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The rough with the compact

The rough terrain (RT) scissor lift has long been a popular access solution among UK contractors for a wide variety of jobs. And the choice is now wider than ever.

C&A reports.

Initially, UK hirers avoided the extra cost of four-wheel drive and outrigger options on RT scissors—a decision that many now regret thanks to the current poor resale value of two-wheel drive, non-outrigger models. Today though, you would be hard pushed to find a RT scissor for sale without four-wheel drive and outriggers fitted as standard.

Big diesel scissors have typically been specified for façade work, steel erection and finishing jobs, such as sprinkler installation, and for applications requiring high capacities and big decks, in addition to the rough terrain capability itself.

In recent years the market has broken down into two main categories, one being for the full-sized machines with large platforms - ideal for cladding and façade work - and the other for the more recently developed compact rough terrain units designed to equally cope with applications inside and out.

The reduced platform sizes and lower capacities of the compact units, has however, tended to limit them to less demanding applications. With most electric scissor lifts now limited to working on smooth hard "slab" surfaces, the compact RT scissor has become accepted for indoor/outdoor and on/off slab projects, with most manufacturers also offering electric versions of these units, predominantly for indoor jobs and around the outside of buildings.

The bother boys

When the going gets really impossible then attention should be directed towards the few crawler-mounted units that have begun to grace the market in recent years. Holland Lift of The Netherlands and Aichi of Japan – the company no longer imports its scissors into Europe - have been the mainstay of this market with units developed and targeted at jobs such as green house construction and repair, particularly in The Netherlands, where the reclaimed ground has no base to it, thus demanding maximum flotation.



Skyjack SJ 7135.

Most of these rough ground combating units are equipped with a pinion mounted scissor stack that provides a levelling function for applications where uneven ground could potentially pose a problem to a less adaptable machine.

Already an established crawler undercarriage producer for Holland Lift, Omega is another Dutch



Genie GS-5390.

producer, and was seen exhibiting for the first time at the recent Platformers' Days event in Hohenroda, Germany. The company has now begun building its own units with special features to accommodate the important Dutch glass-house business. And plans are already in place to introduce the units to the UK market later this year.

Putting out the feelers

Hydraulic levelling outriggers, or rather levelling jacks, as they should not fall outside of the machines' width, are now essential on big RT scissors. They are used to level the machine on sites with uneven ground, rather than for additional stability. Many units today are equipped with auto-levelling outriggers that allow levelling to be carried out with the push of a single button.

In spite of the benefits of this innovation, many users still insist on an override so that jacks can be set individually in some situations. Most, but not all, compact

RT scissors also now offer levelling jacks, but the take up is mixed, given that these units tend to be used in and around buildings, where the need is not as great.

The platform size of RT scissors has also been the subject of significant change in recent years. In the early days, a simple deck extension provided a longer platform without making the unit too long for transportation, while offering some outreach to clear obstacles.

Canadian based producer Skyjack changed everything and kicked-off the major trend towards dual deck extensions, designed originally for David Meek of the UK. The dual deck extensions have since become popular for cladding work throughout Europe. Today, it is more-or-less the norm for units with lift heights of over 15 metres to be equipped with a 7-metre or more extended decks to accommodate the latest standard one piece cladding panels.

Today the demand for dual decks in the UK is such that new entrant

Holland Lift has designed a new dual-deck option for its larger units, despite a huge deck and single extension already available on its machines.

In order to help handle these big panels, in some cases weighing over 250 kilograms, UK hirers have developed automatic cladding devices that boost cladding productivity dramatically. Nationwide chose to develop its own device, the Power clad, while others have worked with manufacturers such as JLG and Skyjack.

Users could be excused for assuming that the lift capacities on similar sized RT scissors are largely the same, but even on the massive seven-metre decks, lift capacities can range from as low as 300 kilograms up to almost a 1,000 kilograms.

The categories

As a quick reference guide, the following tables have been provided to show the wide choice available and the various RT scissor categories. Figures 1 and 2 highlight the two main categories – compact RT scissors generally under two metres wide and three metres long, and full-size units over two metres wide and three metres long respectively.

Figures 3 and 4 show specialist units - heavy-duty scissor lifts with lift capacities over 900 kilograms, and long deck scissors with platforms over seven metres long. Finally, crawler mounted units have been listed in figure 5.

Fig 1. Compact RT scissors (under 2m wide and 3m long)

Make	Model	Platform height (m)	Platform cap.(kg)	Overall length	Overall width	Gradeability	Platform ext. (m)
Haulotte	Cmpt 8 DX	6.40	565 (max)	2.65	1.80	40 (4wd)	1.20
Genie	GS-2668 RT	7.90	567 (max)	2.67	1.73	40 (4wd)	1.15
JLG	260MRT	7.92	570 (max)	2.67	1.75	35 (4wd)	1.22
UpRight	XRT 27 (E)	8.20	567 (max)	2.69	1.77	40 (4wd)	yes
Haulotte	Cmpt 10 DX	8.20	565 (max)	2.65	1.80	40 (4wd)	1.2
Haulotte	Cmpt 10 RTE	8.20	565 (max)	2.65	1.80	25	1.2
Skyjack	7127	8.20	680 (max)	3.23	1.82	30 (4wd)	1.4
Holland Lift	Y-83DL16 4WD/N	8.30	350 (max)	3.32	1.66	30 (4wd)	0.9
Genie	GS-3268 RT	9.75	454 (max)	2.67	1.73	35 (4wd)	1.15
Iteco	10160D (E)	9.90	400 (max)	2.65	1.70	35 (4wd)	1.2
UpRight	XRT 33 (E)	10.10	454 (max)	2.69	1.77	35 (4wd)	yes
Haulotte	Cmpt 12 DX	10.14	565 (max)	2.65	1.80	40 (4wd)	1.2
Haulotte	Cmpt 12 RTE	10.14	450 (max)	2.65	1.80	25	1.2
Airo	SF 1000D 4WD	10.18	450 (max)	2.97	1.70	35 (4wd)	0.85
Holland Lift	X-105DL18 4WD/P/N	10.50	500 (max)	3.66	1.94	30 (4wd)	1.4
Skyjack	7135	10.70	454 (max)	3.23	1.82	30 (4wd)	1.4



Haulotte Compact 12 RTE.

Level up with the RT Speed Level



If you want more from your RT platform than powerful 4WD, excellent gradeability, rugged diesel power and a big platform area, take a closer look at the **RT Speed Level**.

The **RT Speed Level** is unique - it needs no outriggers yet it works on slopes, ridges and even steps. It has the ability to level automatically from the platform - 13 degrees side to side and 9 degrees fore and aft.

If you want more from your RT platform call today for a demonstration.



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Fig 2. Full size RT scissors (over 2m wide and 3m long)

Make	Model	Platform height (m)	Platform cap.(kg)	Overall length	Overall width	Gradeability	Platform ext. (m)
Snorkel	SR2584	7.50	793 (max)	3.70	2.10	40 (4wd)	1.3
UpRight	SL26SL	8.0	680 (max)	3.79	2.13	35 (4wd)	no
UpRight	SL30SL	9.0	590 (max)	4.39	2.13	35 (4wd)	no
Skyjack	8831	9.40	1,134 (max)	3.49	2.21	30 (4wd)	2.4
UpRight	LX31SD/DD	9.45	907 (one ext)	4.0	2.29	35 (4wd)	0.8/1.6
UpRight	LX31 Supa-Deck	9.45	907 (one ext)	4.0	2.29	35 (4wd)	3.76
Snorkel	SR3284	9.80	567 (max)	3.70	2.10	37 (4wd)	1.3
Haulotte	H 12 SX	10.0	900 (one ext)	4.12	2.25	45 (4wd)	1.0
JLG	3394RT	10.05	1,020 (max)	3.81	2.39	45 (4wd)	1.22
Manitou	120 DLX S	10.10	560 (max)	3.66	2.31	40 (4wd)	1.2
Genie	GS-3384 RT	10.10	1,134 (max)	3.94	2.13	50 (4wd)	1.52/1.22 (op)
Genie	GS-3384 SuperDeck	10.10	1,134 (max)	4.88	2.13	50 (4wd)	7.30 (overall)
Snorkel	SR4084	12.10	340 (max)	3.80	2.10	32 (4wd)	1.3
Airo	SF 1200D	12.23	700 (max)	4.20	2.110	35 (4wd)	2.34
UpRight	LX41SD/DD	12.34	680 (one ext)	4.0	2.29	35 (4wd)	0.84/1.64
UpRight	LX41 Supa-Deck	12.34	567 (two ext)	4.0	2.29	35 (4wd)	3.1
Skyjack	8841	12.50	908 (max)	3.49	2.21	30 (4wd)	2.4
Haulotte	H 15 SX	13.00	700 (one ext)	4.12	2.25	45 (4wd)	1.0
JLG	4394RT	13.10	680 (max)	3.81	2.39	45 (4wd)	1.22
Holland Lift	Q-135DL244WD/P/N	13.50	500 (max)	4.65	2.44	30 (4wd)	1.8
Manitou	145 DLX S	14.50	450 (max)	3.66	2.31	40 (4wd)	1.2
Skyjack	8243	14.90	454 (max)	3.23	2.08	30 (4wd)	1.4
UpRight	LX50SD/DD	15.1	454 (max)	3.96	2.29	24 (4wd)	0.84/1.64
UpRight	LX50 Supa-Deck	15.1	340 (two ext)	3.96	2.29	24 (4wd)	3.1
JLG	500RTS	15.24	1,134 (max)	4.70	2.29	45 (4wd)	1.23
Haulotte	H 18 SX	16.0	600 (one ext)	4.12	2.25	45 (4wd)	1.0
Holland Lift	B-165DL254WD/P/N	16.50	650 (max)	4.74	2.44	30 (4wd)	1.8
Skyjack	8850	17.10	363 (max)	3.23	2.24	30 (4wd)	1.4
Skyjack	9250	17.10	907 (max)	4.47	2.34	25 (4wd)	3.0
Airo	SF 1700D4WD	17.28	500 (max)	4.33	2.24	40 (4wd)	2.5
Airo	SF 1700D 4WD2ld/2MA	17.28	500 (max)	4.33	2.24	40 (4wd)	2.34
Holland Lift	B-195DL254WD/P/N	19.50	500 (max)	4.74	2.44	30 (4wd)	1.8
Holland Lift	G-300DL30S4WDD/S/N	31.50	800 (max)	6.97	2.98	35 (4wd)	3.0

Fig 3. RT scissors with lift capacity of 900 kg plus

Make	Model	Platform height	Lift capacity
Skyjack	8831	9.40	1,134 (max)
UpRight	LX31SD/DD	9.45	907 (one ext)
UpRight	LX31 Supa-Deck	9.45	907 (one ext)
Haulotte	H 12 SX	10.0	900 (one ext)
Genie	GS-3384 RT	10.10	1,134 (max)
JLG	3394RT	10.05	1,020 (max)
JLG	500RTS	15.24	1,134 (max)
Skyjack	9250	17.10	908 (max)

Fig 4. RT scissors with decks over 7m

Make	Model	Platform height (m)	Extension/s (m)	Ext. deck length (m)
UpRight	LX31 Supa-Deck	9.45	3.01 (Supa-Deck)	7.01
Genie	GS 3384 SuperDeck	10.1	2.55 (front/rear)	7.30
Skyjack	9250	15.20	3.0 (front/rear)	7.27
JLG	500RTS	15.24	1.23 (500 RTS) 1.26 (500 RTS with Mega Deck) + 1.83 (optional)	7.62 (Mega Deck)
Holland Lift	G-300DL30 S 4WD/S/N	31.50	3.0 (single)	9.64



Holland Lift Y83DL 16/4WD.

Fig 5. Crawler mounted RT scissors

Make	Model	Platform height (m)	Platform cap.(kg)	Overall length (m)	Overall width (m)	Gradeability (%)	Platform extension (m)
Holland Lift	Y-70DL12-TR	7.0	400	3.00	1.20	35	1.4
Omegalift	TS 105-500	8.5	500	3.0	1.6	50	2.0
Holland Lift	X-105DL22-TR	10.8	500	3.50	2.15	35	1.4
Omegalift	TS 145-1000	12.1	1,000	4.0	2.5	50	4.0
Holland Lift	Q-135DL24-TR	14.0	500	4.52	2.40	35	1.8
Omegalift	TS 180-750	15.9	750	4.0	2.5	50	2.0



JLG 4394RT.



Iteco, the Italian manufacturer whose first products were large scissor lifts, has only recently introduced an RT unit, the compact 10160D and D(E) (pictured). the company is planning to launch a range of full size RTs with dual decks and high capacities, possibly as earlier as this year's SAIE show in Bologna, Italy.

UpRight launches new *Speed Level*

UpRight has announced the re-launch of its unique Speed Level, which from this month will be produced in Europe at the company's plant near Dublin. The Speed Level, which allows fast platform levelling on slopes and uneven ground offers working heights of 10 or 12 metres. The unit was first shown at the February 1990, ARA show in Anaheim where it was displayed as a prototype with automatic levelling.

Production units began to ship some seven months later with a much simpler manual levelling system using two switches and a level bubble. The delivery delay led to many of the initial, enthusiastic orders being cancelled as the economic recession of the early 1990s began to bite.

The product never truly recovered from that initial setback, but thousands of units have been delivered in the 14 years it has been in production. In recent years, a drive motor shaft problem emerged that UpRight found difficult to completely solve. However, since emerging from Chapter 11, UpRight has been unable to keep up with demand for the product.

According to UpRight, the new machine has been completely updated and redesigned with a new Perkins engine, a new drive train complete with oversized drive shafts, and the initial idea of automatic levelling is back. The company says that the new machines will offer both automatic and manual levelling, allowing the user to select his preference.

With its sizeable deck, four-wheel drive, oscillating axle and the ability to level on slopes or steps, without outriggers, and this upgrade, the unit should prove more popular than ever.



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