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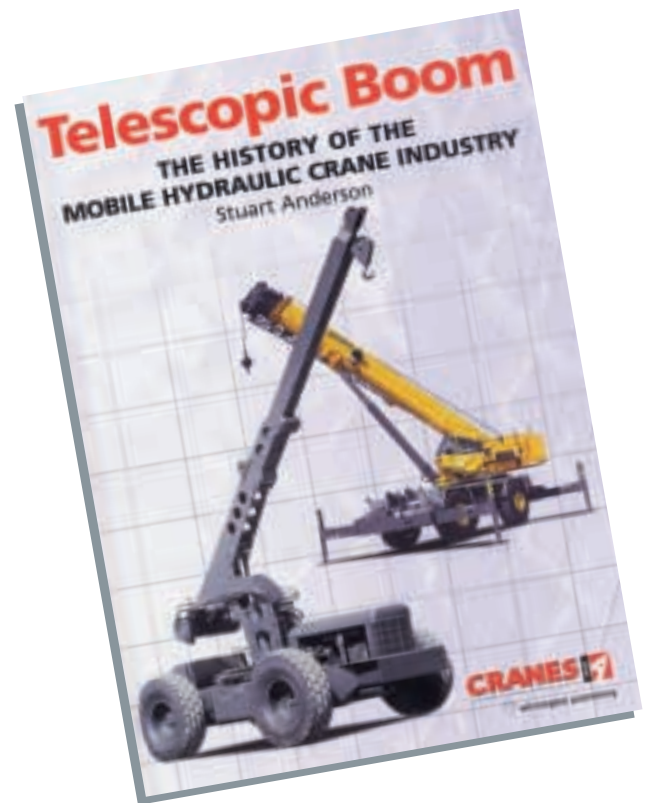
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BOOK REVIEW

A brief history of cranes



IN A CONTEST to find the most knowledgeable person on the world's crane industry, *Cranes & Access'* money would most definitely be on Stuart Anderson. Anderson, president of Chortsey Barr associates, has made available a small portion of his encyclopedic knowledge on cranes available to anyone who is interested, in his first book, "Telescopic Boom".

The book, published by Wilmington publishing, comprises 240 pages packed full of information covering the history, development, and statistical data of the world's crane industry. With region by region reviews, a comprehensive overview of 30 current crane manufacturers and 47 charts and tables, it is a highly useful reference work as well as an excellent introduction to the telescopic crane industry. A detailed history of the development of the telescopic crane beginning in the steam-age, together with over 100 photographs also makes this release an interesting and fascinating read.

Research for the book also unearthed some new facts, which have changed previous records, such as the world's first all-terrain was built almost 10 years earlier than previously thought, while Anderson discovered that a European company built the world's first swing-cab rough-terrain crane four years before Sargent launched its 4418, which was previously thought to be the original swing-cab unit.

This is probably the most authoritative book ever written about the hydraulic crane and a must for all crane spotters, who will find it difficult to put down. For the rest of us, it is an invaluable and useful reference work. Copies can be purchased from the Wilmington publishing at £70.

C&A