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2003 REVIEW



AINSCOUGH BUYS BALDWIN'S FLEET

AINSCOUGH Crane Hire fought off rival bids in late December 2002 to purchase Baldwins Industrial Services crane fleet to give the former company the largest crane fleet in the UK with around 650 cranes.
C&A: Dec/Jan 2002/3

IHI REACHES AGREEMENT WITH TEREX DEMAG

FIVE crawler cranes in the 50 to 200 tonne class were added to Terex Demag's existing European range under an agreement between the company and Japan-based IHI.
www.vertikal.net: January 20, 2003



HSE WARNS ON HAZARDOUS TOWER CRANES

THE Health & Safety Executive (HSE) warned of the dangers of using of climbing frames to "climb" tower cranes following the collapse of a luffing tower crane at Canary Wharf in May 2000, which killed three erection crew workers.
www.vertikal.net, February 20, 2003

GSL SCISSORS DANGEROUS. COMPANY CEASES TRADING

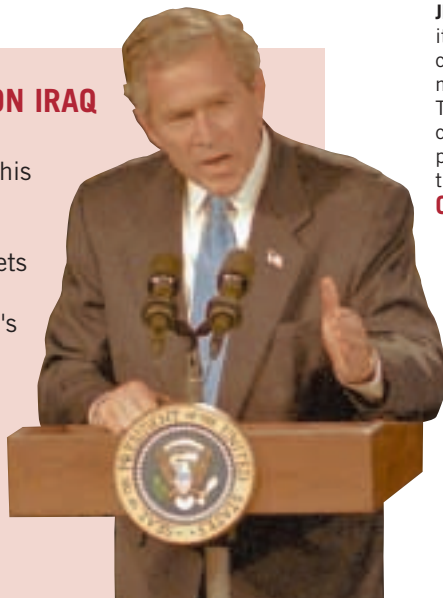
SPECIALIST manufacturer of scissor lifts, German Standard Lift (GSL), told its customers in March to stop using its equipment on safety grounds and subsequently ceased trading. Just a few days later (www.vertikal.net, March 27, 2003), C&A revealed that Gardemann, one of Germany's largest rental companies was aware that GSL knew about the dangerous quality problems affecting its scissor as early as 2001.
www.vertikal.net, March 25, 2003

BALDWIN'S BACK IN BUSINESS

RICHARD Baldwin, founder and chairman of the dispersed crane hire company, Baldwins Industrial Services, bounced back into business with a new company called Baldwins Crane Hire.
C&A: February/March, 2003

BUSH DECLARES WAR ON IRAQ

ON Thursday 20 March, US President George Bush told his fellow citizens that on his orders, coalition forces had begun striking selected targets of military importance to undermine Saddam Hussein's ability to wage war. According to Bush, this was the beginning of a broad and concerted campaign to disarm Iraq, free its people and defend the world from grave danger!



With 2003 now a fleeting memory, 2004 offers a clean slate for many as the new year begins to gather pace. In our 2003 review, we look back to bring you all the major headlines that have made their mark upon the pages of **C&A** and **Vertikal.net** during the past 12 months, plus a few momentous extras.

NB: The publication date of each story has been provided so it can be easily located and viewed in full on www.vertikal.net or the corresponding issue of **C&A**.

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– a room with

LAVENDON REJECTS MBO

LAVENDON'S executive directors and a private equity partner were involved in management buyout talks with Lavendon's board following the "unsolicited" approach from a potential buyer the previous year.
www.vertikal.net, March 4, 2004

JLG CLOSURES US PLANT

JLG announced a "repositioning of its operations" and the permanent closure of its Bedford scissor lift manufacturing plant in the US. The move was part of the company's ongoing rationalisation plan that cost around 265 workers their jobs.
C&A: February/March, 2003

JLG LAUNCHES PRO FIT SCISSOR RANGE

JLG used the Intermat stage to launch its Pro fit scissor platform range, described by some as, technically, the most radically different scissor design in almost nine years. The 1994 American Rental Association trade fair was the last time such a different product range was launched that changed the market. Will this be the next?

TEREX CLOSURES OLATHE FACTORY

TEREX Cranes announced the closure of its boom truck factory in Olathe, Kansas and that it was relocating operations to its truck and rough terrain crane factory at Waverly in the US.
March 2003

SNORKEL BOUGHT

PRIVATE equity investor, Elwood Holdings LLC became the proud new owner of the Snorkel International product line and business of Textron Inc subsidiary, OmniQuip Textron.
C&A: February/March, 2003

BASKET GOES BIG

Italy-based aerial platform manufacturer produced the world's highest self-propelled aerial platform, reaching a massive 50 metres.

C&A: April/May 2003

Basket's 50 metre 50 AJT.



MANITOWOC TO PRODUCE CRAWLER IN EUROPE

MANITOWOC disclosed exclusively to *C&A* back in May that its first ever European crawler crane would be rolling off its Wilhelmshaven production line by the end of the year.

www.vertikal.net, May 15, 2003

YELLOW ARMY

Two brand new crane models in the 90 tonne capacity, LTM 1090/3 and the 400 tonne capacity, LTM 1400/1 were among the many machines on show at Liebherr's open day at its Ehingen facility in Germany back in April. Plans to unveil the new 50 tonne capacity LTC 1050 compact "city" type crane at this year's Bauma exhibition were also unveiled.

www.vertikal.net, April 14, 2003



Liebherr's 1400/1 all terrain

FRANCE ON STRIKE

VISITORS to last year's Intermat exhibition in Paris were faced with several days of chaos as much of France's public transportation infrastructure was disrupted by strikes held against proposed pension reforms.



GROVE LAUNCHES MEGA WING-LIFT

GROVE ruffled a few feathers at Intermat with the launch of its Mega Wing-Lift boom support system which was displayed on a 450 tonne capacity GMK 7450 at the show.

Right: Grove's Mega Wing-Lift boom support system.



HSE BLITZ TO REDUCE FALLS FROM HEIGHT IN UK CONSTRUCTION

THE Health and Safety Executive began inspecting UK construction sites across the UK during the first two weeks of June as part of a Europe-wide, inspection-led campaign to reduce falls from height in construction.

www.vertikal.net, May 30, 2003

SUMITOMO AND HITACHI JOIN FORCES

THE crane divisions of Hitachi Construction Machinery and Sumitomo Heavy Industries joined forces to form Hitachi Sumitomo for the production of crawler cranes between 30 and 800 tonnes capacity.

www.vertikal.net, June 26, 2003

JOHN L GROVE DIES

IN June, the death of John L Grove was announced. A founder of Grove and JLG, Grove was one of the pioneers of both the hydraulic crane industry and the powered access business.

www.vertikal.net, June 19, 2003

JLG SIGNS \$100 MILLION OMNIQUIP DEAL

JLG signed a \$100 million (€88.16 million) agreement with US-based, Textron, to acquire its OmniQuip telescopic handler business, which included all operations relating to the Sky Trak and Lull brand of telehandler products. The company later acquired (www.vertikal.net, August 6, 2003) the property and related assets of a European compact telehandler line from Belgium-based firm Etablissements Fadeur.

www.vertikal.net, July 8, 2003



NEW MD FOR IPAF

The International Powered Access Federation (IPAF) appointed Tim Whiteman as its new MD. Whiteman took over the reigns from Paul Adorian who retired at the end of last year.

C&A: June/August 2003.

HEWDEN CLOBBERED IN COURT BATTLE

HEWDEN Stuart faced massive damages in August of up to £16.6 million following the Canary Wharf tower crane tragedy - legal argument focussed on interpretation of the CPA's hire contract conditions.

www.vertikal.net, August 8, 2003

03 a view

NATIONAL MOVES TO SHADY

MANITOWOC Crane Group announced that all production of its National Crane boom truck business would be transferred from its original Waverly (Nebraska) location, to its Shady Grove facility in the US, leading to the eventual closure of the Waverly plant.

June, 2004

MASTCLIMBERS BUYS A-PLANT FLEET

MASTCLIMBERS purchased a fleet of around 140 mast climber units, along with ongoing contracts at the time, from the UK subsidiary of the Ashtead Group, A-Plant, for a disclosed sum of £1.4 million.

SELECT MOVES INTO MOBILES

THE UK's leading tower crane rental company, Select Plant Hire, kick-started its move into the mobile crane rental sector with the purchase of nine Demag mobile cranes ranging from 50 to 200 tonnes lifting capacity.

C&A: June/August, 2003.

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PINGUELY-HAULOTTE BUYS INTO FRENCH RENTAL INDUSTRY

PINGUELY-Haulotte signed a €22.3 million (£15.54 million) acquisition agreement for LEV, the access rental activity arm of France-based truck rental company Fraikin. (Read the full interview with Pierre Saubot on www.vertikal.net, November 21, 2003). www.vertikal.net, September 19, 2003



CHINESE SPACE RACE

CHINA blasted 38-year-old astronaut Yang Liwei (left) into orbit in the Shenzhou V spacecraft from the Jiuquan launch site in the western Gobi Desert to become only the third country after Russia and the US capable of sending humans into space and returning them safely to Earth.

HEWDEN APPOINTS GM FOR CRANES AND CONTRACT LIFTING

HEWDEN announced the appointment of 42 year-old Martin Hender as general manager of its crane and contract lifting business. In November, Hewden also announced the departure of the managing director of its Instant Access business, John Hutchinson, after serving the company for 25 years. [C&A: September/October, 2003](http://www.vertikal.net)

SHUTTLELIFT CHANGES HANDS

STEPHAN Pfeifer and Jim Ashton became the new owners and president and chairman respectively of Shuttlelift, the US marine and industrial crane manufacturer, and part of the Marine Travelift group of companies.

www.vertikal.net, October 2003

NEW PRESIDENT FOR UPRIGHT

UPRIGHT announced the surprise departure of Ian Menzies, president and chief executive officer in October. John Coughlan was appointed as his replacement. (Read the full interview with Coughlan on www.vertikal.net, November 21, 2003).

www.vertikal.net, October 15, 2003

AUTOGRU PM ACQUIRES OIL & STEEL

ITALY-based knuckle boom manufacturer Autogru PM acquired 100 per cent of the capital of aerial platform manufacturer Oil & Steel.

www.vertikal.net, September 16, 2003

EUROPEAN MINI CRANE LAUNCH

UNIC Cranes Sales Europe and GGR Glass Services began hiring and selling the latest Japanese-built UNIC mini crawler crane.

www.vertikal.net, October 10, 2003



MANITOU MOVES IN ITALY

MANITOU Construzione Industriali (MCI) officially opened its new telehandler assembly facility in Castelfranco, Emilia Province, Italy. Operations at the €17 million (£11.83 million) factory will focus on the assembly and distribution of Manitou's MRT, MHT and MVT telescopic handlers.

www.vertikal.net, October 22, 2003

SCHUEY MAKES IT SIX

MICHAEL Schumacher rammed home his scarlet dream machine ahead of the field at Susuka, Japan, claiming his sixth Formula 1 World Championship victory, exceeding Argentinean-born Juan Fangio's record of 5 career titles.

Left: Michael Schumacher takes first place at Susuka and seals his sixth world title.



GOING, GOING...

WILSONS Auctions of Portadown in Ireland was instructed by a major finance institution to dispose of over 150 telescopic and articulated booms and self-propelled scissor lifts, the ex-fleet of Ireland-based rental company Elevation Equipment.

www.vertikal.net, October 2004

AFI OPENS GERMAN BUSINESS

AFI, the UK-based access rental company, headed by ex-Lavendon managing director David Shipman, disclosed its plans to open new rental operation in Germany with a team headed by ex-Zoom managing director Günther Aust.

www.vertikal.net, October 26, 2003



CRANE GIANTS IN COURT BATTLE

TEREX Cranes filed a patent infringement action against Liebherr Ehingen over similarities between the former company's SSL boom system and Liebherr's 'Y-guy' boom support system for mobile cranes and simultaneously threatened Grove with the same action. The case is pending.

www.vertikal.net, November 3, 2003

FIL FILIPOV RETIRES FROM TEREX

TEREX Corporation announced the retirement of its president and CEO Fil Filipov and that his son, Steve Filipov (pictured left), will be his replacement.

www.vertikal.net, November 14, 2003



DEMAG OPEN DAY

TEREX Demag's open day at its Dinglerstrasse and Wallerscheid production facilities in Germany was one of the company's first public showings of the newly-founded relation between the two former crane groups and its sister company Genie.

[C&A: November 2003](http://www.vertikal.net)

KOBELCO TO SUPPLY CRAWLER CRANES TO MANITOWOC

THE Manitowoc Crane Group signed an agreement with Japan-based Kobelco Construction Machinery for the supply of a range of lattice boom crawler cranes under 150 UStons (136 tonnes) capacity.

www.vertikal.net, November 17, 2003

AGREEMENT IN SIGHT FOR MEEK GROUP

TROUBLED aerial platform rental company, The Meek Group, appointed an administrator, four and half years after a management buy in team bought out company founder, David Meek. In December, the company announced a deal with The Platform Company to create the UK's third largest platform hire company.

www.vertikal.net, December 2, 2003

ENGLAND BRINGS IT HOME

NOVEMBER, and undoubtedly one of the main highlights for just about all from the green and pleasant land had to be the small matter of England's rugby union boys quashing Australia in a 20 - 17 victory at the 2003 Rugby World Cup. Beauty mate!

Left: England skipper Martin Johnson lifts the Web Ellis trophy.

