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500 plus students attend Liebherr Lift & Move event

Liebherr USA hosted 550 high school juniors, seniors, technical college students, teachers and administrators from 17 schools at its location in Houston, Texas for the Lift & Move USA event.

The event highlighted crane operator and rigger occupations as well as manufacturing and service related jobs. A dozen cranes were used at a variety of learning stations including a 750 tonne LTM 1750-9.1 All Terrain, a 500 tonne LR 1500 crawler crane, a 100 tonne LRT 1100-2.1 Rough Terrain crane and a 70 tonne LTM 1070-4.2 All Terrain operated via Bluetooth control. In addition, Morrow Equipment demonstrated a Liebherr 81K.1 self-erecting tower crane.

Tracy Bennett, director of Lift & Move USA said: "Hands on exploration is one of the best ways to introduce students to careers, especially ones that are critical and in high demand but less visible to the average student. Lift & Move is the type of event that can be a game changer for students."

During the event a Certificate of Congressional Recognition was presented to Liebherr USA managing director Daniel Pitzer by Texas congresswoman Sheila Jackson Lee.

Man faces life for death of three linesmen

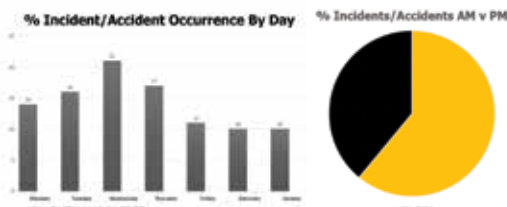
A man has pleaded no contest to the manslaughter of three linesmen - Ryan Barrett, 22, George Cesil, 52, and James 'Bo' Ussery, 61 - in Wausau, Florida in October 2018. All three men were standing under power lines while colleague Robert Morgan was working in an aerial work platform. John Goedtko lost control of his car and trailer and ran into the three men.

He ran from the scene and was arrested six miles away. He has also been charged with leaving the crash scene and of driving without a valid licence. The court heard that Goedtko had enough methamphetamine and amphetamine in his blood to impair his ability to drive safely. He faces a minimum of 34 years in prison and a maximum of life.

Wednesday morning most dangerous

Following an analysis of environmental, health and safety data over the past four years, Irish crane rental company Wm O'Brien, has found that Wednesday morning is the most likely time for its team members to suffer an incident/accident.

The statistics from 2016 to 2019 show that the risk of an accident occurring on Wednesday is 21 percent while surprisingly Friday is the least likely for an incident to occur at 11 percent.



\$529,000 fine for Virginia contractor

Virginia Occupational Safety & Health Agency has issued details of major fines issued in 2019, one of the largest - \$528,692 - was levied against contractor T.D. Fraley & Sons following an incident in Springfield Virginia in July 2018.

Two employees were working on a six metre scaffold just 2.2 metres below live 19,900 volt overhead power lines. One of the men was installing the guardrails when he inadvertently moved it too close to the power lines receiving a severe shock and suffering serious injuries.

The citation said Fraley did not adequately protect its workers by allowing them to work within three metres of overhead power lines, used unsound blocks to support the scaffold, failed to equip the scaffold with adequate guard railing, allowed employees to rig the scaffold without being trained by a qualified person, and made no allowance for employees to reach the platform, obliging them to climb up the scaffold end frames. The company was also cited for not reporting an injury requiring hospitalisation within 24 hours.

Mental Health training fund

The UK-based NASC has created a £30,000 funding pot dedicated to mental health first aid training. The fund allows NASC members to claim up to £125 towards the cost of completing a mental health first aid course. The campaign is aimed at breaking down the stigma surrounding mental health and promoting the importance of focusing on employee wellbeing in the workplace.

Who trained him then?



Spotted in a tunnel in what looks like the UK, a team working at height with a scissor lift and telehandler. For some reason they have lifted a stowed 26ft scissor lift with a compact telehandler to reach a light at a height of around five metres. It looks as though none of the crew question the methodology.