throughout the country. Based in Nogara, Cofra was sold in 1970 to a larger Italian commercial group and Cosmoter was formed still producing tracked excavators but also building and supplying tracked chassis/undercarriages for other companies to add a variety of different superstructures.

In 1980 Dante Fracca founded his own company dealing with excavators and also garden machinery but just two years later he manufactured his first platform on the back of a tractor. In 1987 Dante formed Hinowa (which means circle of fire), choosing a Japanese, rather than Italian sounding name because of the strong association that Japanese companies had for good design, quality and reliability. The first machines produced were excavators and mini dumpers and when the company moved to its present facilities in 1992 excavators were still the main product. In 1998 it began distributing aerial work platforms and in 2003 started building spider lifts. The first was the 14 metre, fully hydraulic Goldlift 14.70 which went out of production in 2012 after more than a 1,000 were produced and sold worldwide - to date Hinowa's most successful single model.

Hinowa grew quickly expanding every year up to the crisis of 2008/9 although revenues last year finally returned to the pre-crisis levels. Initially around 50 percent of its products went into the Italian market but over the years this figure has decreased so that



today Italy takes just 15 percent of the company's production, with American, Australian and Asian markets rising sharply.

Today the main products are its aerial lifts, which account for 65 percent of production with the rest made up with its mini dumpers and undercarriages. Facilities have also been expanded from the original 2004 building, with the first extension added in 2009 and the latest high tech, eco-friendly extension - built for the 25th anniversary in 2012. This facility will be fully utilised this year with new assembly lines. The Nogara facility now employs 120 and covers a total area of 90,000 square metres, 13,000 square metres of which is



spider lifts

covered for assembly work and office buildings.

Although the company designs and builds the prototypes in Nogara, fabrication of the many components is carried out by local suppliers all within a 100km radius, while most painting is carried out at a sub-contractors facility around five kilometres away, although Hinowa can paint special colours in-house if necessary. The main plant therefore concentrates on assembly and final quality inspection.

As well as the spider lifts, Hinowa still makes tracked mini excavators from 0.8 to four tonnes although development on new models has now ceased, tracked undercarriages with capacities of up to 30 tonnes,





spider lifts

tracked mini dumpers from 500 to 2,500kg capacity and 23 interchangeable attachments, battery powered mini dumpers, wheeled loaders, tracked forklifts and a tracked mini-tractor. Hinowa also dabbled in the truck mounted platform market, but has decided to exit this sector.

Lean production

Over the past few years the company has been working on the introduction of the Toyota-based lean production system. Under the old system it used to batch-build between five and 10 platforms of the same model. This has been totally reorganised so that machines are now built to order and move down the assembly line to the next station every four hours. Each station concentrates on one area of the machine and this has resulted in a guicker, cleaner and more organised production process. Parts are prepared in a pre-assembly area and all are on hand when required. Hinowa says that using the new system production has increased by 28 percent over the past year, and quality has improved at the same time. Current Hinowa IIIS spider lift line-up includes models from 14 to 23.2 metres with the largest Lightlift 23.12 the only machine with a two position outrigger setting.

The company pioneered the development of lithium ion battery packs, allowing the machines overcoming the space and battery life issues which had previously ruled out a battery power option on tracked lifts. Prior to this electric powered spider lifts were AC mains,



requiring a trailing lead to operate. Once charged the lithium battery will last for a full days work and takes just four hours to fully recharge, but it will reach 80 percent charge in just two hours. The lithium battery does not suffer from the memory effect that afflicts nickel cadmium and nickel-metal hydride rechargeable batteries and will last at least five years, with virtually no maintenance. Performance is very similar to units fitted with an engine and is light and compact, ideal for compact spider lifts.

Latest tracked platforms

The two latest platforms to be introduced are the Performance III S series Lightlift 17.75 and 20.10. The 17.75 IIIS is aimed at the rental market, being easy to operate using a 'one button' automatic outrigger system. The 230kg platform capacity - up from 200kg on previous models - is unrestricted throughout the working envelope. Previous units could only achieve maximum outreach with 120kg. Other features include a new reinforced jib and increased speeds. A telescopic undercarriage - from 798mm to 1.086mm - is standard, and provides improved stability when travelling, without sacrificing the machine's ability to pass through single doorways and narrow openings etc. Overall weight is 2,230kg and the machine is compact at 4.5 metres long and less than two metres high when closed. The outrigger footprint is less than three metres square, while the dual riser design also allows the unit to work flush with walls

RICHTULY 312.05 KIGHT KIGHT

which at full outreach is from a height of four metres to about 10 metres. Maximum travel speed is 3.6kph and power options include petrol (Honda) diesel (Hatz) with the new HD Autorev feature and lithium ion battery. Heavy duty lifting eyes enable the platform to be safely lifted when in the closed position.

The larger 20.10 Performance IIIS has the same IIIS spec as above but with a greater working height (20.15 metres) and 9.7 metres outreach with its maximum 230kg platform capacity. Weighing 2.8 tonnes it is less than five metres long, with the same width and outrigger footprint as its smaller brother. Bigger hydraulic pumps increase function speeds and a sensor on the main boom cylinder reduces the speed at the end of the stroke to provide a smooth 'cushion stop' effect..

One of the latest ideas for the new machines is auto speed control which takes into account ground conditions and track width to set an appropriate travel speed improving stability and safety. The innovative display panel also alerts the owner when the machine is due for a service or when a new version of the control software is available for download. Hinowa's RAHMino system also allows the owner to remotely monitor the machine's location, operation and diagnose faults.

Hinowa 17.75 IIIS and the 20.10 IIIS specifications

	Hinowa Lightlift 17.75 IIIS	Hinowa Lightlift 20.10 IIIS
Working height	17.06m	20.15m
Max outreach	7.5m (230kg in basket)	9.7m (230kg in basket)
Platform capacity	230kg	230kg
Operating weight	2,230kg	2,880kg
Power	Petrol, diesel, Li-Ion	Petrol, diesel, Li-Ion
Outrigger spread	2,884 x 2,889mm	2,922 x 2,925mm
Length	4.52m	5.01m
Width	1,300mm with cage 798mm min	1,300mm with cage 795mm min
Height closed	2.0m	1.99m

First Bluelift Hybrid in Moscow

After unveiling a Bluelift C22/11 Hybrid at MosBuild 2014, the new lift immediately went to work on its first project replacing light fittings at the Jaguar car showroom in Moscow. The platform - powered by a combustion engine and lithium battery - was placed in a tight area of the showroom's atrium, between a spiral staircase and an upper floor. The replacement of light bulbs was much quicker and obviously safer than traditional methods, and the lithium battery pack, meant that the unit could work and

move indoors without being constrained by a power cord.





At work in the Jaguar car showroom, Moscow

Ommelift inspects down-under

An Ommelift tracked platform has helped solve an access challenge on a bridge inspection project in northern New South Wales, Australia. Inspectors needed to view the underside of a road bridge spanning a river but required an platform that was light enough to lower into position with a small mobile crane, while having the ability to drive across and operate on uneven and boggy terrain.

The solution was the Ommelift 2750 RXBDJ battery-diesel hybrid spider lift. Weighing just over five tonnes meant it could be safely lowered off the bridge using a 20 tonne crane, while its ability to drive, set up and work on gradients of up to 35 percent meant that it could easily cope with the soft ground and loose shale, before setting up on the edge of the gravel river bed. The inspectors used large outrigger mats in order to spread the load.

The 2750 RXBDJ is the largest spider lift in Omme's RX articulated range with a working height of 27.5 metres, zero tail swing and 15.5 metres of outreach with an articulated jib for added flexibility. The working envelope



enabled the inspectors to access the entire bridge from a single set-up position. Other features include an adjustable travel width from 1.1 to 1.5 metres and variable stabiliser positioning for working in restricted spaces.

The Hinowa

0.10 at work

on Stafford Castle

Being loaded into position



Spider lift makes light work of castle survey

Soft ground, steep inclines and tight spaces presented a significant working at height challenge for a survey of Stafford Castle in the UK's West Midlands, considered one of the finest examples of a Norman 'motte and bailey' earthworks in the UK.

Sitting on top of a substantial hill the castle is accessible via a perimeter pathway which is just a few metres wide in places, before falling away to a steep drop. In order to inspect the walls for weather damage, the castle rented

in a 20 metre Hinowa 20.10 Performance IIIS tracked platform as well as an experienced operator, Alan Howes of Alpha Powered Access Operator Services.

"The Hinowa 20.10 came into its own and easily took the terrain in its stride," said Howes. "The tight space was not an issue and the working envelope ensured the job was done efficiently."

The machine's unrestricted platform capacity of 230kg and 9.7 metres outreach meant that Howes could concentrate on operating the controls while the inspector focused on the castle's stone work.





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Best so far!

Moving the date of Vertikal Days to May proved to be very successful. Although rain threatened for a short while on the second day, two full days of sunshine brought out the visitors which this year broke the 2,200 barrier. Even a truck crashing on the motorway and releasing its load of around 7,000 live chickens causing chaos and a road closure, only briefly delayed visitors on the first morning. By lunchtime a record number were at the event putting extra stress on the catering.

Success or failure of a show can sometimes be down to the smallest item - a chance conversation, an unexpected enquiry or even an order out of the blue. Vertikal Days has always been about the quality of visitors and ease of networking. This year - the eighth since it all started in 2007 - more exhibitors said it was the best show to date - high praise indeed considering the success of previous events.

Vertikal Days 2014 was bigger and better with not only more exhibitors but covering a wider variety of areas within the lifting industry from rental software and filters to 4x4, truck and van mounted platforms, tracked carriers, remote controls, mini cranes, loader cranes and on to the larger ATs and crawler cranes. There were so many products either launched or seen in the UK for the first time that it is impossible to pick out just one or two. Instead we have resorted to a pictorial review trying to cover as many products and companies as possible. Hopefully your favourites have been included – apologies if they are not. Following very positive feedback, next year's show will also be held in May, rather than moving back to the late June dates as originally planned. Hopefully the event will once again benefit from good weather.







Aerial and Handling Services launched Airo platforms in the UK



vertikal days





foreground



Andy Northwood of Hy-Brid Access (R) ith Speedy's Danny Riley confirming the purchase of 100 HB-P3.6 push arounds









A collection of Spiering and Manitowoc cranes









Aerial and Handling Services have ta the SanctuaryZone secondary guarding system



Ascendant was flying the flag for UK manufacturers with three platforms including this 12.5 metre van mount

The Matketplace was a good place for a coffee break and chat














GGR had a very full stand including a 2.9 tonne Unic URW-295 and a battery powered Eco-095 spider cranes









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Faraone Elevah 51 Move stockpicker which has a 100kg capacity in the basket, on the front carrier and on the moveable tray



In the marketplace Track Unit was gearing up for a busy day



New UK dealer for the Easy Lift spider lifts (not van mounts) Skyking had the R160 and R180 on show





Bronto S56XR outside the catering marquee





JCB's 300kg capacity Aerial Platform attachment which can be fitted to its 540-140 and 540-170 telehandlers











HBC Radiomatic showing off its Wii style motion controller



Alan Peck (R) of Kranlyft with (L-R) Tim, Nick and Mark Ambridge of NMT Cranes sealing the deal on a Bocker AK 44/4000 aluminium truck mounted crane







Matt Woolman (R) of Advanced Access Platforms with Skyjack's Dean Marks after placing its biggest order with the company for 55 machines taking its fleet to more than 425 platforms

vertikal days



Potain Igo 50 self erecting tower crane



The new pillarless The new pillarless, 14 metre working height Comet van mount with 46,000 V insulated boom and mounted on a 5.2 tonne chassis created a lot of interest on the Affordable Access stand

Cha



Platform Basket 18.90 Pro with the Reedyk C3412 Compactcrane in the background



Lifting gear had several new products



On the HLS stand was the 17 5 metre Bluelift SA18 and the lithium hybrid 22 metre C22 spider lifts



NRC was also showing two 100 tonne crawlers including this Hitachi-Sumitomo SCX1000A-3









rs'new outdoor versio its award winning Pecolift can operate on gradients up to three degrees and in winds up to 12.5 metres per second



Paul Devereux of Speedy (L) with Joe Ennis of Hy-Brid Platforms







loader crane



1200 was the only trailer crane at the show





The new Samson KZ 100 synthetic rope on the Manitowoc stand is 80 percent lighter than equivalent steel rope





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vertikal days



The Access Platform Company's Skywinder



The four metre working height self propelled Elevah 40 from Faraone weighs just 75kg

Robert Bird of Ladybird Cranes demonstrating the latest version of the Gapo hydraulic power pack

The 300 tonne Grove GMK 6300L in Bronzeshield colours

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The interesting Panel Lift from Telpro









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Taking control wirelessly

Over the past 10 years the use of wireless remote controls in the construction industry has grown exponentially. In Europe alone between 60 and 90 percent of all loader cranes sold now include remote controls. Cranes & Access takes a look at the benefits of recent developments and reviews some of the latest systems to enter the market.

One of the first examples of a crane using wireless remote controls was built in the late 1950s, however it was not until recently that remote controls in the lifting industry - and to a lesser extent the access industry - have become mainstream. The strong surge in acceptance and usage within the industry can almost certainly be attributed to technological improvements, availability and price. Design improvements have been steady and consistent, with remote controls becoming more user friendly and reliable while incorporating more sophisticated features and functions. This in turn has opened up new possibilities for the equipment for a wide range of diverse applications.

The most obvious benefits of using remote controls include improved safety, increased efficiency and greater control. An increasing spread of lifting equipment for the construction, utility and rental sectors now include a remote control option, while very few volume machines provide it as standard. Is this a sign that the industry is hesitant to fully adopt this technology or is it just uncertain of its potential?

Bespoke controls for endless applications

Remote control manufacturers are able to tailor controls to suit specific applications, ranging from hand-held single function controllers suitable for overhead gantry cranes to large multi-functional controllers which can feature in-built live video A 'portable' shortwave radio transmitter being used to control a crane in 1959



monitors, an array of joysticks, paddle levers, toggle switches and pushbuttons for use with large tower and hydraulic cranes. The use of modular systems

allows manufacturers to customise remote controllers to suit almost any applications and meet most bespoke requirements.



From single to multi-functional remotes and everything in between.

















Safety/Positioning

The major benefit of using a radio remote is to free up the operator from being fixed to a stationary control point or trailing lead - whether that be a cab, operator platform, or simply the side of a machine. They are now able to move freely to find the most suitable position for carrying out the manoeuvre, ensuring they have the optimal view. If a crane is needed to lift a load over a wall or onto a roof for example, operators are now able to move to

these positions to closely monitor the lift. Operators need not be so reliant on banksmen, hand signals and radio commands either as they can now position themselves close to the load and within normal talking range of riggers and lift managers etc...

Duncan Phillips, national manager of Gough Palfinger New Zealand, said: "It's about convenience and safety. Remote controls have a radius of operation up to 100 metres which

means the operator can keep out of harm's way. On old-style cranes with lever operation, you had to have another person telling you how to move the load around. With remote control an operator can put the load exactly where he wants it. There is no need for the other person. Unfortunately there are customers who want absolutely all the tech and safety features you can have and others who simply want what they had 10 years ago."

Information at your fingertips

As remote controls have become more sophisticated and mainstream the information provided for operators on the controller has grown. Most functions and features which they have become accustomed to in a fully equipped cab can now be transferred on the remote control panel. Various liquid crystal (LCD), thin film transistor (TFT), touch screen and live video displays, along with LED lights and





Operators have more information at their fingertips than ever before.

remote controls Ca



vibration alarms, all play a part in keeping the operator fully informed and in control. The display screens provide an array of feedback and system information, ranging from simple status and error messages to full graphical displays of lift capacity, boom height and outreach as well as safe working envelopes and other information. Remotes can also be configured to start and stop vehicles, change engine rpm, operate outriggers, control the vehicle's lighting and identify and configure attachments.

Safety Features

Whether fitted as standard or as an added option, controllers tend to have as many safety features as they do buttons and switches. HBC-radiomatic for example has its shock-off, zero-g and roll detect features which prevent unintended movement commands from being given to the crane/machine by deactivating it following a hard impact or if it is dropped or thrown. Like some telematics systems on the market HBC-radiomatic also offers a user identification card system to protect against unauthorised use as well as being able to store various operational data of the machine for each user. More general safety features include vibration and audible alarms, emergency stops, reverse previous movements, pre-set speed functions, dead man switches and orthogonal drive - which prevents operators from making

unintentional diagonal movements by ensuring the joystick is fully returned to the zero position before another directional command can be activated. There are also acidproof and explosion-proof controls on the market designed for harsh working conditions and explosionendangered areas.

Aerial work platforms and telehandlers

When it comes to the use of remote controls on aerial work platforms you might be forgiven for asking yourself – what's the point? After all, the operator is confined to the basket so why add the complication of remote controller? Well for self-propelled units of any kind loading or unloading and driving through narrow doorways is made significantly easier and safer. By operating the unit from a distance, where the view is better, the operator is not exposed should the machine slip off a ramp etc...

For those machines with outriggers the use of a controller can make a more complex set up or cribbing a breeze. There is also a growing trend for the main control panel to also operate as a remote, with the controller attaching/detaching into a bracket within the platform, allowing for the best of both worlds. The use of remote controllers on telehandlers is still quite rare, although there is a growing use for them when used in conjunction with various attachments.

radiamatic



Fire control

There are some applications where, for safety reasons, it is imperative to use remote controls. Radio remote control manufacturer Autec recently adapted its Dynamic series FJM remote control for Cela's firefighting range of truck mounted aerial ladder lifts. The system enabled fire fighters to operate the machine's boom and water/foam hose from heights of up to 72 metres (depending on the model), removing them from harm's way when it came to extinguishing fires.

Tandem lifts

Last year Rendsburg Port Authority successfully completed a tandem lift in German using two Gottwald mobile harbour cranes, a wireless remote controller and a single operator. Using a 100 tonne Model 3 G HMK3405 and a 150 tonne Model 8 G HMK 8610 harbour crane, both installed with

Terex's Tandem Lift Assistant software, the operator was able to wirelessly lift a lock gate weighing 236 tonnes. The control was specifically configured to operate both cranes simultaneously, with data being exchanged between the cranes via a secure wireless LAN. Particular consideration was needed to eliminate unequal loadings, lateral pull, overturning and fluctuating speeds.



Battery life

Aside from cost, past issues with wireless remote controls have been battery life. However, new battery technology means that some of the more basic controllers can now offer up to 40 hours continuous use, while even the most demanding controllers - in terms of power usage Additional integrated batteries allow for extended and uninterrupted use

- last between eight and 12 hours before they require charging - ie a full working day. In addition to the improved lithium-ion batteries, the use of more efficient charging docks and additional battery packs have generally overcome this issue. Most remotes on the market are able to monitor battery life and notify operators when a battery is low with the use of LED lights or vibration alarms.

HBCradiomatic's user identification Smart Cards prevent unauthorised use



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SYRIN

remote controls Ca So what's new?

Palfinger goes it alone

Last month Palfinger became one of the few manufacturers to develop and manufacture its own radio remote controllers.

Aimed at the European market its new PALcom P7 range of loader crane controllers has been initially developed for its SH-series of loader cranes, ranging from its PK42002 to its PL200002L. Available with either a small or large control box, with up to nine linear levers and three joysticks the company claims that it is the first controller in the crane sector to feature a 4.1 inch TFT colour display. Information displayed includes the crane's working envelope, outrigger spread, boom height and outreach, working capacity and an icon which shows which, if any, attachments are in use. Other features include its PALdrive menu button for display navigation, easy customisation and a roll-over and acceleration sensor which prevents unintentional



Shoulder straps with large areas of padding ensure operator comfort.



movements. In its reduced power consumption mode the company claims the remotes have a battery life of up to 12 hours continuous use. Its charging station detects the battery's condition and temperature before delivering a measured charge.

When asked about Palfinger's decision to develop its own remotes, product marketing manager, Peter Lukas said: "The main reason was to design a completely new type of radio remote control, tailor-made for loader cranes. The second reason was system integration, in which we were able to offer the customer the perfect interface for our products. When we started developing the PALcom P7 we realised that while we had longstanding experience in the field of electronic innovations, we did not have enough specialist knowledge relating to plastic engineering, radio technology and ergonomics. Our special development department therefore collaborated with external specialists, to develop a completely new solution."

In the coming months Palfinger intends to launch a controller for the remaining models in the SH- series and has say that it plans to develop the range of controllers for the US market in the near future.

HBC innovations

HBC-radiomatic's latest products include its Spectrum E controller and live video feature system - Photon. Spectrum E is HBC's largest and most sophisticated controller in the Spectrum series and is intended for diverse and complex applications. The unit is available with up to six joysticks or a combination of joysticks and linear levers as well as push buttons and various types of toggle and rotary switches.

Features include a rechargeable lithium-lon battery - which the company claims offers up to 18 hours continuous use - a redesigned compact housing unit weighing just 3.5kg and a 3.5 inch TFT display



HBC-radiomatic's new high performance Spectrum E

which, as well as displaying the machine's data can be used with HBC's new live video feed feature Photon.

Photon is available as an optional addition to its Technos 2, Spectrum D and Spectrum E controllers and can display up to eight live camera images. The cameras can be installed anywhere within a 150 metre range and the flick of a switch displays each individual feed or provides a four way split-screen. The cameras can also be used in limited lighting as an infrared function changes its colour image to greyscale making it suitable for night operations. Currently the Technos 2 controller is the only model with the option to switch to a graphic screen, however the company has confirmed it is developing its Spectrum D and E controllers to incorporate it.

Available in analogue (5.8GHz) and digital (2.4GHz) the company said that the analogue cameras are best suited when controlling machinery while the digital cameras are best



for surveillance tasks. The digital version also features a lithium-lon battery which offers up to 15 hours continuous operating time.

Also worth a quick mention is HBC's single-handed remote control system - Pilot. Based on an integrated inclination function which responds to directional movements the system works in a similar fashion to a Nintendo Wii controller. By using the horizontal and vertical inclinations of the transmitter the operator can control two machine functions at once. The more the transmitter is inclined, the higher the speed. A rotary switch also allows additional functions to be selected with safety features including pre-determined speed limits, user identification and a safety release function whereby if the release button is not pressed no control commands can be activated by the inclination function.





Stellar remotes from Hetronic

Truck mounted hydraulic crane manufacturer Stellar Industries has recently turned to Hetronic to provide a bespoke controller system for its new range of heavy-duty telescopic service cranes with capacities ranging from 3.5 to 6.3 tonnes.

The Stellar CDTplus (Crane Dynamics Technology Plus) controller is a lightweight handheld transmitter featuring seven control levers, a proportional speed trigger and an LCD display. The display provides real-time feedback on the crane's load capacity and maximum outreach as well as the current load, boom angle, and remaining reach and capacity. The system also alerts the operator when a load is nearing full capacity via built in visual and sensory indicators. including gradually increasing vibrations to insure the operator is aware of an approaching overload whilst keeping an eye on the load. An innovative Boost Mode also allows the crane to operate at 118 percent of normal operating capacity for a short period of time, whilst its Safe Mode allows the operator to work at reduced speeds should a load indicating device fail to operate correctly.

Magni telehandler remote

Magni has developed a new wireless remote controller in conjunction with Autec that can be used to operate its telehandlers from the ground, or within a platform attachment.

The new controller has been colour coded to differentiate between its four functions. The yellow section operates boom movements and attachments with the ability to control up to six independent movements when used with specific attachments. Its pink section controls the telehandler's outrigger system with the option to deploy all outriggers at once or one at a time.

The blue section operates the telehander's transmission and



'Magni' placed over 'RTH'; caption: Magni's colour coded controller

movement. With the use of a dead man switch it is also possible to drive the telehandler from the aerial work platform attachment with speeds of either one or five kph possible so long as the boom is forward facing and no higher than three metres.

Magni says it is also working on a controller with an interactive display which will show selected functions, alarms and information that is usually available in the cab.

Cha remote controls

Konus modular system

Scheduled for release in July, German remote controller manufacturer Konus NBB, is set to launch its new generation of Nano-M SMJ modular remote controllers.

The new transmitter consists of three parts in which varying upper, lower and middle parts can be selected to create a totally bespoke controller to suit the customer's requirements. The upper part can be selected with or without a 4.3 inch colour display, the middle part with an array of toggles, joysticks or levers, and the bottom part with the choice of different connection and battery possibilities.

Its range of controllers comes with two 7.2V rechargeable battery packs which can individually be removed and charged without disrupting the workflow of the machine. Each battery runs for 30 hours (depending on the configuration) and is available with self-cleaning contacts. The company claims it can be recharged in an hour and that its temperature sensing provides



The controller's upper, lower and middle sections are individually selected to cater for all modular demands

optimised recharging.

Measuring 350mm by 230mm the controller weighs 3.5kg and is water proof to IP65. Its high RF-output up to 10mW on the F-Band and up to 25mW on the G-Band means that machines can be operated from a range up to 300 metres and its frequency can be selected manually or automatically.

Its SMJ (Surface Mounted Joystick) technology allows joysticks to be changed without opening the transmitter housing allowing replacement on-site with minimal training.

Liebherr develops Blutooth system

Liebherr's increasingly popular Bluetooth mobile crane control system continues to be developed. Its LICCON and BTT operating and display system provides operators with load indication, warning displays and crane utilisation.

The touch-screen display is also able to control the carrier drive and steering programmes, the

suspension and outrigger systems as well as the cab's heating, floodlights, and climate control. Standard features includes outrigger activation, engine start and

stop and speed

control with electronic inclination display and automatic outrigger levelling. Additional features include a readout of outrigger ground pressures, the ability to mount extensions or counterweights and the display of mileage and working hours when plugged into the carrier cab during road travel.

The crane driver can attach and detach the hookblock from the front bumper by remotely controlling the hoist winch and boom lift cylinder

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APEX is here agai

As well as being a Conexpo year 2014 is also has Apex. However this year the show is different in that it has moved from its long term home of Maastricht where it has been held since its launch in 1996, to the bright - or should we say red - lights of Amsterdam.

The point of the move is to both re-stimulate the event and also benefit from a larger outdoor exhibit space. The event will also run alongside the European Rental Association annual conference and rental show.

This is not the first time the rental show and Apex have been held alongside each other. The rental show was held in Maastricht a couple of times, but never managed to attract enough visitors or exhibitors to make it viable. The combination with the ERA annual conference helps of course, but by holding all three events, it should provide a decent foundation in terms of interested visitors etc....

Apex runs for three days Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday - June 24th, 25th and 26th - at the RAI Exhibition Centre in central Amsterdam. Most of the major powered access manufacturers are exhibiting and several are planning to launch new products at the event. The following is a guide of who will be there and what to expect.

Who is exhibiting and what will they show?

Airo Stand 610: Italian manufacturer Airo will show a range of its more popular boom and scissor lifts including the 33ft A12JE electric, 43ft A15RTD diesel, V9E mast boom and the 24ft XS9E and 33ft X12EN narrow slab scissor lifts.

The Airo A12JE



When & Where Dates: June 24th, 25th, 26th Location: RAI Exhibition Centre, Amsterdam

AFI-Uplift Stand 130: The UKbased access rental group will be promoting its range of used equipment along with training and other services.

Altrex Stand 230: The Dutch alloy scaffold tower manufacturer will highlight its new MHB80 modular suspended platform system, along with its 4400 Power rolling tower.

Amer Stand 180: The Italian wheel motor manufacturer whill show its MTR 11 and MTR 12 compact electric drive motors for aerial lifts.

ATN's new Piaf PVR79 compact



ATN Stand 210: The steadily growing French manufacturer will launch its new Piaf PVR79 Compact mast-type platform with a 19ft platform height, working height of up to 7.9 metres and a total weight of just under 1,000kg. Other products on show will include several mast booms, the Zebra 12 and 16 articulated boom lifts and CX 15 diesel scissor lift.

Battery Supplies Stand 565

Big Astor Stand 650: The company will largely focus on its Genius covered walkway systems.

Böcker Stand 1260: Expect to see a selection from the company's hoist and mastclimber ranges.

BPE Stand 500: The electonics company will launch a new digital tilt alarm system for aerial lifts.

Bravi Stand 260: Look out for updated versions of its Leonardo HD.

Bronto Stand 1130: The Finnish truck mounted lift manufacturer will launch its new 47 metre S47XR platform mounted on an 18 tonne, two axle chassis with up to 700kg platform capacity and 28 metres of outreach.

Cima 1915 Stand 820

truck mounted lift.

CMC Stand 1250: The Italian truck

and spider lift producer will launch

two new spider lifts, the S19 and

S25 with 19 and 25 metre working

heights with low transport weights,

and will show its 26 metre 3.5 tonne

C.O.B.O. Stand 590: Check out

the new dynamic stability control

system that calculates the machines



APEX 2014

new S47XR has 28m outreach and up to 700kg platform capacity

centre of gravity and provides a visual display.

Collé Rental & Parts Stand 770: The locally based sales and rental company will have a wide range of products from both its sales and rental divisions on show. The company is the distributor for Manitou and Magni telehandlers and access products.

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CTE Z-20HV

Co.Me.T Stand 430: The Italian truck and van mounted manufacturer will show just a few examples from its innovative line including the new insulated pillarless van mount launched at Vertikal Days.

Cormidi Stand 000 & 1105: Improved versions of its novel KB spider crane/lifts will be on show which feature faster speeds and more versatile outrigger settings.

CTE Stand 540: The company will show a range of its truck mounts and spider lifts, including the 21 metre Z-21JH, Z-20.2HV and Tracess 135 spider lift. **Custers Hydraulica** Stand 1100: The Dutch truck and van mounted lift manufacturer will show its new 14 metre Taurus 230-14ML van mount.

Delta-Q Technologies Stand 150: The Canadian company will launch a new battery charger.

Denka-Lift Stand 600: Now back in production under the ownership of Rothlehner the company will show an 18 metre DL 18 trailer lift. **Dingli** Stand 530: The premier Chinese manufacturer will have a packed stand, including the new mast lifts unveiled at the recent Vertikal Days event and 10 other self-propelled and push around lifts.

Check out Dingli's new mast booms

Dinolift Stand 1120: Dinolift will show an updated version of its 180XT which features spider lift type outriggers for greater levelling and more outreach. Also check out the 105TI micro trailer lift and 55ft 185XTS self-propelled boom lift.





Dynaset Stand 860: Dynaset will display its compact hydraulic generators for aerial lift mounting.

Easi Uplifts Stand 170: The Irish internatonal rental group will focus on its used equipment sales.

Easy Lift Stand 340: The Italian producer will show the new 36 metre track mounted R360 with telescopic jib alongside the R180 with remote controls, a 41 metre R410 spider lift and a re-engineered, lighter weight EV150 vehicle mounted lift.

ELS Makine Stand 730: The Turkish manufacturer will show a range of its compact slab scissor lifts alongside a 15 metre articulated boom lift. It will also talk about a new 27 metre truck mount it is developing.

France Elévateur Stand 1110: The French manufacturer will show five vehicle mounted lifts, including the 105 TO/2, Type 3B, 14.5 metre 142 TPF, compact Topy 11 and the 192 CPM telescopic, as well as showing spider cranes from Unic and R&B.



Genie's new Z-62/40

Gantic Stand 860: The Norwegianbased manufacturer will show its unique battery charger which individually charges each battery for a greater charge, longer life and lower power consumption.

Genie Stands 350 & 450: Possibly the two most important new product launches at the show in terms of volume and significance etc... will be a new 30 something compact electric boom lift, the Z-3X/ XX? Which is expected to go head to head with popular European built products, such as Niftylift's HR12 and Snorkel's AB38. The second new product will be a new articulated model in the 60ft market sector, the Z-62/40 with a 62ft platform height and over 12 metres of outreach.

GSR Stand 240: GSR will show its new 22.5 metre B230T Comfort XEV on a Nissan Cabstar chassis



with up to 13 metres of outreach and insulated platform option it is aimed at the tree pruning and local authority applications.

Gunco Stand 395: The major Dutch rental company also shares the same owners as Genie distributor HDW.

Heli Stand 1210: The Belgianbased rental company and dealer for Snorkel and Maeda

Hinowa Stand 830 & 1010: The leading Italian spider lift manufacturer will show its new 20 metre Lightlift 20.10 Performance IIIS spider lift with Lithium ion power pack option, 230kg platform capacity and 9.7 metres of outreach.



Holland Lift Stand 550: On its home turf the Dutch heavy duty scissor lift manufacturer will unveil its new 27 metre Hybrid model with 1,000kg platform capacity. The company also has other new models up its sleeve for this year.

Hy-Brid Lifts Stand 140: Compact Equipment will show is range of low level powered access including push around and self-propelled models with new narrower versions of the smallest units.

IMA Stand 670: The Italian producer of Faraone lifts will show the recently launched Elevah range including the novel self-propelled

Elevah 80E





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Imer Stand 630: Imer will focus on its range of compact and heavy duty scissor lifts at the show, several of which have been updated and restyled.

Independent Parts and Service

(IPS) Stand 535: IPS is looking to promote its steadily growing international coverage including its Dutch parts service launched last year.

Inter Control Stand 700

IPAF Stand 200: The International **Powered Access Federation will** not only promote the safe use of platforms and its latest training courses, but will also have its new Rental Market Reports on sale and will be looking to recruit new members.

Isoli Stand 1275: Isoli will launch its new range of 3.5 tonne telescopic truck mounts, topped by the 20 metre PT200 and PT200J as well as its current range topper the 36 metre PTJJ36 launched last year at Bauma.

JLG Stand 310: JLG's two key exhibits will be the recently launched 185ft 1850SJ boom lift, and the hybrid H340AJ both of which were shown at Conexpo in March. Also look out for the latest Toucan 12EPlus and the new Rental





Spec 3614 telehandler.

Journal du Levage Stand 690: The French equvalent to Cranes & Access or Kran & Buhne.

KHL Stand 300: Publisher of Access International and several other crane and access magazines, KHL is also an affiliate company of Apex.

Kors Hoogwerksystemen Stand 1150: Local access sales and rental company Kors distributes Omme, Skyjack and H.A.B.

Lectura Stand 695: Lectura publishes used equipment price guides and whole lot more.

Leguan Lifts Stand 625: Look out for the new 13.2 metre Leguan 135 articulated boom lift with up to 6.8 metres of outreach and 230kg platform capacity on tracks or skid steer.

Maeda Stand 1210: The spider and mini crane manufacturer.

Manitou Stand 370: Manitou will show the 80ft class 260TJ, the smaller version of its increasingly popular 280TJ which is the same apart from having a fixed articulating jib, rather than telescopic.

Manotti Stand 1270: The Italian producer of cranes and truck mounted lifts.

Mantall Stand 320: Chinese manufacturer Mantall is looking to expand outside of its home market. It will show several compact and mini electric scissor lift models alongside its 46ft articulated boom lift.

MEC Stand 710: Expect to see a similar display to that seen at the recent Vertikal Days with the new 60ft ultra deck scissor lift and 60ft Titan.

Merlo Stand 470: The Italian telehandler producer might show a small spider lift alongside telehandler mounted platforms and its high speed telescopic big platform boom.

Meta Hydraulic Stand 865:

Producer of platform rotatators and slew drives.

Moba Stand 120: A chance to see the latest versions of its modular control panel systems, the MPC-113 and MSC-113 which allow for customised controllers for small production runs.

Movex Stand 1380: The Spanish manufacturer will show off its smaller van and Land Rover mounted boom lifts.

Multitel Pagliero Stand 1160: The key exhibit will be the recently launched 37.5 metre MJ 375 on an 18 tonne chassis, offering up to 26 metres of outreach from its four section main boom and three section articulating jib.

NoraCon Stand 270:

OEM Controls Stand 705:

Oil & Steel Stands 665 & 675: Expect to see the new Snake 2010 with H type outriggers and an updated Scorpion 1812.

The new Omme 4200 RBDJ



Omme Lift Stand 1150: One of the first chances to see the new 42 metre 4200 RBDJ spider lift, the company's largest to date, with both diesel and battery hybrid power pack and 130 degree articulating jib.

Palazzani Stand 660: Check out the new Ragno XTJ 43 spider lift, with 19 metres outreach and 330kg platform capacity. Also on show will be the 22.5 metre T7X 225 and 25 metre TSJ 25.

Palfinger Stand 1030: Star of the Palfinger Platforms stand will be the new 48 metre P480 NX - the first model in the new Jumbo Class of truck mounts. Mounted on a two axle 18 tonne chassis it features the amazing X-Jib which has unheard of levels of jib articulation and platform rotation. Other units will include the 23 and 30 metre P230 and P300 truck mounted lifts.



Generation P480 NX

PB Lifttechnik Stand 740: The main focus of the German manufacturer's stand will be its heavy duty narrow aisle scissor lifts.

PG Trionic Stand 110

Platform Basket Stand 1290: The Italian spider lift manufacturer will show a selection of its latest models possibly including the 33 metre unit shown as a prototype at Bauma last year.

Power Towers Stand 620: The UK-based low level specialist will show most models from its range including the Pecolift.

RB Components Stand 400: The Spanish manufacturer will have a new series of its Hall-Effect-Joysticks alongside a new range of fibreglass hoods.

Riwal Stand 330: JLG's Dutch distributor and major rental company will show a specially modified electric version of the 80ft JLG 800AJ boom lift that it has built for the local airline KLM.



Rothlehner Stand 600: In addtion to the already mentioned Denka Lift, Rothlehner is the German distributor for GSR, TCA-Lift and PB Lifttechnik.

Runshare Stand 160: Chinese manufacturer Runshare is looking to expand outside of its home market. In the past the company has focused on cheap copies of western-built booms and scissors, so this first European show will be particularly interesting.





Ruthmann Stand 1230:

Ruthmann will show its new addition to its Height Performance range, the 40 metre T 400 truck mounted lift on a two axle chassis with up to 31 metres of outreach. Also on show will be the T 630, T 330 and TBR 220.

Sensor Systems Stand 290

Sinoboom Stand 560: One of the handful of 'international standard' Chinese manufacturers Sinoboom will show improved versions of its compact electric slab scissor lifts and a 14 metre articulated boom lift.

Sivge Stand 190: Hangzhou Sivge Aerial Work Machinery - to give it its full title - will show some very unusual self-propelled platforms that employ single or twin aluminium AWP forklift type lift mechanisms and offer working heights of up to 12 metres. Units on display will included the 9/7 metre GTWZ8 and GTWZ8- now CE certified.

Skyjack Stand 510: The highlight of the Skyjack stand will be the CE version of the new 32ft SJ 6832 RTE compact electric Rough Terrain scissor lift, launched at the recent Vertikal Days event which features the latest diesel power pack with powerful electric drive motor. The company also has a full selection



of its slab electric scissor lifts and boom lifts on display.

Snorkel Stand 570: The company will show off a number of its most popular models, including the TM12, 1930E scissor lifts and AB38E and A46JRT boom lifts. Most importantly though will be the presence of new owner Don Ahern who is sure to be busy speaking to customers and distributors alike.

Socage Stand 750: Socage will highlight its all-new 12 metre ForSte 12VT van mounted lift, its new 12A





with 120kg platform capacity and no outriggers or stabilisers and its latest 28 metre Forste 28D truck mount on a 3.5 tonne chassis.

Sumner Lift Stand 870: The company will show its range of material lifts.

TCA Lift Stand 1050: The Danish producer of the original spider lifts - check out the latest Falcon atrium lifts on show.

Teupen Stands 410 & 1055: The German high end spider lift producer will show updated versions of its current product range.



Time International/Versalift

Stand 1230: Look out for the new 24 metre Versalift VTX-240 on a 3.5 tonne Mercedes Sprinter chassis. The new machine features an up and over reach of more than 11 metres along with 12.5 metres of outreach thanks to a patented knuckle arm.

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Trojan Battery Stand 275: The manufacturer of the famous maroon deep cycle batteries.

TVH Stand 420: The world's leading replacement parts supplier is increasingly a major foce in the aerial lift parts market. Ask about its new Aerial Tool Bin and its recent appointment to handle Delta Q chargers and Dakota shine paint renovator.

US Battery Stand 850: One of the big three OEM deep cycle battery suppliers for aerial lifts.

Veldhuizen Stand 810:

The company producers special lightweight trailers for 3.5 tonne chassis width long ramps and low beds.

Vertikal Press Stand 490:

Publishers of Cranes & Access, Kran & Buhne, website Vertikal.net and organisers of Vertikal Days and TABs. Do stop by and have a chat.

Vertimac Stand 250: The Belgianbased used equipment specialist, is definitely worth a visit to check out its large inventory of used platforms and most importantly its new replacement parts operation.

Wetac Motive Power Stand 850





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ALLMI Village at Vertikal Days

On May 14th/15th Vertikal Days hosted the ALLMI Village, an exhibition of the latest innovations in loader crane and ancillary equipment. In place for its eighth consecutive year and since the show's inception in 2007, the ALLMI Village yet again formed a key feature of the event, building upon the success of previous years with a record number of exhibitors and visitors, while displaying an impressive array of products, as well as providing extensive advice and guidance on all aspects of lorry loader lifting operations.

ALLMI chief executive, Tom Wakefield, said: "We find ourselves saying this every year, but yet again this was our busiest and most successful Vertikal Days show to date. The level of activity on the





ALLMI stand and within the wider ALLMI Village demonstrates the profile of the association and its members, as well as the demand for our training courses and various industry services. As expected, the visitor numbers increased once again and as we always find at Vertikal Days, the quality of delegates was excellent, with those present representing a wide range of industry sectors and all having a genuine interest

in lifting operations."

"There was a great atmosphere around Haydock Park throughout the two days. The show continues to be an excellent platform upon which to promote ALLMI and the lorry loader industry, and we are looking forward to experiencing further benefits over the coming months as we build upon some of the relationships established during the show."

ALLMI Operator of the Year

Located at the centre of the ALLMI Village, the association ran its 'Operator of the Year' competition over the two days. The competition saw an impressive number of entrants testing their operational ability in terms of accuracy, speed and safety, whilst negotiating the specially designed course. The eventual winner was Mark Smithson of ALLMI member company Mark Smithson Transport, who completed the course in seven minutes 27 seconds.

Smithson said: "The competition was very challenging, given the course that was set out and the time penalties that could be incurred. It was also extremely competitive, with involvement from a large number of very good operators and so I'm really pleased to have finished in first place." He continued: "I was very keen to represent the company by taking part, as we've always viewed the competition as important for raising awareness of quality training and assessment,

as well as promoting best practice. We're big advocates of the ALLMI scheme and the



fact that it represents safety and efficiency of operation, as these are qualities which are of paramount importance to us at Mark Smithson Transport."

ALLMI's Tom Wakefield, added:

"Once again the competition was a big success this year. A great deal of interest was generated before and during the show and that's reflected in the significant number of entrants we had for the event. The standard of operation continues to be extremely high and Mark was a worthy winner, doing very well to finish ahead of the field. As well as Mark receiving the £250 cash prize and competition trophy, his company, Mark Smithson Transport, will now be provided with a free ALLMI training course of their choice, and will have the right to use the ALLMI Operator of the Year logo as part of their livery."

Operator of the Year 2014

Operators' Forum Meeting Review

ALLMI also held its first fleet owner meeting of 2014 at Vertikal Days. Members convened in order to discuss a wide range of industry topics, as well as to hear updates on the latest projects and activities to be undertaken by the association.

Operators' Forum chairman, Steve Frazer-Brown, said: "Forum meetings are always a valuable opportunity for members to get together and to discuss topical industry matters. A variety of issues were debated and reported on, and we also hosted Paul Walker of the Driver & Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA), who delivered a presentation on load security. This was extremely informative and it generated a great deal of follow-up discussion and debate on a subject which affects many Forum member companies."

For information on membership of the Operators' Forum, please contact ALLMI.

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All training centres above offer IPAF/PASMA approved and audited courses. European directives require that all staff are fully and adequately trained in the safe use of the equipment they operate.



£46,000 for platform overturn

Utility contractor the Freedom group has been fined \pounds 35,000 plus more than \pounds 11,272 in costs after a man was badly injured when his aerial lift was pulled over.

Nicholas Chenery, 33, suffered a compound fracture to the left leg and three fractured vertebrae to his lower spine in the incident at Chipping, on the A10 between Royston and Buntingford, in August 2012. Chenery was one of three men rigging three overhead lines that were 500 metres apart. One of these lines was secured to the platform from which Chenery was working. A dumper pulling on the line overturned the platform causing him to fall 12 metres.

A Health & Safety Executive investigation found that Freedom had fallen well below its own in-house standards regarding the planning, managing and monitoring of such a routine operation, particularly with regards to communication. Inspector John Berezansky, said: "Work at height of this nature is inherently high-risk, and it has to be properly planned, controlled and supervised. In this instance, the two teams involved in the task were separated by some 500 metres. Radios and mobile phones were provided; however the level of communication was poor and ambiguous, and the supervision of the task was sub-standard. The company should have ensured that the system in place was robust enough to deal with the risk. Without such a system in place, and in the absence of appropriate supervision, the workers became exposed to a much higher level of risk throughout the operation - especially Mr Chenery, who was in the most vulnerable position in the cherry picker bucket some 12 metres up in the air."

Contractor cited for fatality

Massachusetts-based Fairview Contractors faces fines up to \$119,350 after a 51 year old employee fell five metres to his death while carrying out roofing work on an apartment last November.

OSHA cited Fairview for two wilful violations and five serious violations after an investigation found that the scaffolds and walkboards used lacked guardrails and that employees working on the roof and scaffolds lacked fall arrest systems. The company was also cited for failing to train workers on how to recognise hazards and work safely on scaffolds, roofs and ladders.

Mary Hoye, OSHA's area director for central and western Massachusetts, said: "This was a needless and avoidable loss of a life. While guardrails and fall arrest systems were present at this work site, they were not used and were thus useless. Fatalities such as this will stop only when employers supply and ensure the use of effective and legally required fall protection safeguards on all job sites at all times."

Training the trainer

US crane and rigging training provider Crane Institute of America has introduced its new 'The Complete Package' training programme for independent crane and rigging instructors.

Delegates completing the two week course, can become certified trainers as well as a Crane Institute Certification (CIC) authorised practical examiner.

Jim Headley, director of Crane Institute of America, said: "The Complete Package eliminates the cost for trainers to develop and maintain their own training programs, and it makes training more accessible to workers, thereby increasing crane and rigging operations safety. When provided with properly developed materials, good trainers have a greater chance of success."





OSHA's fall prevention campaign

OSHA has launched a US National Safety Stand-Down campaign in an attempt to raise awareness of fall hazards and to reinforce the importance of fall prevention.

Layher opens customer centre

German scaffold manufacturer Layher has opened a new customer training centre in Güglingen-Eibensbach, Germany.

The official opening was marked by the launch of its Technical Seminars programme which trains customers



in the assembly and dismantling of various Layher systems. The new 4,000 square metre facility features seminar rooms for theory-based training and conferences and a training hall for workshops, live demonstrations and practical training, with a roof height of 10 metres there is room to build scaffolds and to create suspended and cantilever scaffolding.



Who trained him then?

This man was spotted using a long two section ladder placed in the raised bucket of a skid steer loader. The man has climbed further up the tree and balanced a second ladder on a cut tree limb in order to work at a height of about 15 metres.

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New inspection guidance

IPAF has published a new technical guidance document covering the major inspection of aerial work platforms, aimed at keeping equipment safe beyond the manufacturer's design life. The document outlines an inspection scheme to validate structural integrity and functionality of critical components and suggests that work platforms should undergo major inspection within 10 years of originally going into service and every five years after that (10, 15, 20 years etc). It also reiterates that equipment owners should fulfil their legal obligations and ensure that aerial work platforms are maintained in good repair and safe working order by implementing regular inspection and maintenance programmes in accordance with all relevant regulations, legislation, directives, standards and manufacturer's requirements.

IPAF technical director Chris Wraith said: "The growing demand around the world for second-hand machines and the retention of machines in some rental fleets has led to the use of machines beyond the original design life. We need to recognise that there are machines in use which have been in service for 10 years or more which may not have reached their design life in terms of usage, or have reached their design life prior to 10 years because of intensive use or use in a severe operating environment. The harsher the operating environment, the more frequent the inspection should be. This is where the new guidance comes in."

The major inspection scheme can also be used to assist owners in determining if an aerial work platform is within safe design and use criteria when they acquire a machine with insufficient service history and inspection

records, or determine whether a machine has been exposed to exceptional circumstances which may have affected its structural integrity thus jeopardising the safe use.

IPAF's new guidance is available on the association's Publications/Technical Guidance section of www.ipaf.org

IPAF's a new technical guidance stresses the importance of inspecting aerial work platforms.



IPAF elects Manufacturers' Technical Committee chairmen

IPAF's Manufacturers' Technical Committee has elected JLG product safety and reliability engineer Phillip Godding as chairman and Skyjack product safety manager Ian McGregor as vice-chairman.

Goldding said: "Building on the work of my predecessor Brad Boehler, the IPAF Manufacturers' Technical Committee will continue to provide leading expertise and guidance on technical matters. I look forward to representing this committee, further strengthening the relationship of manufacturers with

other IPAF members and leading our industry in the development of a clear long-term strategy for continued improvement."

The next IPAF Manufacturers' Technical Committee meeting will be held on 26th June in Amsterdam.







Walk the route

Last month more than 50 industry professionals attended IPAF's East Midlands regional meeting hosted by Brian Stead, managing director of Loxam Access, and Graham Dobbs, managing director of inspHire, for the opportunity to hear presentations on ground conditions, rescue and risk assessment, and telematics. In light of the flooding and ground subsidence that has recently occurred in the UK, Stead provided a vivid reminder of the need to assess the ground conditions when using aerial work platforms and the importance of watching out for sink holes and service ducts. He said: "Fail to plan and you will plan to fail. Make sure you look at the ready reckoner (IPAF's online tool to calculate the correct size of spreader plates) and walk the route. If in doubt, spread it out."

Delegates also heard from Bob Murdoch, Spanset height safety sales manager, who highlighted guidance on emergency rescue and risk assessment, and Jacques Valckenaere of Trackunit, who encouraged the industry to think beyond track and trace and highlighted how telematics add value to businesses. Presentations from the regional meeting are available at the member's only section of www.ipaf.org. The next regional meeting is being held on 11th September in East London.

Vehicle mounted manufacturers to meet

The inaugural meeting of IPAF's Vehicle Mounted Manufacturers' Technical Committee will take place on 26th June at APEX in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. IPAF is creating this committee to allow interested manufacturers of truck and van mounted lifts to consolidate ideas and identify key topics and potential work areas. IPAF president Steve Couling of Time/Versalift will chair this first meeting. Those interested in joining should contact Chris Wraith.



The IPAF Professional Development Seminars (PDS) for certified instructors will be held in the UK on 30th September for the North and on 4th November in the South.

Europlatform in Cologne

The Europlatform access rental conference will be held on 25th September in Cologne, Germany. Details at *www.europlatform.info*







Jew AM venue

Coombe Abbey in Warwickshire has been chosen as the new venue for this year's Annual Members' Meeting, with PASMA hoping to build on last year's record-breaking attendance at the event that gives members the opportunity to catch up with all the latest news and developments.

Located at the four star Coombe Abbey hotel which was originally built in the 12th century as a Cistercian Abbey, members will hear from the chairman of council, Chris Blantern and managing director, Peter Bennett as well as the chairmen of the association's various committees. The event is scheduled on Thursday 3rd July 2014 starting with a lunch at 13.00 followed by the meeting at 14.00. To book, or for more information, please email: lynn.reid@pasma.co.uk.

Members attending the meeting will receive the first copies of the 2014 Annual Review. Anyone wanting to submit tower images for consideration for inclusion in this year's review - or for future use on the PASMA website - should send them to: michael.fern@pasma.co.uk. They might even end up in C&A PASMA Focus!

PASMA at OSH **EXPO** Africa

Last month PASMA took part in its first ever event in Africa - OSH EXPO Africa. Held in Johannesburg the event was aimed at occupational health and safety professionals. PASMA also organised the event's inaugural Work at Height Theatre which not only consisted of presentations by PASMA, but also by IPAF and the Institute for Work at Height (IWH).

In a presentation entitled Benchmark for Low Level Access, managing

director, Peter Bennett, spoke about the new PASMA-sponsored standard for pulpits and podiums PAS 250, while PASMA's South African representative, Dave Bass, discussed how to protect the public around mobile access towers. The event was well attended and all the presentations received positive reviews.





Toolbox Talks

PASMA's Toolbox Talks are a quick, convenient and informative way of learning about mobile access towers. Each one lasts about 10 minutes and can be viewed free online via the PASMA website. The emphasis is on practical help, advice and guidance that can be applied every day in the workplace by anyone involved in specifying, buying, using, or supervising the use of towers. The Toolbox Talk topics include:

- · Frequently asked questions (FAQs);
- Managing tower specialists;
- · Fall protection;

- · Low level access;
- 3T and advance guardrail towers;
- PAS 250.

Recent round up

- . The association's 'Not on your life!' campaign is attracting increasing attention, not only in the trade and professional press, but also from a wide cross section of companies and organisations involved in the work at height sector. It advocates using only those towers that satisfy the requirements of European tower standard EN1004.
- · PASMA has launched its latest training course Towers for Riggers which explains and demonstrates how to assemble, use and dismantle complex towers in a variety of different configurations. It is currently available only to PASMA Hire and Assembly members.
- · As part of the Access Industry Forum, the association recently took part in the UK's first ever Working at Height Twitter Symposium. Along with the other eight member organisations of the Forum, it fielded questions in the inaugural hour-long session. A second symposium is planned for later in the year.
- · Earlier this month the association and its members were represented at the IOSH Conference and Expo at the ExCeL exhibition centre in London's Docklands. Key speakers included General The Lord Dannatt, former Chief of the General Staff, British Army, and Judith Hackitt, chairman of the health and safety executive.



Towers for Riggers is PASMA's latest training course designed for advanced tower configurations.

British Standards for Mobile Access Towers

BS EN 1004: Mobile access and working towers made of prefabricated elements - materials, dimensions, design loads, safety and performance requirements.

BS 1139 Part 6: Metal scaffolding - specification for prefabricated tower scaffolds outside the scope of BS EN 1004, but utilising components from such systems.

BS EN 1298: Mobile access and working towers - rules and guidelines for the preparation of an instruction manual.



If you want your tower case study to appear on this page, please contact michael.fern@pasma.co.uk for details.

CPA

C_ba

HSE safety alert luffing jib cranes in high winds

Following a number of recent collapses of luffing jib tower cranes in high winds, the UK Health & Safety Executive issued a safety bulletin to remind duty holders that when tower cranes are left unattended, they must in the correct configuration to withstand wind loadings.

If luffing jib cranes are left out of service with the slew brake engaged and/or the jib parked at too small a radius, there is a possibility that the crane may not be able to weathervane freely in high winds. This could result in very high loadings being placed on the crane with the consequential collapse of the jib or the whole crane. This normally means that luffing jib cranes must be in free slew with the jib at a safe out-of-service radius.

However, there are some occasions where it is desirable to lock the slew out-of-service with the manufacturer's agreement. This requires the manufacturer to check the strength of the tower in this situation and provide recalculated, uprated foundation loads for the



base design. Principal contractors have primary responsibility on site, and they must liaise with subcontractors, crane owners and crane operators to ensure that when left unattended in the out-of-service condition, all tower cranes must be configured correctly to withstand wind loadings.

Investigations are still ongoing into recent collapses, and the HSE is working with TCIG, CPA and others on ensuring that guidance is up to date and available and to follow up on other actions that the industry could take.

Competence to operate

A new UK Strategic Forum Plant Safety Group guidance document "Competence to Operate Construction Plant" has been published by the CPA . The new document aims to clarify methods for employers to manage, develop and record employees' competence to operate all types of equipment.

The guidance covers management of training and management of experience as well as management of competence. Mobile construction equipment has the potential to cause fatalities and serious injury. Consequently it is essential that people who operate it are competent to do so. The duty to ensure that operators are competent rests with their employer and the process of ensuring competence requires cooperation between employers. training providers and operators, all of whom have a significant part to



play in the process.

Many organisations see training and possession of a card as a proxy for competence; this is a dangerous assumption. It may indicate a general level of ability to operate specific equipment, but does not take into account the difficulty of the task, the complexity of the environment or the experience of the operator. These all have a bearing on the successful management of the task.

The document clarifies methods for employers to manage, develop and record their employees' competences and meet their duties under the Health and Safety at Work etc Act, PUWER (Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations) and CDM - the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations.

Achieving the necessary competence to carry out a particular task is set out as a four stage process: Selection, Training and Assessment, Developing Competence and the final stage, Life Long Learning. Each of these stages is explained in detail in the document.

Heather Bryant, HM chief inspector of construction and chairman of

the Health & Safety Executive's Construction Industry Advisory Committee (CONIAC), said: "The advice in this document is straightforward, comprehensive and easy to adopt. It has been prepared by industry representatives to demonstrate realistic means of complying with legal duties. However, following the guidance is not compulsory and may go further than the minimum you need to do in order to comply with the law. I thank those who have been involved in its preparation and commend the guidance to anyone who employs people who work with construction plant and those with an interest in such matters."

CPA director Kevin Minton adds: "The new guidance was written to help promote understanding and sharing knowledge in an area which is often seen as difficult to discuss.



I thank those industry bodies and individuals that were involved in its preparation - the strength of the guidance is founded on their experience and cooperative input."

"Competence to Operate Construction Plant" is available for free download from the CPA website at http://cpa.uk.net/ sfpsg/#Competence

For further information on the Construction Plant-hire Association, contact Kevin Minton, CPA Director on 020 7796 3366





Heavy-duty outrigger pads

US outrigger pad manufacturer DICA has introduced a new range of fibre-reinforced polymer crane mats called FiberMax, designed for higher capacity cranes and various ground conditions.

Grouped into three different categories, depending on the size of crane and ground conditions encountered, the Heavy Duty, Super Duty and Mega Duty FibreMax pads use the same fibre-reinforced polymer technology that was originally used as the lightweight, long-term replacement to heavy steel and wooden bridges.

Made up of 74 percent fibreglass reinforcement the pads have the same strength and rigidity as steel with a crushing strength of more than 400,000 psi and a tested flexural yield strength of 60,000 psi without failing or becoming deformed. Physical cycle tests for the pads have included heavy repeated loadings on a simulated soft soil, the same on bridging smaller voids and finally crushing on unyielding surfaces. The mats also weigh less than 50 percent of comparable steel mats saving on transportation costs, while making handling an easier task.

Measuring just over 19mm thick the Heavy Duty line is appropriate for all types of outriggers requiring up to one and a half square metres of support area. The Super Duty line is also suitable for the same surface area, however is intended more for use with soft soil or poorly compacted ground conditions. The Mega Duty line, is available in varying thicknesses between 100 and 250mm, it is especially well-suited to cranes rated with maximum lifting capacities of 100 tonnes and over and is available in sizes ranging from 1.5 by 1.5 metres to 3.65 by 2.74 metres.

Traction hoist from PowerClimber

PowerClimber has launched a new and improved PC3 traction hoist for suspended platforms. Manufactured in the US the new hoist is said to incorporate a number of customer requested features including being easier to operate, having a longer service life, offering low service costs and fewer voltage problems. It also includes easier troubleshooting of electrical issues, thanks to the







RUD anchor points

Germany lifting and lashing specialist RUD has developed the PSA Star-Point and PSA Inox-Star fall protection anchor points for use with personnel protection equipment. Designed to be permanently fixed to structures where frequent fall protection is required the two anchor points have been certified by the German BG (Employers Liability Insurance Association).

Both are available in three models - M12, M16 and M20 - as well as different thread lengths and colours, the M12 has been designed for single use while the M16 and M20 models are suitable for use with two people. All models can rotate a full 360 degrees, allowing for it to adjust to the direction of the load without impacting on the maximum load limit or damaging the anchor point. The



PSA Star-Point offers similar benefits to the PSA Inox-Star however has been designed for indoor use only.

LoadFast's facade positioner

Scottish hoist and rolling platform manufacturer LoadFast Systems has launched a new facade panel positioner for the installation of glazing and other facade panels on high rise buildings.



Measuring four metres long and two metres wide the VL Facade Manipulator sits on floors above the work and features a 2.5 metre electrical boom arm extension which can handle 1,500kg at its maximum extension. The boom can also move 500mm laterally in order to provide greater control and precision, whilst fixing units in place. The installed hoist has a maximum lift height of 450 metres and its 480V threephrase motor provides winch speeds

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of 40 to 60 metres a minute.

The compact system can either be moved using its casters or dismantled for transit or to be assembled on a different floor/ roof. Weighing 2,000kg, including its in-built counterweight, it can also be moved complete between building openings with the use of a fork lift or telehandler. Custom-built, the system's features include radio remote control, calibrated load cells, wireless A2B and overload systems.

To contact any of these companies click on the 'Access & Lifting Directory' section of www.vertikal.net, where you will find direct links to the companies' web sites for up to 12 weeks after publication.

To have your company's new product or service featured in this section, please send in all information along with images via e-mail to: editor@vertikal.net with 'Innovations' typed in the subject box.





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Tadano GR-1000XL

The Tadano GR-1000XL Rough Terrain crane has a maximum capacity of 91 tonnes. It can be configured with a main boom and bi-fold swingaway extension to a maximum under hook height of around 64 metres and has a gross vehicle weight of about 52 tonnes. This model is made in 1:50 scale and it comes with a good instruction sheet.

The chassis is reasonably detailed with the transmission modelled and the big wheels look good. They also steer and the unit has working suspension. There is some plastic detailing but the outrigger beams are metal, with the cylinder rods provided with exposed screw threads.

The operator's cab is plastic and appears on the small side, but seems to scale accurately for the overall height. It has mirrors and wipers and reasonable internal detailing. The crane superstructure is a relatively simple casting with plastic mirrors adding detail and the two winches have hydraulic hoses running to them.

The boom sections are metal with metal sheaves in the boom nose, but they are not separate, but are a solid block of sheaves. The main boom cylinder has a plastic barrel. Telescoping of the boom is smooth and spring clips lock each section at full extension.

The bi-fold swingaway extension is a nice metal casting with metal sheaves. It can be posed in the transport position or pinned in place on the boom nose and can be used in the full or folded mode. In addition to being posed straight, two offset angles can be set.

Three metal hook blocks are supplied. Two are similar with a solid block of sheaves inside and either a single or double hook, and there is also a single line headache ball. The two winches are fairly easy to turn by hand with some friction although the solid sheaves tend to prevent the big hook blocks smoothly lowering.

This is a reasonable quality model with good paint quality and the few graphics are sharp. There are not



so many Rough Terrain crane models around so it is a welcome one to see. A very similar crane model, the GR-800EX, can be obtained from the Tadano webshop for €105. To read the full review of this model visit www.cranesetc.co.uk

Cranes Ect Model Rating	
Packaging (max 10)	8
Detail (max 30)	18
Features (max 20)	16
Quality (max 25)	18
Price (max 15)	10
Overall (max 100)	70%

Cta books & models









books Aerial lift rental market reports

IPAF has published its annual USA and European aerial lift rental market report for 2013. Now in its sixth year the report continues to be improved, refined and building on the database which dates back to 2008. This year the reports include a first look at the Chinese market, albeit with briefer - but quite appropriate - coverage than for the more developed markets. The worldwide machine population estimates now include most, if not all of Asia.

The reports are very comprehensive and include coverage of the European market as whole, incorporating 34 countries, with an in depth look at France, Italy, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, the UK and the four Nordic countries of Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Norway.

The reports not only cover aerial work platform data, but also include construction and economic indicators and data, for use as a comparative for the industry trends. The aerial lift market information is certainly very detailed, with numbers and charts on total

fleet sizes, split between booms, scissors, vehicle mounts and others, articulated and telescopic, electric and diesel power etc.. providing a comprehensive overview of each market complete with trends since 2008. In addition they include useful financial information such as rental rate trends, utilisation numbers and trends return on investment and the average age of the fleet.

The reports still contain flaws, shortcomings and a little unnecessary filler here and there, as is inevitable for such a comprehensive market review. And overall we think the USA



European aerial lift rental market report for 2013

market overview is superior to the European, however that has to be qualified by the fact that it is a much easier market to cover and does not at all reflect on the quality of the European report. In summary these are both truly excellent and very useful reports and without question by far the best overviews of the aerial lift market available. The cost for members is €365/ £304/ \$471 for the European report or €288/ £240/ \$372 for the USA report with further discounts for

buying both. At this price they are an absolute bargain and infinitely better value that reports we have seen costing more than four times as much. It is possible to buy individual European country reports for just over £100 - but quite frankly you are better buying the full report in order to provide comparative material.

Reports can be ordered online at www.ipaf.org/en/publications/ ipaf-rental-reports



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letters

Readers

Dear Editor,

The Construction Design & Management regulations were bought in in 1994 to improve health and safety in the construction industry and to enable businesses to focus on the planning and management of risk. These were later revised in 2007 and subsequently are up for consultation by the HSE (Health & Safety Executive) with the agreed amendments likely to be implemented in April/October 2015.

In a high risk industry such as construction, it's vital that businesses are up to date on the requirements. Failure to comply could lead to a finished structure being unsafe to use or unsafe to maintain. Perhaps most crucially however is the likelihood of a dangerous or fatal accident if regulations are not followed. Since 2001, more than 760 construction workers have been killed on UK construction sites, a staggering figure which of course must be prevented at all costs.

Furthermore, failure to follow regulations might mean that a construction project has to be halted, with contractors facing fines from the HSE, or even prosecution which can have devastating consequences on business' profitability and growth.

So what changes do you need to know about?

• The new regulations are likely to bring more focus on managing safety issues rather than controlling site safety risks.

• The ACoP (Approved Code of Practice) which has previously had special legal status and provided practical advice for all those involved in construction work will now be abolished and will be replaced by industry written guidance instead.

• The new regulations will now apply to cover temporary workplaces including events and trade shows in line with the EU requirement of the Mobile and Temporary Worksites Directive of 1991.

• The competence and training component of the AcoP will also be abolished; however more useful aspects will be included in the above industry written guidance in order to advise businesses.

• The role of the CDM co-ordinator will be abolished and subsumed into the role and duties of the Client, Principal Designer and the Principal Contractor.

- The client will have enhanced legal duties and be expected to lead projects

- The Principal Designer will be responsible for the pre-construction phase of the project

- The Principal Contractor will be responsible for the construction phase of the project

These proposed changes are likely to have an impact, however the interpretation of them may vary depending upon each business' unique requirements. It's worth remembering that the CDM regulations are in place to improve health and safety, ensure that the right people are oing the right job at the right time to manage risks on site, and to help focus your focus on the effective management of risk, therefore it is important getting to grips with them. By working in close partnership with a trusted partner, organisations can be best advised on how to manage risk and ensure compliance with the regulations.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Stops

Where is Manuel Sim Sim?

Dear Leigh,

I am looking for Manuel Sim Sim (Portuguese) previously service engineer at Grove, in charge of Africa. Would you eventually have an idea how I might get in touch with, to find him out?

Best regards

Jean-MarieDuquenois 84450 - St Saturnin les Avignon, France

Vertikal Days

The week after Vertikal Days we received dozens of fantastic emails, letters and texts from visitors and exhibitors alike. Here is a small cross section of them. For all of you who did write in many, many thanks we do appreciate them.

'Build it and they will come' Hi Leigh

Just note to say well done regarding Vertikal Days, the premier shop window for the UK crane and access industry. Very well organised and supported, plus for me great being there. Best wishes

Bill Green

Dear Leigh

Just a short note to say that we enjoyed the show, thanks for your hard work, it was worth it.

Chris Caney

Hi Leigh

Thanks again for a really good event, it gets better each year. Best regards, John

Dear Leigh

I just wanted to drop you a quick email to take the time to thank you for putting on such a great show.

Being based in the South West I don't get much chance to network with my peers in the industry, the way you have put the show together is truly fantastic.

Thanks again, and I hope to see you soon.

Best Regards A Pearson

A Great Show, Great day & some good laughs

And....recognising the challenges of feeding so many people in just two days we also received several comments about the length of the lunchtime queues that prevented some exhibitors getting a proper lunch. We have some new ideas to solve this one...



letters



Ray Pitman 1925-2014



Ray Pitman 1925-2014

In mid May we received the belated news that aerial lift and boom truck pioneer Ray Pitman had passed away on May 7th, he was 89.

Raymond Floyd Pitman was born on February 1, 1925 in Webb City, Missouri, to Raymond O and Mary Helen Pitman, but spent most of his childhood living in St. Joseph, Missouri.

The family later moved to Kansas City, where the young Pitman graduated from high school, and

at 17 his parents bought him a one-way ticket to central Kansas so that he could work in the fields during harvest time. This not only introduced him to mechanical equipment, but also taught him a self-sufficiency which served him well for the rest of his life.

He was conscripted in 1945 and served in the South Pacific with the 873rd Engineer Aviation Battalion. In the Army he learnt about hydraulics, which led to his life-long passion for designing and manufacturing construction and utility equipment.

In 1947 he married the love of his life, Betty Jean Bodwell, and they remained happily married until her untimely death in 2009. Over the years they adopted six children and were also instrumental in encouraging and helping numerous other families in the Kansas City area adopt children.

That same year he founded Pitman Construction Company, which specialised in 'below ground utility

work' – mostly digging ditches for electricity cables and gas lines etc... He later added above ground contracting and began to work on overhead utility lines.

As the company grew, he purchased equipment to make his work more efficient, and when he was unable to find what he needed he designed and built it himself. One such product was a crane that he dubbed the Hydra-Lift.



The Pitman Hydra-Lift



In later years Pitman devoted time to mentoring programmes – here with Carol Howell of Howell Construction in 2004



Simon Lift from the UK got in on the negotiations and acquired the overseas rights, while Pitman acquired the North American rights. With limited production capacity, Simon manufactured some of the early truck machines for Pitman with the IG 40 designation (Industrial Giraffe)



Ted Trump with the Orchard Giraffe

In addition to utility work the Giraffe was used for aircraft de-icing applications by the military, and a larger truck mounted version was introduced. In1958 a 50ft Giraffe was modified by the Pitman dealer in Chicago for fighting fires and was nicknamed locally 'Quinn's snorkel' after the fire chief Robert Quinn. At this point Moore - who had a small minority stake in the business - registered the Snorkel brand name and then left



by Simon and then Terex. In 1993 he established Pioneer Engineering to build a new type of boom truck and in 1999 merged that business into Mega Manufacturing.

In the early 1990s the Equipment Manufacturers Institute named Ray Pitman as one of the 100 most significant contributors to the mechanisation of



the company to establish the Snorkel Fire Equipment Company to sell and develop the platforms for fire-fighting, these continued to be manufactured by Pitman.

In 1964 Pitman founded RO Corporation to design and build R.O Stinger boom trucks, that business was later acquired



construction and agriculture. Pitman was keen to help others succeed and worked with the Helzberg Entrepreneurial Mentoring Programme, which mentors business owners in the Kansas City area, until fairly recently.

A celebration of his life was held on Tuesday, May 13th in Leawood, Kansas, he leaves behind children, Raymond F. Pitman, Jr, Mary R. Neddo, Betsy Curry, Kathy Walworth, Nancy Carter and David B. Pitman. And a number of grandchildren - Pate, Carry, Rob, Bryce, Jack, Alex, Nick, Josh, Ryan, Oliver, Stephanie, Chrissy, Mallory, and Trey.

Ray Pitman

Dear Sir,

With the passing of Ray Pitman, the industry has lost a true pioneer and innovator who embodied why we call his the Greatest Generation. I am saddened to hear of Ray's passing, and my thoughts go out to the Pitman family. Ray's legacy will live on in the equipment he designed and built."

Ron Defeo Terex

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Mantis Cranes Ltd is a leading provider of Self-Erecting Tower Cranes in the construction industry in the UK. The company operates a large fleet of hire cranes throughout Great Britain. Due to continued expansion the company now invites applications for the position of Service Engineer based at our new depot office near Wellingborough

The position will require you to work as part of a team, or an individual in order to provide the following

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Leader www.leader-piatt.it	OSHA
Liftright Access www.liftrightaccess.com	PASMA
Manlift Sales www.manlift.ie	
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Mr Plant Hire www.mrplanthire.co.uk	Böcker Maschine
Nationwide www.nationwideplatforms.co.uk/sales/	Galizia
Platforms	Grove
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Tracked Access www.trackedaccess.com	JMG
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Zoomlion	www.zoomlioncranes.co.uk

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V14970 - Snorkel S1930E - 2005 Electric - 7.60 Mtr. - 376 Hrs. € 2.750



V15478 - Upright MX19 - 2004 Electric - 7.80 Mtr. - / Hrs. € 3.250



V15317 - Haulotte Compact 8 - 2006 Electric - 8.20 Mtr. - 694 Hrs. € 3.750



V15351 - Haulotte Compact 10 - 2006 Electric - 10.14 Mtr. - 480 Hrs. € 4.750



V14252 - JLG 3369LE - 2004 Electric - 12.06 Mir. - 143 Hrs. € 7.500



V14849 - Skyjack SJ7027 - 2000 Diesel 4x4 - 10.10 Mtr. - 2703 Hrs. € 3.500



V15663 - Genie GS3268RT - 2007 Diesel 4x4 - 11.75 Mtr. - 1202 Hrs. € 13.500



V15633 - JLG 3394RT - 2007 Diesel 4x4 - 12.06 Mtr. - 1086 Hrs. € 15.500



V15626 - JLG SL153/22 - 2006 Diesel 4x4 - 17:30 Mir. - 693 Hrs. € 18.500



V15629 - JLG 500RTS - 2001 Diesol 4x4 - 17.24 Mtr. - 4334 Hrs. € 9.750



V15152 - Braviisol Lui Mini SI - 2010 Electric - 4.90 Mtr. - 98 Hrs. € 2.750



V15794 - Genie GR15 - 2007 Electric - 6.35 Mtr. - 252 Hrs. € 4.750



V15141 - Manitou 120AETJ 3D - 2003 Electric - 11.95 Mtr. - 971 Hrs. € 10.500



V15560 - JLG E450AJ - 2001 Electric - 15.72 Mtr. - 218 Hrs. € 12.500



V15816 - Genie Z45/25JDC - 2001 Electric - 15.80 Mtr. + 1218 Hrs. € 12.500



V15750 - Genie Z34/22RT - 2008 Diesel 4x4 - 12.62 Mtr. - 1615 Hrs. € 18.500



V14855 - Haulotte HA18PXNT - 2004 Diesel 4x4x4 - 17.30 Mtr. - 3973 Hrs. € 14.500



V15468 - Genie Z51/30JRT - 2007 Diesel 4x4 - 17.62 Mtr. - 2315 Hrs. € 24.500



V15056 - JLG 800AJ - 2004 Diesel 4x4 - 26.38 Mtr. - 4281 Hrs. € 36.000



V14642 - Genie Z80/60RT - 2003 Diesel 4x4 - 26.40 Mtr. - 3468 Hrs. € 29.500



V13268 - Caterpillar 303.5 - 2002 Perkins KE27/2300 - 2820 Hrs. € 10.500



V13282 - Catorpillar 305CR - 2005 Mtsubishi K4N/E1 - 3180 Hrs. € 18.500



V13280 - Caterpillar 304CR - 2005 Mitsubishi S4L2/E2 - 3343 Hrs. € 16.000



V13285 - Caterpillar 307CSB - 2007 Mitsubishi 4M40/E1 - 3060 Hrs. € 27.500



V13292 - Caterpilar 314C LCR - 2005 Mitsubishi S4K/T2 - / Hrs. € 38.000















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