

cranes & access

February/March 2023 Vol.25 issue 1

www.vertikal.net

**BOOM LIFTS
ALTERNATIVE
LIFTING
POWER
SOLUTIONS**

**CONEXPO
PREVIEW**



DINGLI

Exceed · New Height

MODULAR DESIGN

85% of components are common

Engine

Electric

Hybrid

In recovery

access M20 MANUFACTURERS

1	JLG
2	Terex A
3	Dingli
4	Skyj

Global TOP3

2021 Industry Global Manufacturers Sales Ranking

*Data source: (Access International)



Working Height

Modular Boom Series

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Standard Container Transport For The Full Range





6



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New 80t Sennebogen tele-crawler, Niftylift-JLG patent issue, MEC's 'no-oil' Nano scissor, LGMG's 46ft electric RT scissor, Final sentences and fines for fatal Mecca crane overturn, Link-Belt to launch 250t AT, First all-electric Ruthmann, New 90t/m Effer crane, Terex invests in robotics, Klaas' All electric trailer crane, IAPA shortlists announced, New anti-entrapment guide, Manitou and Kiloutou to electrify used telehandlers, AFI system for quick off hires, Smaller 4.5m Navigator and Ruthmann's first 30m Hybrid plus the financials round-up...

BOOM LIFTS 17

While the self-propelled boom seems to have become a mature product the number of manufacturers has exploded in recent years as have the number of innovations. We review the reasons behind this, see the market reaction to JLG's innovative 670SJ Self-Levelling boom and interview Desmond Soh, chief operating officer with Sinoboam.

ALTERNATIVE LIFTING 29

The growing preference to prefabricate as much as possible off-site is leading to larger and heavier components, all of which need to be moved and lifted into place. But what about the road infrastructure? Can it cope? We talk with ESTA - the European Association of Abnormal Road Transport and Mobile Cranes - about the growing and damaging restrictions when using ageing infrastructure and look at several interesting projects from around the world.

POWER SOLUTIONS 42

The number of companies looking at electric power alternatives to their internal combustion powered equipment is growing in leaps and bounds with most focused on battery powered solutions. We take a look at the constantly improving technology for use in cranes, telehandlers and aerial work platforms.

CONEXPO 2023 PREVIEW 47

Conexpo 2020 will be remembered as the 'Covid 19' show when the reality of the pandemic really hit home for most of us. This year North America's largest construction equipment show should be back in full swing, the first of the big international construction equipment exhibitions to be operating as normal in terms of timing. While some of the major companies will not attend, there will still be plenty to see. We round up some of the potential highlights.

VERTIKAL DAYS FIRST PREVIEW 54

This year's Vertikal Days returns to Peterborough on the 10th and 11th May - a few days after the King's Coronation - with a fully loaded display of the latest lifting equipment. We outline the show's major elements and new exhibitors. The full Vertikal Days Show Guide will be in next month's C&A.

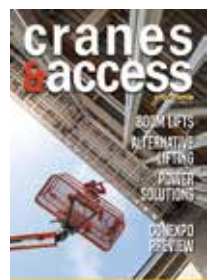
IN THE NEXT ISSUE Scheduled for publication in early May, the bumper next issue of Cranes & Access will include the full Vertikal Days 2023 show guide and features on Crawler cranes and heavy lifting, Van and small truck mounted platforms, a preview of the APEX show and the Conexpo review from Las Vegas. If you have any contributions or suggestions to make or are interested in advertising in this issue, please contact our editorial or sales teams.

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ON THE COVER

JLG's 670SJ Self Levelling boom lift is now being used on real life projects, five years after the first concept was revealed. On page 20 we see if this innovative boom really is a 'game changing machine' or just a 'solution looking for a problem'.





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COMMENT

IT'S GOOD TO TALK...

For those of us of a certain age - able to remember a time before mobile phones and personal computers - it was the accepted practise to talk to each other during mealtimes and chat with the family in the evening gathered around the TV.

How times have changed...

The latest Smart phones now mean you are carrying around more computing power in your pocket than was needed to land on the moon - capable of messaging friends around the world, watching TV, films and YouTube or sorting your bank finances. As a result, all you seem to see in restaurants and coffee shops is people glued to their screens.

All this tech is wonderful and amazing stuff, given that 35 years ago I purchased my first fax machine - the successor to the Telex (ask your parents if you don't know what those are). Developments in communication technology have been astounding and have shrunk the world for everyone. But 'face to face' contact has diminished.

This was exacerbated by the pandemic, with people forced to meet virtually from the safety of their homes, and deal with work issues without physical contact with the outside world. Some companies even used Zoom meetings to dismiss staff.

We are currently in the middle of an extended show season following a delayed Bauma in Germany, the ARA and Conexpo in the USA, as well as Vertikal Days, APEX and JDL to name a few.

What becomes stunningly clear when attending such events is how much more you gain from

being there by seeing, smelling and tasting the atmosphere, chatting face to face with people, sensing how a company's staff interact and seeing products in the metal rather than on screen.

Many manufacturers claim that AI (Artificial Intelligence) is the next big thing in development. It certainly has a place - possibly eliminating human error and achieving a faster, more reliable result - but it still has a very long way to go before it can outperform the human brain - if it ever will.

Driverless trains, busses and cars can bring enormous advantages in many applications. Sat Nav is almost indispensable and now people are talking about chat bots replacing a personally composed email or letter, or even writing an article or book.

Perhaps this is the future... a world designed by and for millennials who have grown up with PlayStations, iPads and Smart phones. But for me being more technologically advanced does not always make it better. Smart speakers may play music but they are nothing compared to the experience of a proper Hi-Fi system playing a full album or CD... and that is a shame. The return of vinyl might be one positive sign that people want to recapture this fuller experience?

Next week we will be at Conexpo in Las Vegas, a sensory feast on all levels that, if possible, has to be experienced first hand. It's the difference between visiting somewhere like St Peter's Basilica in Rome - smelling the incense, hearing the amazing organ and choir and feeling the peaceful reverence - or looking at a picture in a book. There really is no substitute - being there in person delivers so much more.

Mark Darwin

Comment and feedback is most welcome via post, email, fax or phone stating if we may publish them or not: editor@vertikal.net