

Would you prefer to receive your own personal copy of the printed version of **Cranes & Access**? Then register on-line now for your personal subscription. Cranes & Access: The UK Lifting Professional's magazine.

www.Vertikal.net/en/journal_subscription.php

Do you need to keep up to date with what's happening in the German, Austrian and Swiss lifting industries? Then our sister magazine, **Kran & Bühne**, is the magazine for you. Subscribe now to Germany's leading independent magazine for the crane and access industries and keep up to date with the latest news (published in German).

www.Vertikal.net/de/journal_subscription.php

The world's largest on-line listing of mainland European crane and access rental companies is available to you now. Just click the link below to go to Vertikal.net/Vermieter where the bi-lingual site will guide you to hire companies throughout Europe.

www.Vertikal.net/Vermieter

Free! Up to the minute news from the lifting industry by e-mail straight to your mailbox. Sign up for **NewsAlerts** to get head line news as it happens. You choose which sectors are of interest to you and we make sure you only get short, individually selected emails that are relevant to you.

www.Vertikal.net/en/newsletter.php

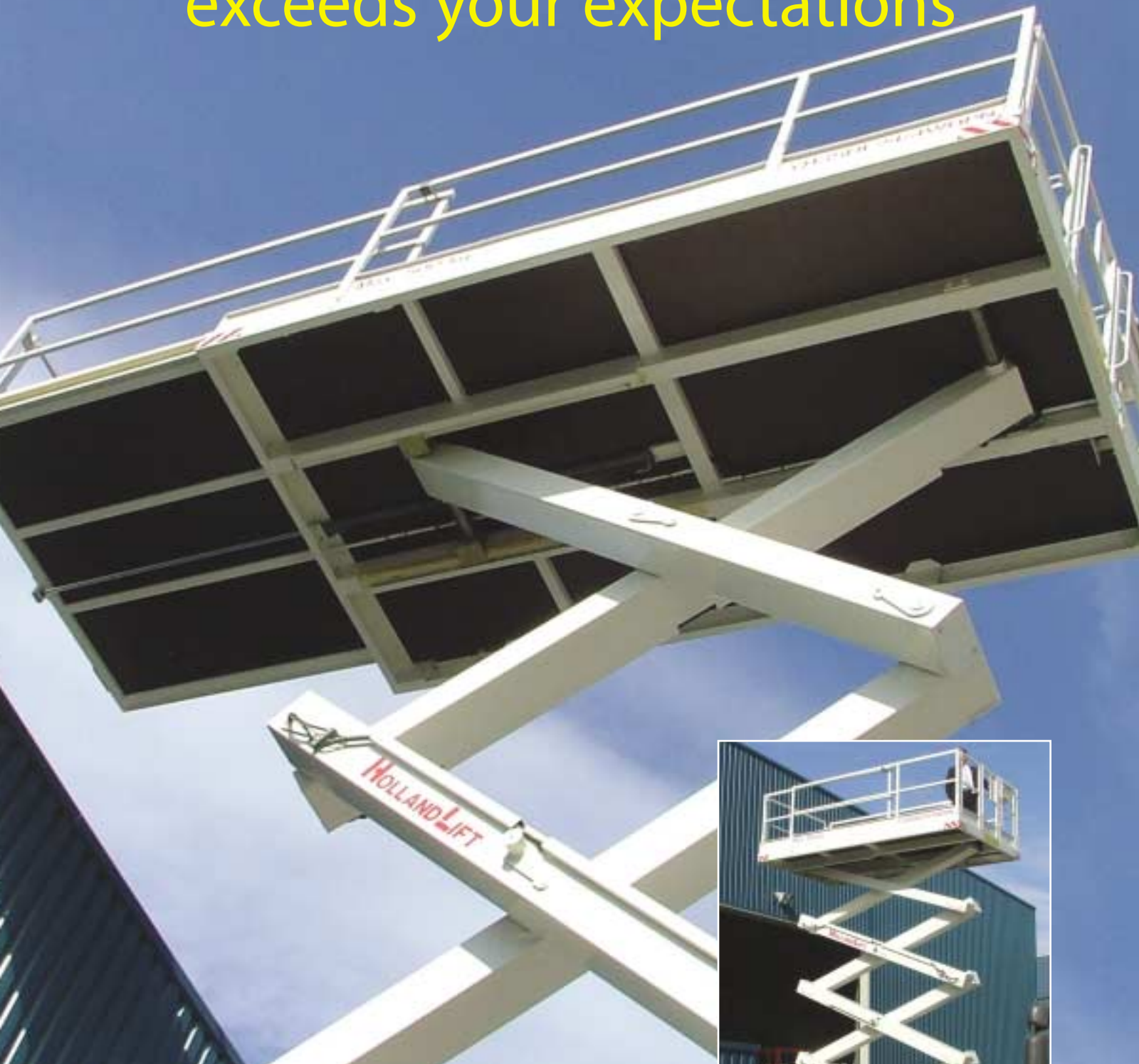
Laptop users: Download **complete issues of Cranes & Access or Kran & Bühne** to read when you have the time. Using the latest version of Adobe Acrobat you can search for specific words or names in the issue or even have your PC read the articles out loud to you while winging your way across the Atlantic (or wiling away the hours on the Motorway!). But, please note these are large files of about 5Mb each.

Cranes & Access: www.Vertikal.net/en/journal.php

Kran & Bühne: www.Vertikal.net/en/journal.php

HOLLAND LIFT

exceeds your expectations



AVAILABLE IN THE UK AND IRELAND FROM

Russon Access Platforms
Brierley Hill, West Midlands, UK.
01384 482 492

For unmatched quality, reliability and performance choose a scissor lift that **exceeds your expectations**.

With working heights from **6.50m** to **33.50m** we offer the tallest scissor lifts available, extra high-rigidity platforms and narrow aisle high units that are built to last.

HOLLAND LIFT

Holland Lift International B.V.

Anodeweg 1, NL-1627 LJ HOORN Tel. +31 (0)229 28 55 55 Fax. +31 (0)229 28 55 50

www.hollandlift.com

Delta Rentals takes on JLG line

Delta Rentals of Honiley, Warwickshire, has been appointed as the JLG dealer for the East Midlands. Delta, run by Ian James and a sister company of Blue Line Access, was established to sell the Toucan range of mast booms, which was conceived and originally produced by Delta lift of France before being sold to Grove.

In order to help promote the mast boom concept, Delta Rentals made units available to UK hire companies on a re-rent basis in the hope that, after building up a customer base, they would start purchasing their own units. Under Grove ownership, Delta had Toucan distribution rights for the whole of the UK. Future distribution, however, has been up in the air since JLG bought Manlift last April. The two parties have now agreed that JLG UK will take over the UK wide distribution rights, but Delta will become a regional dealer for all JLG aerial products.

"While we would have preferred to have retained the full UK distribution rights for the Toucan range, we understand JLG's position and feel that the new arrangement will provide us with plenty of opportunity to expand our business," said Delta Rental's Ian James. *Pictured: Laurent Guillaux of JLG (left) and Ian James of Delta Rentals.*



Crane Hire continues Demag investment

Crane Hire of Dublin, Ireland, has placed an order with Demag for four brand-new mobile crane models, which were seen for the first time at the bauma trade show earlier in the year.

The order comprises an AC55L and AC55 City crane, both with 55-tonne capacities, a 120-tonne capacity AC120L and a 70-tonne AC70. The company is expecting the delivery of the AC70 later in the month but, impressed with the crane's specifications on paper, it has already ordered a second unit.

"In many city-type lift situations, such as those where the crane's outriggers can be only partially extended, the AC70 out lifts an 80-tonne all-terrain," said Jarlath O'Leary of Crane Hire. "It's like a 55-tonne all-terrain in terms of size, but with 80 tonnes lifting capacity, and the crane's compact dimensions make it ideal for work in the Dublin area."

Crane Hire's latest order follows on from the recent delivery of a 350-tonne capacity AC350 complete with Demag's SSL (Sideways Super Lift) technology and also a 35 tonner earlier in the year. "Expansion has been significant this year," said Mr O'Leary.

"In terms of new products, Demag seems to have it right," Mr O'Leary said. And when asked about the company's decision to buy a second AC70 before seeing the first, he said: "on paper this is a very good unit and Demag has always delivered what it has claimed on paper."



Palfinger buys Bison

Palfinger AG, the Austrian producer of truck loading cranes and more recently truck mounted access platforms, has purchased 100 per cent of the shares in Bison Stematec, one of the leading producers of truck mounted platforms in Germany.

Palfinger AG is listed on the Vienna stock market and the deal is therefore subject to regulatory approval by the Austrian antitrust authorities. Bison Stematec is located in Löbau, Saxony, and has around 130 employees and annual sales revenues of around €13 million (UK€9 million). Palfinger CEO, Wolfgang Anzengruber, said that the aim of the acquisition is to "quickly become European market leader in the truck-mounted aerial work platform sector."

Palfinger has a defined strategy based on growth through diversification and internationalisation. Just 12 months ago the company entered the access market with the PA20T - a 20-metre platform mounted on a 3.5 tonne truck. The unit received favourable reviews at this year's Vertikal Check, (see Cranes & Access September issue page 31).

Palfinger said that it considers the market for truck-mounted aerial work platforms to be attractive with high potential, and is currently characterised by numerous small manufacturers producing low numbers of units and a large variety of models. "The market is about to enter a consolidation process in which the Palfinger Group will be a vital player".

Bison Stematec will operate as Bison Palfinger GmbH, an independent unit within the Palfinger Group and a subsidiary of Palfinger Europe GmbH. The company will be a member of the "Hydraulic Systems and Services" sector of the group. Palfinger estimates the European truck-mounted platform market to be worth around €300 million (£207.6 million) and forecasts an annual market growth of about three per cent over the next few years. It identifies the largest markets for truck-mounts as France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy and Spain, and acknowledges the trend towards rental, thus reducing the total number of buyers in a given market.

Full story on Vertikal.net.

The Platform Company opens vehicle mount division

The Platform Company has opened up a vehicle mount division to expand on its already 2,000 plus powered access fleet with the purchase of 40 new 3.5-tonne chassis Nissan Cabster trucks equipped with 14- and 18-metre Oil & Steel booms.

"The new package directly addresses customers' needs providing a hassle free service," said Mark Milligan, The Platform Company Vehicle Mount Division general manager. "We've added value and choice for users of powered access requiring the flexibility of self-drive vehicle mounted boom platforms."

Available for collection or on a delivery and pick-up basis, the

units are offered on a daily, weekly, or long-term hire basis with the option of full insurance.



Pictured is Mark Milligan, The Platform Company Vehicle Mount Division general manager (left) and Lee Perry, The Platform Company sales director.

Valla boosts TRX line

Valla Cranes UK has expanded its TRX line of mobile tracked cranes with the introduction of the Valla 55. The 1.7-metre wide, 5.5-tonne capacity unit features a fabricated, pre-formed and welded steel plate boom with three hydraulic sections fitted with adjustable nylon wear pads. Power is provided by a four-cylinder, 54.5 HP diesel engine, while transmission is automatic (hydrostatic) with a maximum speed of four kilometres per hour. The unit's total weight is 5,650 kilograms.

Optional extras include an electronic Load Moment Indicator, a hydraulic winch, hydraulic chain hoist, a man bucket, remote control, a metal/glass enclosed cab, manual jib extension and LPG conversion. Designed and manufactured in Italy to include

a host of bespoke options, the Valla range offers a choice of diesel or electric power. The company says its TRX cranes are ideal for rough terrain lifting applications, such as those where access is restricted or those with low load-bearing surfaces.

Valla recently delivered two of its 75E mobile cranes to Ainscough Crane Hire. The 7.5-tonne capacity units will be put to work at the massive Heathrow Terminal 5 project under principal contractor AMEC.



MITIE ends access activities

Generation, which specialises in the hire and sale of both façade scaffold and alloy towers, has been bought by a team led by current managing director Mark Clifford. The company made £700,000 in the year ending March 2004, while Mitie expects to take a £3.4 million exceptional loss on the sale.

"The sale of Generation is the appropriate strategic move for Mitie," said Mitie chief executive, Ian Stewart. "I wish the management team every success in their venture." Mitie sold its powered access division over two years ago, also to a management buy-out. That company, now known as The Platform Company, has flourished since it left the group and was one of the fastest growing rental companies in Cranes & Access' UK/Ireland 2004 Top 20 Survey.

Hewden in £12 million plant investment

Hewden has invested £12 million in new crane and powered access equipment in what the company claims is the largest single transaction of its kind in Europe. The order comprises a total of 25 cranes and 180 access platforms, supplied by Demag Cranes and Genie UK respectively, both divisions of the Terex Corporation. The cost for the complete order

was met entirely from Hewden's capital reserves. The crane order itself comprises four, 100-tonne capacity AC-100s, ten, 35-tonne AC 35-Ls, five 50-tonne AC50-1s, three 30-tonne AC 30 City units and three 80-tonne AC80-2s.

"Hewden's healthy balance sheet means it has been able to invest in new equipment to meet increasing

demand at a time when many other rental companies in the industry are retrenching," said Martin Hender, general manager of Hewden's crane and access division. A selection of the new equipment was recently presented at Hewden's Elevation '04 event held at the firm's Castleford depot. *This story will be covered more extensively in the November/December issue.



Aichi appoints UK dealer

Height for Hire/EasiUplifts, the Ireland-based access rental company, has been appointed as the new official dealer of Aichi platforms for the UK and Ireland. The announcement was made at the recent Platformers' Days event in Hohenroda, Germany.

The appointment was followed-up with the purchase of four Aichi crawler mounted booms, including two 12-metre SR21Bs and two 21-metre SR21As. The four booms will be delivered later in the year and join the EasiUplifts fleet in Scotland. Also on the company's shopping list at Platformers' Days was a new 42-metre working height Falck Schmidt Falcon Spider. The unit will be delivered to the UK in early 2005.

Pictured, Height for Hire's Harry McArdle (right) and John Ball (second from left) seal the new dealership with Kenjiro Nezuka (left), Aichi's executive officer, International Division and Theo Plichta European sales manager.



Lavendon confirms interim results

Lavendon, the largest powered access company in Europe and owner of Nationwide Access in the UK, Zoom in continental Europe, and Rapid Access in the Middle East, has announced half year group revenues to June 30th of just over £50 million.

The firm's UK operation, Nationwide Access, increased its revenues, but higher costs, which Lavendon said were due to various incentives that it claims will pay-off in the second half and beyond, almost halved operating income.

In Germany, Lavendon is still struggling to combat highly fragmented competition and a market that is improving at a very slow pace. After the improvement in rates in late 2003, smaller competitors attacking the company's market position forced it to reduce rates.

"Whilst we remain committed to maintaining a strong market position in Germany, it is now clear that the prospects in the short- to medium-term no longer support our current scale and cost structure," said Lavendon chief executive Kevin Appleton. "Consequently, we are presently involved in a detailed review of our German operation to reshape the business to a scale that is more attuned to the current market opportunities available. This review will be concluded during the second half of the year"

In other markets, the French operation reported a small decline in revenues, but held its operating income at last year's levels, while Spain marginally increased revenues, but with a slightly weaker profit. The star of the operation for the first half was Rapid Access in the Middle East, which both increased revenues and profits.

Full story on Vertikal.net.

Spierings SK599-AT5 goes down a storm

Berlin-based crane rental company, Mobi-Hub, has taken delivery of the first of a batch of new orders for Spierings' SK599-AT5 folding mobile crane, first seen painted in the colours of Ainscough Crane Hire at bauma earlier in the year. This latest compact unit is an upgraded version of the established SK598-AT5 with an extra two-metres of jib at 50-metres and an increased lift capacity to nine tonnes. The unit utilises the same fully automatic folding system as used on the six-axle SK1265-AT6 Mighty Tiny model.

Several SK599-AT5 units will also be making their to the UK in the coming months thanks to further orders from Bernard Hunter Crane Hire, Bryn Thomas Crane Hire, John Sutch Crane Hire, City Lifting and Birmingham Crane Hire Company. A further unit will also be delivered to Van Marwijk Kraanverhuur of The Netherlands. Other recent deliveries include a Spierings SK488-AT4 to German crane hire company, Neeb, while Montaco of Belgium and Flück Zurich of Switzerland each received an SK1265-AT6 (pictured).



HEADING THROUGH EUROPE



RAMSES

BISON PALFINGER

BISON is one of the most innovative manufacturers of truck-mounted aerial work platforms. Just as Europe is growing “bigger and bigger”, growth is forecast for BISON. Besides, together with its strong partner PALFINGER, things can be made a lot easier: opening up new markets in Europe, developing even more efficient products, but above all, dedicating more support to existing and potential customers. In brief: together with PALFINGER, BISON will outgrow itself.* So get ready!

* Subject to regulatory approval by the Austrian antitrust authority.

www.bisonpalfinger.com



Crane producers lay down STGO rules

With just over a month to go until new STGO plates must be fitted to cranes in the UK, the UK representatives of four of the world's main crane manufacturers, Grove Cranes, Kato Cranes, Liebherr Great Britain and Terex Demag, have informed the Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA) and crane users of the procedures to be undertaken.

For the benefit of C&A readers, the procedures have been set out as follows;

New cranes

Manufacturers will provide;

- STGO plate for permanent fixing to carrier cab door.
- Loose sticky backed label showing road speeds based on axle loads and tyre size to be displayed in carrier cab.
- Documentation to be inserted in Operators Manual.

The above will be supplied free of charge for all new cranes delivered after 1 August 2003. Owners must apply to the manufacturer stating STGO category required.

Older cranes

- Owners to complete CPA or manufacturer's registration form and return signed with weighbridge ticket.

The in-cab label with speeds.

- Manufacturer will supply requested STGO plate, sticky label and documentation for Operators Manual.
- Manufacturer will record request in crane records.

Cost of STGO registration

- All cranes delivered after 1 August, 2003 will be free of charge.
- All cranes delivered prior to 1 August, 2003 will be charged in accordance with the following scale: -

1 crane:	£100.00
2 – 5 cranes:	£75.00 each
6 – 25 cranes:	£50.00 each
+ 26 cranes:	£25.00 each

All charges are exclusive of VAT. All forms to be submitted at the same time to qualify for quantity discount.

Implementation

The fitting of the revised STGO plates becomes a legal requirement from 1, December 2004. Owners are requested to complete the registration forms and return them to manufacturers well in advance of the deadline. Manufacturers anticipate a turnaround time of two to four weeks, dependent on volume of returns, and say that they cannot be held responsible for non supply of plates prior to the implementation date due to late receipt of correctly completed forms.

Vertikal Press strengthens team



The Vertikal Press, publishers of Cranes & Access, Kran & Bühne and Vertikal.net has appointed two new team members to help build the services and quality of information provided to the Lifting and Access industries.

Jürgen Hildebrandt joins the Freiburg office in Germany as deputy editor alongside Rüdiger Kopf, editor of Kran & Bühne, while Pam Penny (left) will join the UK-based team responsible for customer services and support and group marketing.

GT calls in the administrators

Geoff Till access has filed for voluntary administration and appointed Poppleton & Appleby as administrators. The move, which began with a winding up order last week, has been made in order to gain protection while GT restructures its debts and balance sheet.

The company, which operates 425 aerial lifts, invested heavily three to four years ago in a major fleet renewal and expansion, opening new locations in Telford, Gloucester and Hereford. The UK commercial construction market

subsequently slumped, highlighting an over supply in the powered access market that led to poor utilisation and savage cutting of rental rates. The heavily indebted company, as with many other companies that over expanded at the time, struggled, but managed to keep its head above water during the most difficult part of the downward cycle.

Senior managers at GT told C&A that the significant pick up in UK market conditions since Spring 2004 has boosted revenues and rates returning the company to healthy monthly profitability.

SGB acquires Mastclimbers

SGB UK, part of Harsco Corporation of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, has acquired the full ownership of its Mastclimbers Ltd joint-venture partnership, the UK's leading supplier of mast climbing work platforms.

SGB acquired a majority shareholding in Mastclimbers Ltd, led by Andrew Reid, in 2001, since which time it has expanded significantly, adding Ashtead's A-plant mastclimber business last year and growing from a regional base in Scotland into a national supplier serving the broader UK market. Mastclimbers Ltd operates one of the largest fleets of mastclimber platforms in Europe, making it also the UK market leader by far. SGB has also been expanding its international fleet, having acquired additional mast climber units in Denmark earlier this year to become the country's largest mast climber rental firm.

"We see the use of mast climbing platforms continuing to increase," said Steven Shine, SGB's managing director for the UK, "particularly in high-rise residential and commercial construction where there is growing pressure on build and maintenance cycle times without compromising the safe movement of men and materials."



TEREX DEMAG Terex-Demag GmbH & Co. KG			
STGO " category	Axle loads up to [kg]	Tyre size ¹⁾	
		14.00 R25	16.00 R25 or 20.5 R25
C	13500	34	48
	14500	25	40
	15500	18	34
	16500	12	28

The table gives the maximum permitted travel speed related to vehicle category, axle load and tyre size²⁾. This table is only valid and may only be applied in connection with the instruction manual.

Note: ¹⁾STGO: Special Type General Order, 2003 No. 1926
²⁾including speed limitations set by the tyre manufacturer
³⁾speed limitations for other tyres as set by the tyre manufacturer
⁴⁾speed limitations for other tyres as set by the tyre specification

the Platform company



The Platform Company is delighted to announce the launch of its Vehicle Mount Division.

Based in Heathrow, we have invested in excess of £1.5m in our new division to bring you the very latest in vehicle mounted access platforms.

Working at height made easy

- Convenient**
Drive away on a standard UK driving licence. You're in control - no separate operator
- Responsive**
Self drive or allow us to deliver and collect
- Flexible**
Daily, weekly & long term hire options
- Hassle free**
Comprehensive insurance available



Heathrow (Vehicle Mounts) Amberley Way
Green Lane, Hounslow, Middlesex. TW4 6BH
Tel: 020 8577 5400 Fax: 020 8577 2221

020 8577 5400

www.platformcompany.co.uk



Falck Schmidt goes one step beyond

German rental company Zeilinga/BT Skylift called on the help of Falck Schmidt recently when it was faced with the challenge of providing access for work on the second floor of the new DIFA building complex in Berlin. Whatever the solution, the unit was required to enter the complex through a hotel doorway and climb a set of stairs to reach the second floor.

Working closely Zeilinga/BT Skylift and the building's architects and owner, Falck Schmidt developed

the Falcon Spider FS370C for the task. Mounted on a double articulated crawler chassis fitted with non-marking rubber tracks, the 37-metre unit was able to pass through a 1.2- by 2-metre doorway. Most importantly for the job, though, was the unit's unique double tracked chassis, which enabled it to climb the steep 35-degree stairs in order to reach the second floor, where it is used for maintenance work.

Full story on Vertikal.net.

UK crane industry leads by example

Christian-Jacques Vernazza, president of leading crane and access hirer Mediaco and vice president of SNUG, (Syndicat Nationale des Utilisateurs des Grues), the french National Association of Crane Users, has called on French crane hire companies to look to the UK crane hire industry for examples of how to improve its profitability and raise its professionalism.

Mr Vernazza was updating SNUG members on the progress being made by ESTA, the European Association of Heavy Haulage Transport and Mobile Cranes, of which he is the current president, at a recent meeting in Paris. During a speech, Mr Vernazza stressed the need for European Crane hirers to adopt consistent levels of professionalism and common standards.

Full story on Vertikal.net.

MILLENNIUM

CRANES TO HIRE COVERING THE U.K



Specialists In:

- CRANE HIRE
- CONTRACT LIFTING
- MINI CRANE DIVISION
- MACHINERY INSTALLATION & REMOVALS
- LIFT AND SHIFT
- TRANSPORT
- TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT
- CITB REGISTERED PERSONNEL



WE ALSO PROVIDE A COMPLETE RANGE OF SAFETY CONSULTANCY TO CITB STANDARDS

01303 263999

US rental man joins A-Plant's access business

Steve Shaughnessy, former CEO of Shaughnessy Equipment and chief operating officer of NES Rentals in the US, has accepted a position in the UK with Ashtead's UK business, A-Plant, responsible for the UK access hire business.

Mr Shaughnessy grew up in the equipment business, helping with the Boston-based family-owned distribution business, and later going on to lead Shaughnessy

Equipment until it was acquired by NES in the late 1990s. Shaughnessy was a regional vice president and later COO for NES.

A-Plant took the number five spot in the UK in this year's Cranes & Access UK/Ireland Top 20 with a fleet of over 1,500 aerial platforms. Its US Sunbelt division claims to be number four in the US rental market operating one of the country's largest aerial fleets.

Tanfield Group buys SEV

SEV, or Smiths Electric Vehicles - owner of Aerial Access, has been acquired by engineering and manufacturing group Tanfield. With its new addition, Tanfield will almost double in size. The deal was structured on a combined cash and shares basis and is worth around £3.2 million. Tanfield paid £2.2 million in cash and a further £1 million in new ordinary shares for SEV, which employs 110 people at its Team Valley factory.

Tanfield Group was formed in January this year after a take-over by the digital imaging company Comeleon. Since then, it has moved from short-term, sub-contract

engineering work to specialist technical assembly on longer-term contracts, including defence contracts. Founded in 1920, SEV, which has an annual turnover in excess of £10 million, designs and manufactures electric vehicles and has in recent years been the parent company of Aerial Access Systems and the UK distributor for a small range of other access products, such as ITECO.

In its interim results announced last month, Tanfield reported a growing order book, an increased turnover to more than £5 million and a strengthened workforce from 160 to 230 persons despite pre-tax losses of £2.5 million.

Skyjack makes further mark on UK rental industry

Skyjack, the Canada-based elevating work platform producer, has received further significant orders for its machines from two leading UK access rental firms.

Panther Platforms of Dunstable, Bedfordshire, has placed an order for 100 units from Skyjack's compact and conventional scissor platform range, which includes the models 3219, 3226 and 4632 with working heights of 7.6, 9.7 and 11.5 metres respectively, taking Panther's Skyjack fleet to around 200 units. The latest models will be distributed among Panthers' four UK depots.

In another order, Kimberly Access of Stoke-on-Trent has opted for over 20, 17.1-metre working height 9250 Double-Deck scissor lifts from Skyjack's full-size rough terrain range.

According to Gary Smith, Kimberly Access managing director, the units were partly chosen due to the integral generator for a 110v power source to the deck. Both orders follow the purchase of 135 various boom types from Skyjack's line-up by AFI Aerial Platforms, which recently completed a £1.5 million fund-raising process with venture capital firm, Northern Venture Managers (NVM).

for sale • for sale • for sale • for sale
CRAWLER CRANES



- **Used Sumitomo SC350**
35T Capacity c/w 34 Metres Main Boom & Short Jib - POA
- **Used Sumitomo LS118RH5**
50T Capacity c/w 42 Metres Main Boom - POA
- **Used Sumitomo SC800-2**
80T Capacity c/w 47 Metres Main Boom & Short Jib - POA
- **Used Sumitomo SC1000-2S**
100T Capacity c/w 55 Metres Main Boom & Short Jib - POA

NRC PLANT is the UK & Eire distributor for new Hitachi Sumitomo Hydraulic Crawler Cranes

For further information:

NRC Plant Ltd
Neagron House
Stanford Road
Orsett RM16 3BX
United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)1375 361616
Telefax: +44 (0)1375 361818
email: sales@nrcplant.co.uk
web: nrcplant.co.uk

PJ Allan Sales & Services



Truck Mounts	8 - 40m
Van Mounts	10 - 16m
Trailer Mounts	9 - 26m
Scissor Lifts	Elec & Diesel
Booms	Elec & Diesel

Please contact us and let us help with your new or used requirements

Tel: 01858 469 400
Fax: 01858 410 646
Email: sales@pjallanaccess.co.uk



YOUR COMPETITION WILL BE HERE

More than 100,000 professionals just like you count on CONEXPO-CON/AGG for the full spectrum of innovations in machinery and emerging technologies. With 2,300 manufacturers and service providers spanning more space than at any other construction and construction materials industries exposition in the world in 2005, CONEXPO-CON/AGG offers infinite opportunities to compare products and meet face-to-face

with suppliers. Powerful education and training programs for contractors, materials producers and public officials will feature industry experts and high-impact information that can add to your company's success. CONEXPO-CON/AGG 2005 is the world's #1 Source for the construction and construction materials industries and your #1 Source for industry education. Your competition will be here.

**SAVE \$30
WHEN YOU
REGISTER
TODAY!**

WHAT ABOUT YOU?

THE INTERNATIONAL GATHERING PLACE



MARCH 15-19, 2005 • LAS VEGAS, USA

The world's largest international gathering place in 2005 for the construction and construction materials industries.

Aggregates Processing • Asphalt • Attachments • Compaction • Concrete • Drilling • Earthmoving • Lifting
Power Transmission • Safety • Trenching & Shoring • Utility Equipment • and much more

Visit our website and click on "International Visitors" to plan your visit today.

www.conexpoconagg.com

Registration • Hotel & Travel • Exhibits • Education Programs • International Delegations • Visa Information

Or, register by phone: +1 847-940-2156



Wim Jansink has returned to Snorkel after several years away from the company. For many years, Mr Jansink was the main point of contact for Snorkel in Germany, Holland, Belgium and most of Central Europe. After difficulties at Kranlyft, and the demise of Snorkel, he joined Haulotte in The Netherlands before returning to the new Snorkel team.



In January of this year, the US-based **Gardner Denver** group acquired **Syltone Plc** and its subsidiary companies. As part of the corporate re-branding of Syltone UK Ltd, manufacturer of Priestman Powered Access and Airdrive on-board power systems, the name 'Syltone UK Ltd' has been changed to Gardner Denver UK Ltd. The existing Syltone product brand names, Priestman Powered Access and Airdrive, will continue within the new organisation.

Mainline Tool and Plant Hire, Hall Plant Hire Ltd, East Midlands Civil Engineering and Cawrey Ltd have become the first UK customers to take delivery of Bobcat's new 12-metre lift height T35120 telehandler. The orders were secured through Bobcat's Loughborough-based dealer, Butler Reynolds. **Independant Access Supplies** has been acquired by a transport, vehicle leasing and logistics firm from outside the access industry. A new management team, which includes Andrew Fishburn, previously responsible for UK sales and European marketing at JLG, and Stuart Honeywood, previously responsible for product support at JLG UK, is expected to take over at Independent.

Plant Equipment Ltd has opened a new purpose-built lorry loader crane training facility at its Alfreton facility in Derbyshire to cover all makes of lorry loaders, including Terex-Atlas, Hiab and Palfinger. Fully qualified ALLMI instructors carry out all courses, including 'Full Operators Licence' and Sling and Chain courses. For further information and course dates, please contact Tel: 01773 836060 e-mail: storesbp@plantequip.co.uk

Greenwood in the UK has taken delivery of its first 25-metre Roto MCSS telehandler, taking the hire firm's Merlo fleet up to 72 units. Greenwood also lays claim to largest Roto telehandler fleet in the UK with 18 units. The latest Merlo unit was delivered through supplier, Selwood.

AFI is running a series of three-day IPAF training courses in the use of booms and scissor lifts at the headquarters of the Hampshire Constabulary's Force Support Unit. "The Unit is using booms and scissors to deal with a varied range of incidents where they need to gain access at height," said Paul Maxwell, AFI training manager. "The machines are also required for observation work at major events such as football matches and festivals."



Italy-based industrial crane producer **Valla S.p.a** named Valla UK Top Dealer of the Year at its first international dealer conference at its production facility in Piacenza Italy last week. Peter Hird Junior (centre), managing director of Valla UK, accepted the award from Antonio Valla (left), grandson of the company's founder and managing director Maurizio Manzini.



Vanson Cranes has supplied one of its VC30 self-erecting tower crane for a major refurbishment project on the Strood and Higham railway line in Kent for main contractor Network Rail. The crane is being used to handle the segments and other materials needed to line two railway tunnels on the Strood to London rail link.

The German tower crane producer, **MAN Wolffkran**, part of the MAN AG conglomerate, has celebrated its 150th anniversary. In 1854, Friedrich August



Wolf established the Heilbron iron foundry where, 19 years later, Julius Wolff designed what the company claimed to be the world's first top slewing tower crane.

Loxam Access in the UK has become the first UK firm to take delivery of the new heavy-duty, 40-metre working height Wumag WT450 truck-mounted platform. Delivered through Wumag's UK dealer, SkyKing, the unit has been put straight to work on the new 90,000-seater Wembley Stadium development project.



Nationwide Access has taken delivery of its first CTE Z20.

A van-mounted platform capable of lifting two people to a height of 20-metres, Nationwide purchased the Z20 through CTE UK specifically for long-term rental to Bradford City Council for various maintenance duties.

At the time of going to press, C&A learned of a massive new crane order by **Ainscough Crane Hire**. The company has ordered ten 60-tonne capacity LTM1055-3.1 all terrain cranes, five, 100 tonne LTM1100-5.1 and two 220 tonne LTM1220-5s. Deliveries will begin in December and continue into January and February 2005.

Active Rentals of Hamilton, Scotland has completed a £3 million investment in new powered access equipment, taking the firm's aerial fleet to over 100 units. Active Rentals managing director, Andrew McCusker, said that expansion of the company's aerial rental and training business will continue into 2005 in order to meet the growing demand for its high quality local service.

The **HSE** has announced a further six weeks intensive consultation on the new Temporary Work at Height Directive. The key remaining issue is the 'two-metre rule'. The construction industry wishes to keep the new rules' application to work over two metres. At the moment it applies to any height.

Ireland's **EasiUpLifts** is intending to open a new business in the South Midlands, UK. The company already has a location in Scotland, but the new business will mark its first entry into England. The new business will be dedicated to specialist machines such as large Falck Schmidt Falcon booms and Aichi crawler mounted booms. The company was recently appointed as the UK and Ireland dealer for Aichi. The company is seeking a business development manager responsible for "setting up the business and building it into a strong profit centre within the group," said EasiUpLifts' Harry McArdle. At the same time the company is looking for suitable premises (see advert on page 48).

A 12-year-old girl was killed and other seriously injured last week when a crane owned by Mediaco toppled over while dismantling a tower crane in Nantes, France. Early investigation reports state that the correct paperwork had not been filed for the lift. The 41-year-old operator had turned off the overload device in an attempt to avoid an overhead cable. The driver has been placed under Court Control.

Holland Lift has given its flagship 33.5-metre scissor lift a revamp. The new model, dubbed the Megastar G-320.DL 3044WD.SN, has a 34-metre working height, 1,000-kilogram lift capacity and auto levelling. The first production unit has been sold to Kimberley Access in the UK and will be delivered in April.

C&A would like to highlight that the working height of the Teupen Euro B25 is 24.42 metres and not 22.42 metres as reported in last issue's Vertical Check report, and that HTC Plant Tower Cranes operates a fleet of 220 tower cranes and not 170 as was reported in the C&A Top 20 Survey.