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Two men died in this accident in Germany, for the want of a harness

More unnecessary deaths

William McKoin (44), died after being catapulted into the air from a self-propelled boom, he was not wearing a safety harness.

McKoin and about a half-dozen other workers were removing siding and replacing a roof at Barrington High School, on the North side of Chicago. McKoin was in the process of putting a tarpaulin up around the building to protect it, he was driving the lift while around seven metres high, when one of the wheels dropped off a kerb into the street. The resulting whiplash effect of the boom catapulted McKoin to his death, a harness might have saved him.

The USA health and safety body, OSHA is conducting an investigation into the accident and violations regarding the incident by McKoin's employer, Midwest Sheet Metal.

The citations that the company could face depends on what training McKoin had received to use the machine and why a harnesses was not being worn.

..... And then in Germany two more die

A 30 metre truck mounted lift toppled over at a plant near Leverkusen in late August, coming to rest on a 10 metre high roof, throwing the two occupants, aged 64 and 22, out of the basket, to their deaths. Neither was wearing a Harness!

The two men were working on a mobile phone antenna, attached to the plants smokestack, when, it appears, the ground gave way beneath an outrigger. The lift is owned by Gardemann, one of Germany's largest rental companies.

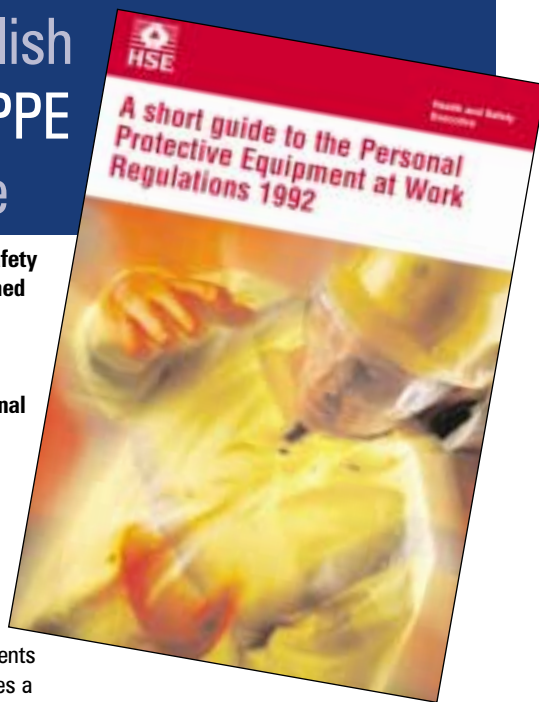
HSE publish revised PPE guidance

The UK'S Health & Safety Executive has published a revised version of guidance designed to help employers who supply and use personal protective equipment (PPE) at work, meet their duties under the law.

The guidance, has been updated to reflect changes to the Regulations, developments in PPE and now includes a section on Personal Fall protection equipment for working at heights.

A short version of the new PPE guide can be downloaded free of charge

from the HSE website.
www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg174.pdf
 (See *Vertikal.net* for full story)



1.2 metres wide and 26 metres high ?



Dutch manufacturer OmegaLift, better known for its crawler mounted scissor lifts, has launched a new Narrow aisle wheeled Scissor lift with a 26.5 metre working height.

Such a product is rare enough, joining Holland Lift and JLG Liftlux, with scissors over 25 metres, but this model is unique in that it is mounted on a chassis with an overall width of

only 1.24 metres. Omega say that the new model, designated the NS260-600, is designed for high rack storage warehouses. In spite of its height to width ratio, it is approved for both indoor and outdoor use.

19 and 22.5 metre working height versions are also available. One of the first units was recently delivered to Vamassa in Madrid.

Good Home wanted for old crane

The Samuel Tabas Family Foundation, a charitable organisation, seeks a home for a 55-ton Bay City truck crane, complete with all of the accessories including a bucket and 100 foot boom. The crane, which is almost 50 years old, has been stored inside for the past 30 years and is unusual in its state of preservation. The crane was extensively used by the Acorn Iron and Supply Company of Philadelphia for structural steel erection, including steel work at the White House. (Details on www.vertikal.net)

This old Bay city truck crane is free to a good home.



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Five Hewden cranes and 130 metres of spreaders raise the words at the G8 rally.

Modulift spreader beams raise the message

When Poole based company Modulift received a last minute request to provide and rig 130 metres of spreaders to lift an eight metre high message "Make Poverty History" at the recent Edinburgh rally prior to the G8 meeting, assistance came from several Modulift customers.

With only a day to deliver spreaders and rigging to Edinburgh for the rally on July second. The suppliers worked night and day with Hewden Crane Hire, to put the complex rigging together. The modular spreaders were provided by LGH, Modulift, Lifting Logic and Brandon Loadtite, while LGH supplied the rigging. They formed four cascading spreader rigs, one on three levels and the other 42m long lattice spreader.

Hewden employed five Demag cranes, four AC50s and an AC120, they completed the staged lift of the 18 separate eight metre high letters to over six metres above the ground in spite of windy conditions.

Manitowoc team up with Bank of Scotland

Manitowoc Crane Group, through its CraneCredit initiative, has teamed up with the Royal Bank of Scotland (RBoS) in the UK to offer, what it claims, is an industry leading finance solution for the crane industry. Manitowoc says that it understands the needs of the crane industry and when combined RBoS, can provide financial resources to better develop custom solutions for today's crane industry.

Two new members for the Cranes & Access team

The Vertikal Press Ltd, publishers of *Kran&Bühne*, *Cranes&Access* and *Vertikal.Net* has added two new staff to its team as part of the company's expansion plans.

Mike Posener joins as customer support manager based in the UK, concentrating on sales. Prior to joining the Vertikal Press, Mike was European Sales Manager for Cranes Today & Hoist magazines.



Mike Posener

Also joining as associate editor of *Cranes & Access*, is Ian Boughton, a seasoned journalist, Ian has written regularly for the Guardian, FMX Facilities Management and OEN. His enthusiasm and lively writing skills will help cement the reputation of *Cranes & Access* as the premier trade publication for the UK lifting and access industries.



Ian Boughton

Liebherr Echingen, is set to launch its first telescopic boomed crawler crane to go into series production. Liebherr built a one off version of its 800 tonne, LTM1800, using the LR1550 lattice crawler crane base, for a Japanese company in 1990.

The new model came into being by a very similar route, a request for a one off unit, combining the LTM1100 All Terrain crane superstructure with the crawler undercarriage from the lattice boomed LR1100. This time however the company considered that the resulting product might have a much wider appeal, particularly given the increasing popularity of telescopic crawler cranes in Europe.

The first LTR1100 is already built and going through a full test programme in Echingen, Liebherr has refrained from releasing any photographs as it is yet to be painted.

We do though have the full specification of the new crane. The six section 52 metre main boom uses the same Telematik pinning system as the LTM1100. A two section Swing-Away extension provides 10.8 or 19 metres of additional reach and can be offset hydraulically by up to 40 degrees.

The counterweight on the LTR is the same as that used in the lattice LR, In addition to 15 tonnes (2x7.5t) of carbody counterweight; there are two upper counterweight configurations, the basic 26.3 tonnes with a six tonne addition for a total superstructure counterweight of 32.3 tonnes.

The LTR1100 can handle 10 tonnes on the fully extended 53 metre main boom to 12 metres radius and lift 1.8 tonnes at the maximum radius of 48 metres.

The 100 tonne maximum capacity rating is at 2.5 metres, at three metres the rating is reduced to 80 tonnes with the full counterweight but strangely, 92 tonnes with the smaller counterweight, most likely due to slew bearing limitations.

The fully rigged crane weighs 102 tonnes, 54 tonnes with the counterweight removed. If the optional jacks are specified, the two track

assemblies can be quickly removed, reducing the transport weight to 34.5 tonnes.

The LTR1100 will completely assemble itself in an hour or so, say Liebherr. The most likely strip down configuration will require three delivery trucks.

The crawler chassis extends hydraulically from a travel width of 3.5 metres to just over five metres, when fitted with standard 900mm wide grouser plates.

Liebherr says that the advantage of such a crane is its manoeuvrability, particularly on rough terrain and of course it can pick and carry its full capacity.

Compared to a lattice boom crawler, the telescopic boom is more versatile, has shorter rigging times and is easier to transport. It also has the benefit of being able to stow the boom in minutes, either for overnight security or for passing under overhead obstructions.

The LTR also has the option of 2.9 metre short assembly jib and second winch to allow the crane to be used for two line lifting operations for

applications such as the assembly of prefabricated building components.

Depending on how it is specified, the LR1100 is likely to be priced close to that of the LTM1100 All Terrain and LR1100 lattice crawler.



The LTR1100 is the first series production telescopic boomed crawler crane from Liebherr



The UNIC 295 sets up on the castle ramparts with a suspended platform.

Mini Crane suspended Access

A three tonne Unic 295 mini crane is being used to restore the walls of an old castle in Monzon, Spain. Unusually the crane is handling a suspended platform. While frowned upon by some, the platform appears to comply with guardrail and toeboard rules, the operator is wearing a harness and operating the crane with a remote controller. The mini crane was one of the few devices that was able to set up within the width of the narrow ramparts.

Gamble Jarvis sold

The Gamble family, led by Ian Gamble, has sold Gamble-Jarvis Plant Ltd to a group of investors trading as Aston.

Gamble is based in Worthing, has three depots in the South East of the UK, Worthing, Guildford and Uckfield, and offers a broad variety of equipment for rent including a wide range of telehandlers and powered access equipment. Gamble also owns Russon access, the Holland Lift scissor lift and Manitou boom lift dealer. Gamble Jarvis had revenues last year in the region of £5 million.

AJ takes over Lloyds Access

A.J.Access Platforms has purchased Lloyds British Testing's powered access rental fleet. The 130 machines that make up the Lloyds fleet, include Genie, Up-Right and some JLG Platforms and operate from two locations at Swansea and Newcastle.

AJ access says that any equipment on rental to Lloyd's customers will be continued until the hires are terminated, in order to minimize any inconvenience.

The Lloyds machines will be made available for sale through the used equipment division of A.J.Access based in Caldicot in South East Wales.

Panther open in Haydock

Panther Platform Rentals has ordered a million pounds worth of new Skyjack scissor lifts for its newly opened branch in Haydock. The new facility is located on over an acre (4,000 sqm) of ground, with 7,000sqft/ 650sq metres of

workshops and offices. The depot will cover the North West with a fleet of around 250 units.

centre. "This fantastic new depot is the latest stage in our expansion programme across the north" said Richard Miller, Panthers managing director. "We have been patient, waiting until we found the right location and staff.

The aim is to add an IPAF training facility along with a machine refurbishment



Richard Miller (L) of Panther with Martin Davies of Skyjack



*Jerry Welford
sales manager of Ladybird,
the dedicated self erecting
tower crane hirer*

Ladybird open Southern depot

Ladybird Crane Hire, the self erecting tower crane hirer of Rubery, near Birmingham, has opened a new 5,000 square metre depot just off the M-40, in Bicester, Oxfordshire. The new location will serve customers in the south-east of England and London.

David Symon told Cranes&Access that He was acting as a consultant to Nigg Plant to dispose of the cranes and that Roger Taylor is assisting him.

Symon said that neither he nor Roger Taylor had any ownership in or were directors of Nigg Plant Ltd.

He said that the cranes will all be sold, (following rumours that they might be matched up with a purchase of the Nigg yard to tout for offshore work). He told us that he expects the big crawlers to go fast, but recognises that the Lampson, might take some time to find the right buyer.

Nigg Cranes sold to...

A major package of cranes belonging to KBR's Nigg yard has been sold by private tender. The lot includes large crawler cranes such as Manitowoc 41 and 4600's, American Hoist 11250's and a 1,000 tonne Lampson Translift along with Grove and PPM Rough Terrains plus Manitou telehandlers. Nicolas and Crane Fruehauf heavy trailers and

other equipment are also included. The value of the bid is reportedly in the region of £5 million.

The buyer is Nigg Plant Ltd, a special purpose company, set up at the end of June to buy and sell the equipment. The ownership of Nigg Plant has not been disclosed, but is fronted by David Symon and Roger Taylor who are well known in UK crane circles.

.....And Cox Plant?

David Symon was most recently involved with Cox plant Ltd, which went into administration earlier this year with huge debts. Symon told us that Cox Hire Centres, the company that bought the assets of Cox pant Ltd, a week after going into administration, has now been sold off in separate lots. The crane business has now been rebranded as Duncan crane

hire. Roger Taylor has been involved with Peterhead crane Hire, Taylor crane hire and JD crane hire all of which failed with large debts.

The administrators report has now been issued. Cox Hire Centres has defaulted on its installment payments. The banks were largely paid out while unsecured creditors will receive nothing.

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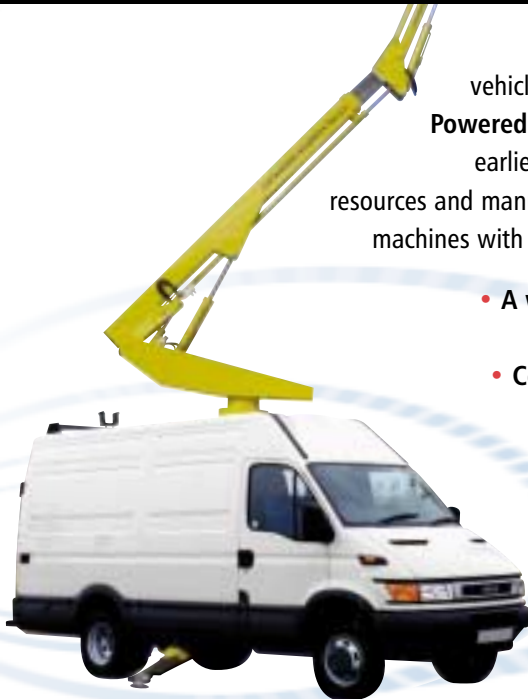
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The new order includes GS-5390 RT's, one of which is putting the finishing touches to the cladding on the new IKEA warehouse at Armthorpe, Doncaster



Platform Co spend £5 million with Genie

The Platform Company has ordered 250 new aerial lifts from Genie, in an order worth over £5 million. The order covers a range of models including the 26 metre Z80/60 articulated boom, deliveries of which start immediately and run until the end of September of this year. The new units will add to The Platform Company's 2,000 strong fleet, with machines going straight into the eight branches around the UK, including the recently enlarged and relocated Newcastle depot.

Lee Perry, Platform Company Sales Director says, "The new machines will increase our availability throughout the UK, adding to a complete working at height package that we offer. We chose Genie because they were simply the best for the job, they deliver the reliability and specification that our customers need."

AMP becomes two

A.M.P. Access Ltd. Has demerged its conventional, scaffold related access business into a new Company, AMP Access Solutions Ltd. Paul Onslow, is the MD of the new company, which will focus on the supply of Safety Netting along with the hire and sale of Alloy Towers,

System Scaffolding, Stagings and all associated products.

Andy Pearson, former Sales Director, has taken up the position of Managing Director of A.M.P. Access Ltd, under the Chairmanship of Mike Boyle. AMP's powered access operations operate from four locations, two sites in Taunton along with Poole and Liskeard,

40 Palfinger cranes for Romania

The Romanian DIY supermarket chain "Arabesque" has ordered 40 Palfinger PK18500 Performance cranes complete with crane forks.



The cranes will be used to load and unload palletized deliveries as well as other goods and small machinery.

Arabesque has ordered 40 Palfinger 18500 lorry loaders.

Quigley opens third depot

Quigley Crane Hire UK Ltd has opened a third depot, located in Iver, Bucks, to serve West London. The new depot joins existing depots in Runcorn, and Warrington, Cheshire.

The London area depot is the latest development in Quigley's expansion drive. "We already work all over the UK as a specialist crane hire and contract lifting service" says joint managing director Shaun Quigley, "but we need to establish a network of regional depots to ensure we can provide a competitive service".

The new depot is headed up by depot manager Anton Sanderson, and kicks off with a fleet of 12 mobile cranes from Terex Demag and PPM ranging from 30 tonne city cranes to 250 tonne All Terrains. Quigley's Heavy Crane Division will also support the depot.

Kier Fined for fall from height

Kier Regional Ltd was fined £7,000 at City of London Magistrates Court and ordered to pay court costs of £2,600. after 21 year Miguel Olivares fell 23 metres down a ventilation shaft after stepping on

a plastic sheet that covered the shaft. The company was also fined for failing to ensure the site was kept in good order and in a reasonable state of cleanliness. (Full story Vertical.Net Aug 8)

AFI launch AFI Resale

AFI, one of the UK's fastest growing access rental companies, has launched a new sales division, AFI Resale. The new division, is headed by Graham Osmond and will sell both new and used machines and will also offer a package of after sales options including breakdown cover, six-monthly inspections and operator training.

Osmond has more than 20 years' experience in the access industry having served with Access Equipment, BET, Instant Zip-Up, Upright and Lloyds before joining AFI.

"Whilst AFI is primarily a rental provider a significant number of the customers we come into contact with wish to purchase a machine for their own long-term use. Through AFI Resale we are able to satisfy this demand – both for used machines and for new ones," said Osmond.

The company says that used machine sales will provide the biggest percentage of the division's revenues, many of these will come from AFI's fleet and will typically be around five years old in "hire-ready" condition with the appropriate LOLER certification. AFI has also developed a resale section to its website with photos and full details of its used machines.



(L-R) David Shipman, Managing Director of AFI with Graham Osmond

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Lemon shaped access

Full access to these oval tanks was a challenge

The Spider division of SafeWorks, LLC of Seattle Washington has been employed as the sole provider of access equipment and services to the \$304 million reconstruction project of the Newtown Creek Water Pollution Control Plant in New York City.

The project includes gaining access to all areas of two large lemon or onion shaped digester tanks. Spider has provided 32 swing-stage/suspended platforms operated by

64-SC40 traction hoists. Each of the custom designed platforms was designed by Spider engineers to meet the challenges that the eight storey, lemon-shaped digester tanks presented. The tanks slope in two different directions, so angled modular platforms were developed to enable complete exterior access. Adjustable rollers were added to keep the platforms level as they travel up or down these slopes, and the lifting capacity was increased from 454 kg to 908 kg.

Teupen appoint Ranger in the UK

German truck and crawler mounted boom lift producer, Teupen, is appointing Ranger equipment as its UK distributor. Ranger already represent a Ranger branded version of the Italmec crawler mounted booms in the UK. The Teupen range while overlapping at its lower levels with that of Italmec, will largely complement and add to the line up.

Ranger will now be able to offer low GVW tracked boom lifts from 10 metres right up to the massive 50 metre Teupen Leo 50.

(See C&A October for our feature on low GVW track boom lifts)

First glimpse at Groves new 200 tonner

Grove has released an artists impression of its new 220 tonne GMK5220, due to start rolling off the production lines at the end of this year.

The GMK5220 will be mounted on a five axle carrier with a 68 metre seven section main boom, capable of lifting 13 tonnes to a radius of 24 metres at full extension. The boom features Grove's Twin-Lock pinning system and Megaform profile and takes seven minutes and 40 seconds to fully extend.

A 12 metre to 21 metre bi-fold luffing swingaway can accommodate up to two eight metre inserts giving a maximum possible tip height of 105 metres. The swingaway jib can be offset hydraulically from 0 to 40 degrees, using controls in the crane cab.



An artists impression of the new Grove GMK5220

Wolffkran sold

The MAN Group has sold Man Wolffkran GmbH its heavy duty tower crane business, based in Heilbronn Germany, to a private German-Swiss investment group headed by Dr. Peter Schiefer and Dr. Hans-Peter Koller. The deal is retroactive to January/1/ 2005. In 2004, Wolffkran generated sales of €35 million with approximately 200 employees.

The group acquiring Wolffkran says that it is aiming to offer long-term prospects to the crane specialist, which will in future operate

under the Wolffkran name. it also says that all production sites will be retained and that no job cuts are planned.

Schiefer plans to take a leading role in day to day management of operations: An engineering graduate of the Technical University of Munich, he previously held a management role at Goldman Sachs in London and was for many years involved in the management of various business units at Siemens AG.

(See vertikal.net for more details)



Financial round up

Half year, interim, results from the world's crane, access and telehandler manufacturers are all showing substantial increases in both revenues and profits. Full details and analysis of the results are posted on Vertikal.Net as they are released. Here are a few of the headlines.

- Ashtead profits more than triple for year to April 2005.
- Bobcat sales rise 24 % for six months.
- Gehl up 43% on strong telehandler sales.
- Haulotte sales rise by 58% in first half.
- Hewden first half revenues up four percent
- Finning UK post 18% increase
- Lavendon revenues down 4% profitability up
- Liebherr full year sales up by over 12%
- Manitowoc achieve record first half sales, up 23%.
- Terex cranes up 32%
- Terex Aerials/Genie sales rise 51% in first half
- Terex subpoenaed over United Rental deals
- United Rentals revenues rise by 15%

(See vertikal.net for full reports behind these headlines)

Vanson adds new mid range tower

Vanson has added a new mid range flat top tower crane to its Raivan range, the MR108+3. Built by Raymond, the crane offers a standard hook height of 46.5 metres with lift capacities ranging from 8,000 kgs at 15.8 metres radius to 2,200 kgs at the tip of its 50 metre jib.

The unit has a 4.5 metres square standard base but also features an expendable base element allowing it to be located in any lift shaft that will accommodate its 1.5m x 1.5m mast dimensions.

The MR108 incorporates the new Eye-Vis cab shown by Vanson at this years SED, and features the "Soft start" control system with smooth motor control proportionality for precise operation and a reduction of shocks to components and structure. The pistol type joystick controls feature a sensitive dead man feature, aiding comfort for operators on longer shifts.



The New Raivan MR108+3 flat top crane includes the new Eye-Vis cab



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The JCB 520 telehandler shovels granulated slag into the unloading auger.

Telehandler on cement ship

One of the new JCB 520-50 compact telescopic handlers has been purchased by Caledonian Slag Cement, of King George V Dock, Glasgow. Its primary role is moving Ground Granulated Blast furnace Slag within the hulls of the ships which deliver the material from the plant of a sister company in Port Talbot. The slag is unloaded from the ship using a dock mounted unloading auger to one of two 5,000 tonne silos for storage.

The task of the JCB 520-50 Loadall is to shovel the powdered slag into the augers intake point. The company previously used skid steer loaders but like the 520-50's ability to operate in deeper powder and therefore reach higher up the stockpile, increasing productivity.

Supervisor Gary Brown said "Due to stringent shipping schedules, we have to unload the ships in as close to 24 hours as possible. Since the introduction of the new JCB we managed to unload a fully laden a ship with 4300 tonnes in 21 hours, working throughout the night."

Ground Granulated Blast furnace Slag, when used as a component in concrete, can improve the long term durability of structures subjected to aggressive environments.

New 200 tonner extends five axle capability

Liebherr has released further details of its new 200 tonne, LTM200-5.1.

The most noticeable feature is of course its class breaking seven section, 72 metre long main boom. When combined with its various swingaway options the LTM1200 offers a maximum tip height of 115 metres. This made up of a seven metre straight extension to the boom, onto which the 22 metre bi-fold Swingaway is mounted. A further two seven metre sections can extend the swingaway to 36 metres providing an additional 43 metres on top of the 72 metre main boom.

The maximum counterweight of 72 tonnes, is made up of a 12 tonne narrow base slab, plus four wider 10 tonne slabs. Two further 10 tonne weights are suspended from each side of the counterweight to achieve the 72 tonne maximum. With no specifications available at the time of writing, we are not sure how much, counterweight the crane will be able to carry on board under STGO rules. It should be able to manage at least the

12 tonne base which is designed to travel on board.

The LTM1200 also features two new engines which meet the latest emission and noise regulations. Apart from the regulatory benefits, the new engines are more efficient, the carrier is a six cylinder common rail diesel rather than the typical eight cylinder unit employed by this size of crane, while the superstructure uses a new 197 bhp four cylinder turbo diesel.

In the UK the new STGO rules have focused attention onto tyres and brakes, the new crane, is say Liebherr, the first to use air operated disc brakes.

This should not only provide better braking characteristics but also longer service intervals and faster replacement times. This may also be the first crane with an in cab brake pad wear indicator?

The carrier also features all wheel, speed sensitive, steering with a choice of six modes, including Crab steering which does not require the centre axle to be raised.



The new Liebherr LTM1200-5.1 features the longest main boom on five axles at 72m.

• **IPS opens new German hub**

Independent Parts and service, in partnership with Holger Johan of Powerlift, has moved to a new, larger location in Erkrath near Düsseldorf.

• **Active buy Genie,**

Active Rentals of Scotland has spent \$1.1 million with Genie, adding 36 new units, including GS2632 and GS3368RT scissors and Z34/22IC Diesel 4x4 articulated booms plus a 24 metre Z80/60 articulating boom. The order takes the fleet to up to 140.

• **Changes at Bronto Germany**

Bronto Skylift has announced that Thomas Bogacz has departed and that Ralf Niederberger has been appointed as sales manager.

• **Tindale moves to TH White**

Richard Tindale, marketing manager at Gardner Denver, is moving to TH.White, the new distributor for Bison-Palfinger, where he will be the Bison product manager.

• **Jim Longstaff returns.**

Jim Longstaff is returning to the access industry after a brief sojourn in the vehicle weighing industry. He will assume the position National Sales Manager for SkyKing.

• **Motherwell sells hire division**

Glasgow based AB 2000 Ltd has purchased the plant hire division of MB Engineering Services Ltd (part of Motherwell Bridge) for £1.1million.

• **Dino lift buys out investors**

Dino Lift of Finland, has purchased the 25 percent holding owned by Aboa Venture, the fund that financed Lars-Petter Godenhielm's purchase of the business in 1997. The buy back gives managing director Godenhielm 100 percent ownership of the business.

• **LGH buy Burgess Lifting**

Lifting Gear Hire, has purchased the Lifting and Testing division of Burgess Engineering Limited, part of the Burgess Group.

• **Hiab buy Finn dealer**

Hiab, the lorry loader and tail lift producer, has acquired its Finnish crane distributor, Transmachine Oy.

• **Tower crane sleepwalker**

A 15 year old sleepwalker was rescued with a truck mounted platform after being found asleep 40 metres up, on the counterweight of a top slewing tower crane in Dulwich, south east London.

• **Attempt to break Ice lolly record goes wrong**

A stunt to publicise a new frozen juice popsicle, and break the record for the worlds largest Ice Lolly, failed when the streets of New York were flooded with juice after a crane started to lift the 17.5 tonne lolly.

• **Last Grove founder dies**

Wayne Nicarry, the last remaining founder of Grove cranes, died in a nursing home aged 85.

• **Facelift increase Self Propelled**

Facelift has stepped up its move into self propelled lifts, with the purchase of 30 more

Skyjack scissor lifts and 10 more Haulotte articulated booms.

• **New Sales rep for Hiab**

Claire Joyce has joined Hiab as sales rep and demonstrator for the midlands and the northern regions.



Claire Joyce joins Hiab

• **Crane collapse kills 10**

A large gantry crane being used in the construction of the Thai-Lao Friendship Bridge on the Mekong River in Laos, collapsed at the end of July killing 10 workers including the Japanese chief engineer.

• **VP buys Pivotal**

VP owner of UK forklifts, the telehandler specialist, has acquired Pivotal Services Group Ltd, and ESS safety services, from Babcock International Group Plc.

• **Driver escapes as crane topples**

Firefighters were called to Pelton Fell, County Durham on August 1, when a Terex Demag crane owned by GBK crane hire, working with 50 metres of main boom and a three tonne load, toppled over and fell into the undergrowth of a steep ravine after the ground gave way.

• **Man dies at T5 when platform fails**

A man working for Laing O'Rourke was killed and another injured, when an SGB cantilever shoring platform failed at Heathrow's Terminal Five. The accident disrupted work for two days.

• **2004/5 Plant Hire investment report published**

Catherine Stratton has published the 2004/05 version of the Plant Hire Investment Report.

• **New Bobcat dealer for South Wales**

Bobcat has appointed Border Industrial services Ltd, trading as Border Bobcat, as its authorised dealer for South, West and Mid Wales.

• **Crane Maker files for Bankruptcy**

Paolo de Nicola, the Italian producer of large specialised gantry type cranes, used in bridge construction, has filed for protection under Italy's bankruptcy laws. A hearing for creditors has been scheduled for September 21 in Padova.

• **Liebherr expect to top €5 billion**

Liebherr expect that group revenues in 2005 will top five billion euros, a new record.

• **Bob Buehler**

Bob Buehler, a veteran of Snorkel International and a well known character in the aerial lift industry, passed away on Tuesday morning August 16th. He had been suffering from cancer. His colleagues at Snorkel wrote a tribute to him which you can see on vertical.net (Aug/18th).

• **John Hocking**

John Hocking, technical director of PAC, died suddenly on Thursday September 1 of a heart attack, he was 70. John started in the lift business in the 70's with Tirfor as a Mark dealer and later on founded Pegasus All Terrain lifts.

• **HSE Publish Inspectors pack**

The HSE has published the pack it uses to train HSE and Local Authority Inspectors in enforcing the Work at Height Regulations 2005, on its website at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/falls>

• **Australians issue telehandler warning**

WorkCover, the Australian health and safety body, has issued a Safety alert regarding the lifting of suspended loads with telehandlers, following an accident, involving a tip over, while lifting a suspended load on a slope.

• **HSS expand in Ireland**

HSS has acquired Laois Hire Services of Portlaoise, in the republic of Ireland. Laois hire was established in 1989 and operates from three locations with revenues in the region of €6 million and 42 employees.

• **Terex receive SEC Subpoena**

Terex has received a subpoena from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) requiring the production of documents concerning certain transactions involving Terex and its subsidiaries and United Rentals in 2000 and 2001.

• **IPS appoints marketing manager**

Esther Lawson has joined Independent Parts & Services in the role of marketing manager to support the company's ongoing expansion plans.



• **UK Platforms open in Crawley**

UK platforms has opened a new depot and training centre in Crawley near Gatwick - 200 lifts will be based at the site by year end.

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