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There's **news** in the load handling **business**



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On the cover:

When dam contractor Gelmi srl, needed a selection of lifting and access equipment at a remote Italian lake, he selected a Merlo Roto 40.25 MCSS for the job, but how to get it up there? The solution was to take it up in sections on an old aerial ropeway. (See full story page 22)



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The Tanfield Group Plc

Tanfield buy UpRight, Fork Rent order 1,000 telehandlers, Haulotte buy Holland lift designs
Terex buy Chinese crane maker,
AFI buys Alan Drew, Manitou shows radical scissor lift, Grove and Terex announce new 100 tonne All Terrain cranes, Crane Driver jailed, Esta Awards announced, Mastclimber kills three, MK Scaffold collapse
Manitou sues MEC

Telehandlers 17

New Editor Mark Darwin takes a look at the rapidly changing telehandler market: With several large manufacturers vying for market leadership, a slew of larger and smaller new models being launched at the extremities of current model ranges, Caterpillar passing production to JLG, Haulotte looking to change the way it covers the market and a number of dramatically differing strategies towards achieving the same objectives, the future shape of the market is far from clear.



Tower Cranes 25

Phil Bishop talks to the major UK tower crane rental companies and tries to determine the emerging trends and developments. One thing that does become clear is that the UK and Ireland is becoming a very dynamic tower crane market.



SED 30

By the time you receive this magazine the 40th SED will be mere days away. We take a very brief look at who is exhibiting this year and what new products to look out for.

In the next C&A

Our June/July issue includes, our annual UK/Ireland dealer guide, Knuckle boom cranes, CV show review, Industrial and plant shutdown lifting and access, SED review and one person push around lifts.

Trailer Lifts 39

We have put together a simple, straightforward buyer's guide to trailer lifts. With tips on what to look out for, listing the best performers for certain criteria, complete with a full listing of the main stream products. We also attempt to address the tricky subject of whether you can tow these trailer lifts and with what.



Intermat Review 44

This years Intermat closed its doors barely 14 days ago, we look at some of the more significant new product launches and publish a photographic overview of the crane, access and telehandler exhibits.

IPAF Summit, photo album 53



Following the highly popular publication of a selection of photographs from last years IPAF summit, we repeat the exercise this year with a four page supplement.

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Aerial platforms



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c&a

comment



Beware of being tarred

Just in case you missed the news, there was a massive scaffold collapse last month in Milton Keynes. More than 200 workers were employed on the construction of a

new hotel. Many of the workers were on the scaffolding. Amazingly only three people were seriously injured, one of whom unfortunately died later in hospital.

The accident made the national and international news with the mass media jumping on the bandwagon and looking for someone to blame - some dirt to unearth.

It took no time at all to uncover the fact that the scaffold contractor, North Notts Scaffolding, had been in trouble with the HSE before. Immediately this was presented in such a way that it was hard for the public not to conclude that it was "the scaffolder wot dun it". "Probably one of those cowboy outfits that cut corners, playing fast and loose with employees' and public safety".

The HSE prohibition order on North Notts dated from 2002 and concerned the use of a damaged safety lanyard being used by a scaffolder. We don't know what sort of company North Notts is, one thing is for sure though, cowboy scaffolders rarely, if ever, use harnesses and lanyards, so little chance of them being caught with a defective one.

It now appears that gross overloading is the most likely cause, which might leave the scaffolder completely in the clear. However for North Notts the damage will already have been done.

The moral of this story is the need to be ever vigilant with your safety equipment. Otherwise if you are ever involved, or simply on site when a serious incident arises, you might find yourself being tried and convicted by the media simply because the HSE cited you for not wearing a yellow jacket.

Leigh W Sparrow

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