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The Power To Do More

### articulating booms

A Genie Z135/70 working on an apariment complex for Bellway homes in Cardiff. apart from versatility and cost-effectiveness, security is also an issue especially if the apartments are occupied

When it comes to self propelled booms, in Europe unless you work on ships or are a steel erector, then it is articulated booms that come to mind. In the past 20 years the sector has emerged and grown out of all proportion. Today the choice facing a buyer or user is daunting, to say the least, with a range of widths, heights, power sources, jibs, weights, drive configurations and up & over capability.

As the range of offerings continues to grow and develop we once again attempt to sort the wheat from the chaff in the form of an update and basic buyers guide, while highlighting some interesting or unusual applications.

Since in this issue we are covering both Electric, Slab and Rough Terrain models, we have grouped the wide range of offerings into a six loose categories.

#### The Bottom End

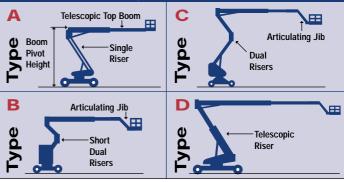
The lower end of the market is a fascinating one, within the range of 10 to 14 metres working height is a wide selection of offerings, with manufacturers taking widely differing views of what the market is looking for. In the UK and Ireland, as in several other European markets, the lightweight, single riser, 1.5 metre wide battery or Bi-Energy powered, boom is very popular. Users

> appreciate its compact dimensions, easy controls, light weight and low cost.

In spite of its enduring popularity, the worlds three largest aerial lift producers do not contest this market. Why not? You might ask. Well for one, the concept originated in

the UK, rather than the USA, and thus on the surface there is no domestic market. What many producers do not seem to appreciate is that a surprising number of these machines do find their way into the American market, in spite of limited market coverage by those who make them. Nifty Lift must take the credit for establishing this product type, with its original Height Rider range. Nifty has continually refined

#### Articulating Boom Classification



the product over the years but the current 10 and 12 metre models are still very close to the originals, at least in concept and appearance.

Rental companies appreciated the fact

1 Lightweight Constal nurness beams Tune A

that with total transport weights as low as 2.5 tonnes, they are easy to deliver, with a 4x4 and trailer or 3.5 tonne truck. Their low cost compared to the other 30ft offerings, particularly when they

1. Lightweight General purpose booms - Type A										
Make & Model	Platform Height	Outreach	Boom Pivot Ht.	0/A Width	Jib	GVW kg	Drive	Power		
Nifty HR10	8m	3.9m	4.1m	1.5m	No	1,930	4x2	24v/BE		
Nifty HR10N	8m	3.9m	4.1m	1.4m	No	2,150	4x2	24v/BE		
Sky-High 100	8m	4m	4.5m	1.5m	No	2,050	4x2	24v/BE		
Airo SG1000E	10m	5.8m	4.45m	1.5m	No	3,900	4x2	48v/BE		
Sky-High 120	10m	5.5m	4.5m	1.5m	No	2,850	4x2	24v/BE		
Manitou 120AE	10.1m	4.9m	6m	1.75m	No	2,910	4x2	24v		
Nifty HR12	10.2m	5.6m	4.1m	1.8m	No	2,400	4x2	24v/BE		
Nifty HR12N	10.2m	5.6m	4.1m	1.5m	No	2,950	4x2	24v/BE		
Matilsa	11.2m	5.5m	5.5m	1.5m	No	3,315	4x2	48v/D		
UpRight AB38N	11.5m	5.6m	5.4m	1.5m	No	3,550	4x2	48v/BE		
UpRight AB38L	11.5m	4.6m	5.4m	1.71m	No	2,950	4x2	48v/BE		



- 1. Lightweight general purpose models, normally under 40ft and 4,000 kgs
- 2. Narrow Aisle industrial units under 40ft
- 3. The 45ft sector, split between Electric and Diesel
- 4. The 60ft sector
- 5. The 80 ft sector
- 6. The Top End over 100ft

### articulating booms





Largest of them all is the basket 48 and 50 ALJE seen here from the basket

were first introduced, was of course also a significant factor. As was the fact that they were very reliable, low tech and easy to maintain. Users like the fact that with a single riser and two section telescopic boom, they are also very easy to operate.

no-more include, the Simon/Terex 120, an excellent unit under Terex, but now discontinued. Go-Industries and Aerial

UpRight entered this market in the mid 90's with the SP37 and then AB38,other companies joining the market include, Sky High from Belgium, Manitou,

#### 2. industrial booms - Type B

Make & Model	Platform Height	Outreach	Boom Pivot Ht.	0/A Width	Jib	GVW kg	Drive	Power
Genie Z30/20NRJ	8.9m	6.25m	3.86m	1.19m	Y	6,450	4X2	48V
Iteco	9m	6.4m	3,7m	1.2m	у	6,600	4x2	48v
Genie Z30/20N	9.1m	6.5m	3.86m	1.19m	Y	6,425	4x2	48V
JLG 300AJ	9.14m	6.1m	3.99m	1.22m	Y	6,735	4x2	48v
JLG300AJP	9.14m	6.25m	3.99m	1.22m	у	7,052	4x2m	48v
Haulotte HA12IP	10m	6.2m	5.25m	1.34m	Y	5,800	4x2	48v
Manitou120AETJ	10.1m	6.5m	4.8m	1.2m	у	6,550	4x2	48v
Haulotte 12PX	10.3m	6.1m	5.45	1.85m	у	5,540	4x4	Diesel
Genie Z34N	10.5m	6.8m	4.6m	1.47m	Y	5,170	4x2	48v
Genie Z34RT	10.5m	6.8m	4.6m	1.78m	у	4,740	4x4	Diesel
Genie Z34	10.5m	6.8m	4.6m	1.73m	у	5,450	4x2	48v/BE
Basket 12AJN	10.5	5m	4.4m	1.2m	у	4,900	4x2	24v

although the lack of a telescopic boom has limited its offering, and Matilsa. Those that have dropped out of this sector include: JLG and Skyjack whose offerings were also limited by the lack of a telescopic top boom. Others that are



The new Genie Z51/30

which offered a unit with both tele-boom and jib. The word is that Aerial may soon re-enter this market with its new owners.

Basket and Airo both offer machines that almost squeeze in to this sector, but are simply too heavy and are closer to 45ft booms.

While a surprising number of these light

weight "mini booms" are still sold, this

sector has been eroded by a number of

different products, including mast booms

and small 12 metre crawler mounted booms,

3. 45ft Electric boom sector - Type C

11m

11.1m

12m

12.19m

12.19m

12.19m

12.19m

13.0m

13.0m

13.6m

13.7m

13.7m

13.87m

13.92m

14.0m

14m

14m

15m

15.75m

Make & Model

Airo SG1100JE/D

Basket 13A

Basket 14AJ

JLG E400A

JLG E400n

JLG E400AJF

JLG E400AJPn

Haulotte HA15IP

Manitou 150AET

Nifty HR15N

JLG E450A

JLG E450AJ

Genie Z45/25

Genie Z45/25J

Airo SG1400JE/D

Basket 1600Electron

Airo SG 1600J/D

Basket 17AJ

Haulotte

Manitou

Platform Outreach Height

6.5m

7.5m

6.2m

6.45m

6.45m

6.83m

6.83m

8.0m

8.8m

9.0m

7.04m

7.24m

7.62m

7.65m

8.6m

7.5m

7.1m

9.4m

9.3m

11.0m#

Boom Pivot Ht

3.5m

6.6m

6.55m

6.55m

6.55m

6.55m

6.5m

5.0m

5.5m

7.49m

7.7m

7.06m

7.0m

6.5m

6.1m

5.0m

6.0m

such as the Octopussy. These small crawlers offer an even lower transport weight, the ability to pass through a single doorway and to set up on rough or uneven ground.

It is also true that some buyers have migrated to the heavier and much more complex narrow aisle industrial models, the "dustbin on wheels" as one wag referred to them. This market is dominated by Genie and JLG, although Manitou, with its 120AETJ and Haulotte with its HA12 and 15 ranges also do well on this side of the Atlantic.

Weighing as much as a 45ft boom, these 30 or 34ft boom lifts, offer overall widths of between 1.2 and 1.5 metres, with a dual riser, two section telescopic boom and articulating jib. Many are also specified with 180 degrees of jib rotation for additional versatility in tight quarters.

So which of these first two types is best for you? Well. If gross vehicle weight is not an issue, and you are working in tight conditions, the industrial type units will appeal with their narrower widths, zero tail swing in all configurations, more outreach and the end of boom manoeuvrability of a double jointed circus performer.

If low cost, simple reliability, ease of use and low weight are factors that appeal to you, then the first category is likely to appeal. They both have their place and many rental companies run both types.

#### The heart of the matter

Moving up to the heart of the articulated boom market we come to the 45ft sector, this market sector has for many years been by far and away the most popular size of boom throughout Europe, regardless of type. The Genie Z45/22 did much to create this market, with the term "Genie 45" strongly heading towards the same status of JCB and Hoover at one stage, at least among regular boom users. Today there are at least

GVW

5,800

5.400

6.900

6.037

5,942

6.214

6,759

7,100

7.090

6.400

5,940

6,670

6.777

6.867

7.885

7,300

5,800

7,500

8,250

6,900

kg

Drive Power

24v

48v/BE

48v/BE

48vBE

48v/BE

48v/BE

48v

48v

48v/BE

48v/BF

48v/BE

48v/BF

48v/BE

48v/BE

48v/BE

48v/BE

48v/BE

48V

4x2

4x2

4x2

4x2

4x2

4x2

4x2

4x2

4x2 BE

4x2

4

Jib

No

Yes

Yes

No

No

Yes

Yes

Yes

No

Yes

No

Yes

No

Yes

Yes

Yes

No

Yes

Yes

Yes

0/A Width

1.8m

1.5m

1.8m

1.75m

1.50m

1.75m

1.50m

1.5m

1.5m

1.5m

1.75m

1.75m

1.75m

1.75m

1.83m

1.76m

1.8m

1.5m

1.76m

1.8m

The new Haulotte HA41PX was launched at APEX this year, with 39m platform height

43 different product offerings in this sector, with many additional variants. So wide is the choice that we have divided it between Electric and Diesel powered. Bi-Energy models are included in the Electric charts, as increasingly they are Electric models with diesel powered DC generators for use outdoors.

#### 45 to 51 and 25 to 30

An interesting thing is happening within the 45 ft sector, it is 51ft.

Snorkel started the whole thing off as long ago as 1998 with its AB50J, later



14.7m # Reduced lift capacity max 9.1m with full capacity

38 cranes & access November 

December 2005

A number of articulated booms now offer rotating jibs like this JLG E300

#### 3. 45ft Diesel sector - Type C

Make & Model	Platform Height	Outreach	Boom Pivot Ht.	O/A Width	Jib	GVW kg	Drive	Power
Snorkel UNO41	12.4m	7.2m	6.6m	2.2m	No	5,080	4x4	Diesel
Manitou A50ATS	13.0m	8.0m	6.6m	2.0m	No	7,800	4x4	Diesel
Haulotte HA16X	13.45	8.0m	6.6m	2.25m	No	6,500	4x4	Diesel
JLG 450A	13.7m	7.47m	7.67m	1.98m	No	7,000	4x4*	Diesel
JLG450AJ	13.7m	7.47m	7.67m	1.98m	Yes	7,100	4x4*	Diesel
Nifty HR15	13.75m	9.0m	5.5m	1.98m	Yes	5,800	4x4*	Diesel
Genie Z45/25N	13.87m	7.62m	7.06m	1.75m	No	7,530	4x4	Diesel
Genie Z45/25JN	13.92m	6.65m	7.0m	1.75m	Yes	7,620	4x4	Diesel
Genie Z45/25RT	13.94m	7.62m	7.16m	2.29m	No	6,255	4x4*	Diesel
Airo 1400JD4wd	14m	7.6m	7.9m	2.0m	yes	7,160	4x4	Diesel
Genie Z45/25JRT	14m	7.65m	7.06m	2.29m	Yes	6,600	4x4*	Diesel
Haulotte HA16SPX	14m	8.6m	6.0m	2.25m	Yes	6,700	4x4	Diesel
Basket 16AX	14m	7.1m	6.0m	2.1m	No	7,400	4x4	Diesel
Haulotte HA16PX	14m	9.7m	6.6m	2.30m	Yes	7,240	4x4	Diesel
Manitou 165ATJS	14.6m	8.0m	7.1m	2.30m	Yes	7,450	4x4	Diesel
Matilsa Parma 16	14m	7.1m	7.1m	2.30m	No	7,918m	4x4	Diesel
Basket 17AJX	14.8m	9.0m	6.0m	2.1m	Yes	8,000	4x4	Diesel
Nifty HR17	15.2m	9.0m	7.1m	2.0m	Yes	6,140	4x4	Diesel
Snorkel AB50J	15.2m	8.5m	7.4m	2.3m	Yes	6,795	4x4	Diesel
Haulotte HA18PX	15.3m	10.1m	6.5m	2.2m	Yes	8,120	4x4	Diesel
Haulotte HA18SPX	15.3m	10.1m	6.0m	2.25m	Yes	7,500	4x4	Diesel
AiroSG1600J4WD	15.75m	9.4m	7.9m	2.0m	Yes	8,005	4x4	Diesel
Genie Z51/30JRT	15.6m	9.2m	7.0m	2.29m	Yes	7,210	4x4	Diesel
Manitou 180ATJ	15.7m	10.04m	7.15m	2.3m	Yes	8,090	4x4	Diesel
JLG 510AJ	15.8m	9.48m	7.63m	2.34m	Yes	7,300	4x4	Diesel

\* 4x2 available

on Manitou introduced its 50 ft, 170 as a differentiation and then JLG introduced the 51ft- 510AJ, essentially a 45ft with a slightly longer top boom, giving more height and more outreach, albeit in a slight longer stowed package.

### So why 51ft height or 30ft of outreach?

No one was able to tell us definitively, it seems that as it was "doable" it came to be. Genie, although they will deny it, eventually decided they needed one too, and introduced the Z51/30 earlier this year, but only for Europe! Manitou with



its long tradition of introducing articulating booms with slightly different platform heights than the mainstream market replaced the 170 with the 51 ft 180ATJ.

Most users and hirers we spoke with said that most 51ft booms are rented out at 45ft rates and the volume market remains 45ft. However there will be some users who may previously have had to use a 60ft boom for specific applications, who will now benefit from the lower cost and more compact dimensions of a 51.

#### 4. 60ft sector - Types C/D

Make & Model	Platform Height	Outreach	Boom Pivot Ht.	O/A Width	Jib	GVW kg	Drive	Power
Basket 19AX	17.0M	10.0m	6.7m	2.1m	No	8,200	4x4	Diesel/BE
Basket 20AJX	18.0m	12.0m	6.7m	2.1m	Yes	9,500	4x4	Diesel/BE
JLG 600A	18.29m	12.07m	8.05m	2.44m	No	10,330	4x4*	Diesel
JLG 600An	18.29m	12.07m	8.05m	2.13m	No	9,616	4x2	Diesel
JLG600AJ	18.29m	12.12m	8.05m	2,44m	Yes	10,650	4x4*	Diesel
JLG600AJn	18.29m	12.12m	8.05m	2.13m	Yes	10,183	4x2	Diesel
Genie Z60/34	18.39m	10.36m	8.23m	2.46m	Yes	10,215	4x4*	Diesel
JLG E600J	18.29m	13.06m	4.0m	2.44m	Yes	7,000	4x4	48v/BE
Snorkel AB60J	18.3m	13.1m	6.0m	2.4m	Yes	11,158	4x4	Diesel
Airo 1850JE4WD	18.5m	10.7m	8.0m	2.40m	Yes	13000	4x4	48v
Airo SG1850JD	18.55M	10.75m		2.4m	Yes	12,250	4x4	Diesel
Haulotte HA20PX	18.65m	13.5m	6.8m	2.38m	Yes	12,260	4x4	Diesel
Nifty HR21	19.2m	12.5m	7.0m	2.15m	Yes	6,100	4x4	Diesel
Basket 22AX	20.2m	12.0m	7.67m	2.45m	No	12,000	4x4	Diesel
Airo SG2100JD	21.1m	13.4m		2.4m	Yes	14,300	4x4	Diesel
Basket 23AJX	21.2m	13.6m	6.7m	2.4m	Yes	12,000	4x4	Diesel

In this mainstream 45 ft sector, a wide choice of specification is available, most units now incorporate a jib which offers up to 140 degrees of articulation, with the option of the 180 degrees of jib rotation. A jib not only offers the ability to reach behind obstacles but also provides a lower platform entry height, always a desirable feature. When travelling with the boom stowed, visibility can be dramatically improved by raising the

#### The Nifty HR21 offers major outreach in a lightweight compact package



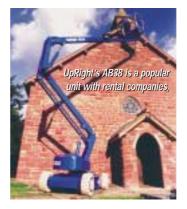
Haulottes HA32PX owned by Airbus, employs its height and articulation to perfection on this Airbus A380

articulating booms

jib to its maximum height in order to see over the lifts superstructure. When it comes to power and drive, 4x4 diesel, rough terrains have taken over from the battery or bi-energy preferences of the past. Clearly these two former options are still highly desirable for

the in the

C&a



certain applications, but the majority of units sold today have large balloon tyres, four wheel, high gradeability drive, with oscillating axles and four wheel steer. Haulotte is one company that has chosen not to follow the "All singing All dancing" route in this sector and has done very well with it's no nonsense, more basic yet husky machines.

#### The swinging 60's

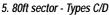
The 60ft articulated market only came into being 19 years ago, when Grove launched its AMZ66, since then it has become a major sector, with a wide choice of offerings. As with the 45's. Most products now include an articulating jib, and most are four wheel drive. JLG though offers a model with a difference, its E600J a lightweight electric boom with back up generator, has carved out a place for itself, although it is still seen as a niche product. With its short single riser it does not offer the same up and over reach as most other 60 ft units, but with a GVW of just over 7,000kgs, a metre more outreach and its quiet, clean battery power, it is a perfect tool for many jobs.



The unusual JLG E600 a 60ft electric, half articulated, half straight boom

Another company daring to be different and perhaps not getting the credit it deserves for it, is Nifty, its recently introduced HR21, with its 63ft platform height, very low GVW at just over six tonnes, narrow 2.2m width and exceptional outreach of 12.5metres to the platform edge, it seems to defy gravity! However it is highly unusual in that it uses a three section top boom, which may help to keep weight closer in to the machine?

### articulating booms



Make & Model	Platform Height	Outreach	Boom Pivot Ht.	O/A Width	Jib	GVW kg	Drive	Riser
HaulotteHA260PX	23.6m	15.1m	6.8m	2.38m	Yes	15,950	4x4	Knuckle
Haulotte HA26PX	24m	14.6m	6.8m	2.38m	Yes	14,150	4x4	Knuckle
JLG 800A	24.38m	16.15m	9.78m	2.44m	No	15,030	4x4*	Telescopic
JLG 800AJ	24.38m	15.74m	9.78m	2.44m	Yes	15,030	4x4*	Telescopic
Genie Z80/60	24.4m	18.3m	8.83m	2.49m	Yes	17,010	4x4*	Telescopic
Haulotte HA32PX	30m	20.5m	11.35m	2.53m	Yes	20,900	4x4	Telescopic

without requiring a massive base

machine that becomes very challenging

restricted. And any way, there is little or

no requirement for outreaches in excess

If outreach is not critical then an articulated

or two boom concept is the best way to

go, as it naturally restricts outreach, while

keeping weight down and offering the

added benefit of up and over reach. All

models in this class use the telescopic

riser design. The latest additions to this

category include the remarkably

of 22 metres on self propelled lifts.

to move around, outreach needs to be

683

The other thing to look for in the 60ft range is the type of riser used, this is where JLG change over to a two section telescopic riser, while Haulotte, Genie, Manitou and others use the traditional dual arm riser. Snorkel and the JLGE600 employ single arm risers, which give more outreach but less up and over capability.

#### Top of the line

When we reach the 80ft sector the number of producers starts to drop off dramatically, Haulotte now offers more models in this range than anyone, since its recent

#### 6. 100ft sector - Type D

Make & Model	Platform Height	Outreach	Boom Pivot Ht.	O/A Width	Min Width	Jib	GVW KG	Drive
JLG 1250AJP	38.1m	19.25m	18.44m	3.81m	2.49m	Yes	19,958	4x4
Haulotte HA41PX	39m	18.7m	16.5m	2.53m	2.53m	Yes	22,500	4x4
Genie Z135/70	41.15m	21.26m#	23.1m	3.94m	2.46m	Yes	20,366	4x4
JLG 150HAX	45.7m	24.16m+	24.4m	5.49m	3.51m	Yes	25,900	4x4
Basket 48ALJE	46m	24m ~	23.5m	5.4m	3.5m	Yes	23,200	4x4
Basket 50ALJE	48m	24m ~	25m	5.5m	3.5m	Yes	24,500	4x4

Outreach with riser extended: # = 18.13m: + = 22m:  $\sim = 21m$ 

announcement of the new HA260PX at APEX, which will replace the HA26PX. These two units are the only ones now that use the traditional two arm knuckle boom riser. Both Genie and JLG have chosen telescopic risers, as does Haulotte with its top of the class HA32PX.

#### **Rarefied space**

Once we are over 100ft, we reach articulated booms that owe their articulation as much to necessity as being application driven. In order to reach the heights of 120ft or more



The Heavy duty Snorkel AB50J kicked off

The Heavy duty Snorkel AB50J kicked off the 50/51ft sector

innovative Genie Z135/70 and the Haulotte HA41PX, along with JLG's long standing 150HAX.

Surprisingly it is not one of the major producers, but Italian based Basket, that boasts the largest models with its 48 and 50 ALJE. Demand for these massive machines, which have an operating width of over five metres, and are a pain to transport, is very limited. Meanwhile the more practical 38 to 42metre units are becoming quite popular for larger jobs.



The Platform company recently spent £2 million on Nifty lift articulated booms

# Levelling up on slopes?

the user to level up when he wants to

Sky High of Belgium, also offers an outrigger

option on its 12 metre working height

120. As with the Parma, the outriggers

Matilsa recently delivered a

Parma 16 to Rapid Platforms in Genie colours.

machine can travel in the fully raised

position, however when working on a

while most booms should be used on

Manitou announced a new electric boom

range at APEX, expected to launch in

final form at Intermat in April. Also

slope it offers the ability to level up,

"firm level ground"

are not required to be used, and the

and yet is a fully self propelled unit"

Boom manufacturers are often asked if they can equip self propelled booms with outriggers in order to provide levelling on slopes, most large manufacturers turn this business away, as without question it is a small niche market. Many users who need this facility can choose a

machine from the wide range of spider type boom lifts, (See Cranes&Access October) or the self propelled booms with outriggers such as those made by Dino and Kesla.

However a couple of companies do offer

outriggers on their standard self propelled booms. The leader in this field is Matilsa, the Spanish based lift producer. It recently delivered the first of its Parma 16's in the UK to Rapid Platforms. Alistair Jordan of Rapid said "Our customers absolutely love it; it has simple technology and allows

### New booms on the way

Skyjack plan to re-enter the boom market next year, we understand that prototypes are already on test, with models in the 30 and 45 ft sectors, expected. The first units will be on display as pre-production units at the ARA in February. As we have already said, Aerial might also be looking at booms again. Finally Iteco, intend to launch further articulating boom models next year.

## Beware of wet grass

The modern Rough Terrain boom, is a rugged go anywhere piece of kit. However driving it off road still requires a great deal of care, it is possible to turn them over if you start rallying, although it takes some doing.

In late November a worker in Bodmin, "borrowed" a Genie Z45/25 articulated boom from a company that had hired it to put up Christmas lights. He went off down

> This Genie Z45/25 was rolled on a steep wet grass bank.

a wet grass slope, lost control and rolled it! Lucky for him, only his pride was hurt.

He was of course also caught taking and using a machine without permission, our guess is that he was not properly trained either. The unit was on hire from Nationwide.

