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Mote Lift
electric
ABL12e



Genie S-85 XC E

NEW BOOMS ON THE RISE

The advantage of having an equipment feature just before Bauma is the number of new launches planned for the show. This is particularly true for boom lifts with numerous new models due to be unveiled. Several manufacturers also launched products at the ARA show in Las Vegas at the end of January and there has also been a steady stream of new launches over the past 12 months.

While there are plenty of new products to speak of, the main themes from last year's feature - the growing dominance of Chinese built platforms and the ongoing uptake of all electric booms - have not changed. Neither has the number of incidents involving boom lifts - mainly overturns, electrocution, and being thrown from the platform. This is particularly frustrating given that using an aerial work platform is generally one of the safest ways to work at height.

SAFETY SYSTEMS

The wearing of a harness with a short lanyard attached should eliminate the risk of being thrown out. Several safety systems are now on the market, including Haulotte's Fastn, Nationwide Platforms' Harness On, while last year Niftylift introduced its ClipOn harness attachment sensor, rolling it out across its entire boom lift range. Working in a similar way to a car seatbelt alarm, the system activates when the key switch is turned on and if the operator has not attached his lanyard and attempts to move the machine, bright red LEDs above each connection point and a loud alarm sounds. Once the harness is properly attached, the LEDs turn green, and the alarm stops. The system also includes LEDs under the platform floor that indicate to those on the ground if the operator has attached their harness or not. The device can also be retrofitted to older Niftylift platforms.

CHINESE BECOMING DOMINANT

The other trend that has not abated is the growth in market share seen by Chinese manufacturers - possibly helped by some North American manufacturers seeming to be focusing more on their domestic market, a

trend which began during the pandemic when Chinese manufacturers began to push more into international markets.

If there is one thing the Chinese companies can do well, it is manufacture in quantity. There are now a handful of truly international Chinese aerial work platform manufacturers able to produce high quality equipment and in volumes not seen before, thanks to massive investment in huge, state of the art automated facilities, with large research and development teams, thanks to the availability of large numbers of highly skilled engineers. These have resulted in good quality, top spec products that are held in stock locally, and often sold at attractive prices. The investment is also being made in upgrading their support services.

FIGHTING BACK?

Given the size of the onslaught, European and North American companies have fought back through government intervention in the form of anti-dumping investigations and tariffs. In Europe this was instigated by the 'Coalition to Restore a Level Playing Field in the EU Mobile Access Equipment Sector' - essentially Haulotte and Manitou - which resulted in the European Union applying tariffs based on the results of its investigations. They range from 22.5 to 49.3 percent and were due to come into force in early January.

As far as we are aware, no price changes have occurred to Chinese booms sold in the UK and possibly Europe...yet. Some have raised a few interesting points regarding the tariffs... Are used machines subject to the same tariffs and when does a new machine become used... one hour, five hours, 50 hours run time?

The harness must be correctly attached for the light to turn green



LEDs can also be seen under the basket

The EU investigation followed a similar path to the one in the USA in 2021 when the 'Coalition of American Manufacturers of Mobile Access Equipment' - JLG and Genie - petitioned the US government to investigate similar concerns. Tariffs were applied across the board and JLG and Genie both manufacture products in China both companies also faced tariffs. The end result was that several Chinese companies then opened manufacturing facilities in Mexico and thereby avoided the additional costs. All this is up for grabs again though as Donald Trump wages a new tariff war without bothering with any investigations. But given their high manufacturing volumes and a slowing home market Chinese access equipment companies are driven to expand sales internationally. The swing towards the East is likely to be clearly seen at Bauma.

BOOM LIFTS



The 12 metre working height Mote Lift ABL12 has 6.7 metres of outreach

NEW ENTRANT

Despite the vast amount of aerial work platform production capacity, a new Turkish entrant called Mote Lift has launched six new platforms - three articulated boom lifts and three slab scissors - which will be launched internationally at Bauma.

The company - based in the province of Eskişehir in Central Anatolia - was set up in March and is a subsidiary of major construction and agricultural equipment manufacturer and freelance fabrication business Hisarlar. Established in 1974 it initially manufactured tractor cabs, but now focuses on producing agricultural implements, rail cars and 4x4 off-road vehicles as well as fabrications for other construction equipment manufacturers along with defence and rail industries. It currently employs around 600 in three production facilities - two in Turkey and one in Stuttgart, Germany - with a combined surface area of 148,000 square metres.

The first three articulated boom lifts include the 33ft ABL12, the 40ft ABL14 and the 46ft ABL16 with working heights of 12, 14 and 16 metres and outreaches of 6.7 metres, 7.7 metres and 8.7 metres - all with a 230kg platform capacity.



The 16 metre Mote Lift ABL 16

All are available with diesel or 4x4 lithium-ion electric power and utilise dual sigma type risers, two section booms and jibs with 140 degrees of articulation. All are two metres wide with overall weights from 4,600kg to 6,200kg.

The company says that four years of development work has gone into the new machines, which include the 'latest technology and developments' and have been certified by the Turkish office of TÜV Austria. It will be interesting to see them in the iron in Munich.

TADANO CE TRACKED BOOMS

An existing manufacturer with a new range of lifts is Japanese crane company Tadano

and follows its acquisition of tracked boom manufacturer Nagano at the end of 2023. The Nagano units have been tweaked and rebranded as Tadano, with an official launch at Bauma, although platforms are already being shipped.

Tadano will sell six tracked boom lifts in Europe, two articulated and four telescopic. There will be two versions of the 22ft articulated Nagano 09 - the Tadano AA-9MC and the all-electric Tadano eAA-9MC - with working heights of 8.8 metres and weighing around 2,620kg.



The Nagano 09AC in Tadano clothing with the new name AA-9MC

The four telescopic models include the 32ft AS-12MC with an 11.7 metre working height, the new 42ft AS-15MC with a 14.6 metre working height and dual platform capacity, the 42ft AS-15MCJ with an articulating jib for a 14.8 metre working height and the AS-20MC, a 58ft telescopic boom lift with rising boom pivot point and a working height of 19.7 metres.

Nagano was formed in 1968 as Nagano Kogyu producing electrical components and mini tracked excavators. It began manufacturing a few telescopic boom lifts in 1984 but for many years most of its production was for other companies such as Aichi and tracked carriers for Marooka. Prior to the acquisition it produced a small range of tracked



The Tadano AS-20MC

boom lifts with revenues of around \$40 million. Tadano is also a leading aerial lift manufacturer in Japan with a 30 percent share of the truck mounted market. While Tadano has had a few issues with the integration of Demag, Nagano's high product quality and similar culture should make the amalgamation relatively straight forward.

Nagano has been acquired twice before in recent years, Chinese manufacturer JCHI (Beijing JingCheng Heavy Industry) in 2012 - which was not a marriage made in heaven - and then by Japanese venture capital company Jafco in 2019.

FIRST STRAIGHT NIFTY

In the UK Niftylift introduced its first telescopic boom lift at Vertical Days last September. Although the UK market for telescopic boom lifts is not large, Niftylift is aiming the 65ft all-electric HR22SE at North America and other European markets with the first production machines shipping from its Milton Keynes facility in January. The lift features a three section telescopic boom topped by a jib with 150 degrees of articulation for a working height of 21.7 metres. Maximum outreach is 18.8 metres with 280kg unrestricted platform capacity. Overall width is 2.49 metres although tail swing is just 550mm. The overall height is 2.7 metres and stowed length just over nine metres which can be reduced to 7.2 metres with the jib tucked under. The lift weighs just 9,980kg. The HR22SE significantly outperforms many others in terms of outreach, weight and dimensions, as can be seen from the comparison below.



Niftylift's first telescopic boom - the 65ft all electric HR22SE

Outreach is as good or better, while it is at least 1,432kg lighter than its nearest competitor - the Genie S65. Remember that the Niftylift is an all-electric machine which can often be heavier than the equivalent diesel. The HR22SE's unrestricted capacity of 280kg is however on the low side, with Dingli leading the pack with a whopping 454kg.

Nifty HR22SE versus the competition

Make Model	Niftylift HR22SE	JLG 660SJ	Genie S65 XC	Dingli BT22ERT	LGMG T22JE	Sinoboom TB20J Plus
Working height	22.7m	22.02m	21.81m	22.51m	23.8m	22.0m
Max outreach	18.8m	17.4m	16.51m	17.28m	16.6m	16.1m
Capacity unrestricted	280kg	249kg	300kg	454kg	300kg	300kg
Width	2.49m	2.48m	2.49m	2.5m	2.5m	2.49m
Height	2.7m	2.58m	2.81m	2.65m	2.88m	2.79m
Length	9.09m	10.01m	9.76m	10.36m	11.0m	9.99m
Length stowed	7.2m	N/A	7.8m	10.16m	9.03m	8.12m
Weight	9,980kg	11,494kg	11,412kg	13,200kg	12,300kg	11,900kg
Power	Electric Hydrogen	Diesel	Diesel	Electric	Electric	Diesel



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BOOM LIFTS



The system uses a neat replaceable G20 hydrogen gas cylinder



The Nifty HR22SE

BEST IN CLASS

One feature that only the HR22SE has is the option of hydrogen power. Although the power source is still in its infancy, the boom lift can be equipped with Niftylift's hydrogen fuel cell that was developed with lead customer Speedy Hire in 2023. The system uses a neat replaceable G20 hydrogen gas cylinder, and feedback suggests that the unit can work for up to five days on a single charge of its 48 volt/400Ah AGM maintenance free battery pack. The fuel cell can be set to constantly top up the battery pack or do a full recharge. What it does mean is that the unit can run at least a couple of weeks without requiring an external power source.

Both upper and lower controls feature a 4.3 inch display screen with information on machine status. Standard features include Niftylift's SiOPS secondary guarding system, Niftylink telematics and an onboard 60 Amp charger. Options include its 'ClipOn' harness/lanyard attachment detector.

BIG ARTICULATED LIFTS

Some Chinese manufacturers have been fighting it out in the rarified big boom market. Over the past year or so both XCMG and Zoomlion have been chasing the top end record, adding 70 metre mega booms to their portfolios. However, most of the growth has occurred in the more everyday big boom sector, often with hybrid and electric versions.

From recent new model launches, it would appear that the Chinese manufacturers are targeting areas where North American and European manufacturers have an offering but there are few alternatives, such as boom lifts with working heights ranging up to 45 metres.

In mid-2024 Dingli launched three new articulated boom lifts - the 112ft BA36T, the 128ft BA41RT and the 138ft BA44RT. In this category only three products have been competitive, the 135ft Genie ZX 135/70, JLG's 1250AJP and the Haulotte HA41RTJ. Zoomlion has the lower end 105ft ZA32J which does fill the gap between 86ft and 130ft models, while more recently XCMG launched a CE version of its 125ft all electric XGS40ACK.

Sinoboom has also completed the design, test and build schedule for the CE version of its even larger 153ft AB46RJ articulated boom lift taking on the likes of Genie's SX 150 and JLG's 1500AJP.

DINGLI TRIO?

Why Dingli launched three models in this category, rather than just the BA44RT is related to its new 'modular architecture' and high tech

All three Dingli models have three section upper and lower booms topped by a jib



manufacturing facility which makes it just as easy to offer three models as one, providing buyers with more alternatives.

The vast majority of structural elements and componentry is identical, in the same way as Dingli's BT straight telescopic range. They all employ twin telescopic booms, a three section lower boom, three section top boom and an articulated jib. The main differences are the length of the upper and lower boom sections, which also provide a little more up & over height and outreach.

All units have an unrestricted/maximum platform capacity of 272kg, standard four wheel drive and four wheel steer, secondary guarding, power to the platform and telematics. They also offer decent below ground reach, ranging from six to 9.65 metres.

The first units off the line are diesel powered with all-electric and hybrid power packs becoming available. When it comes to transport, the jib tucks under without increasing the overall height, while the overall lengths are all less than 12 metres, which means they can be transported on a standard trailer or in a shipping container.



The new Dingli models specifications alongside main competitors

Make Model	Dingli BA36RT	Dingli BA41RT	Dingli BA44RT	JLG 1250AJP	Genie ZX-135/70	Haulotte HA41RTJ
Working height	36.2m	41.08m	44.06m	40.3m	43.15m	41.5m
Outreach	19.2m	19.86m	22.97m	19.25m	21.26m	20.1m
Jib articulation	226°	226°	226°	130°	110°	140°
Capacity maximum	272kg	272kg	272kg	450kg	272kg	230kg
Cap. @ full outreach	272kg	272kg	272kg	230kg	272kg	230kg
Up & over height	15.75m	18.8m	18.8m	18.3m	22.7m	17.1m
Below ground reach	6m	8m	9.645m	4m	4.9m	1.5m
Total weight	22,070kg	23,684kg	23,866kg	23,684kg	21,092kg	23,900kg
OAW stowed	2.44m	2.44m	2.44m	2.49m	2.49m	2.53m
OAW working	4.17m	4.17m	4.17m	4.17m	3.94m	3.3m
OAL stowed	11.91m	11.95m	11.97m	11.46m	12.93m	13.1m
OAH stowed	3.03m	3.1m	3.1m	3.05m	3.09m	2.99m
Power	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel	Diesel

As with competitors in this category - Genie, Haulotte and JLG - the new Dingli models feature swing out 'axles'/chassis frames which extend the working width while reducing the wheelbase/chassis length. Dingli's is slightly different in that they use its patented 'One-click' system allowing the width to be changed without needing to drive forward or backwards.

NARROW BOOMS

Dingli has also announced two new 1.5 metre wide, narrow aisle articulated electric boom lifts - the 44ft BA15NE and 49ft BA17NE - with working heights of 15.5 and 17 metres respectively. Transport length with the jib tucked

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BOOM LIFTS



The new Dingli BA17NE

under is 5.06 metres, with an overall height just over two metres. Total weight is 7,580kg on the BA15 and 7,950kg for the BA17.

The new models look very much like the Niftylift models with almost the same nomenclature, with classic sigma type dual risers, two section telescopic boom and jib with 130 degrees of articulation. Outreach for both is 9.7 metres at an up & over height of 5.5 metres on the BA15 and seven metres on the BA17 - the difference being the length of the riser arms. Maximum unrestricted platform capacity is 225kg. Both also feature zero tailswing with the risers fully contained within the machine width when fully raised. The standard unit is two wheel drive and steer however a four wheel drive and four wheel steer version will apparently be available later. Power is supplied by a 48 volt, 300Ah battery pack which combined with AC electric motors allows the unit to work at least a full shift or considerably longer.



Working outreach is 9.7m

FIRST CE 153FT SINOBOOM

The new CE version of Sinoboom's 153ft AB46RJ articulated boom lift goes head to head with well established models from Genie and JLG. The company introduced the AB46 in 2019 and over the past year or two has delivered units in Russia, Singapore, India and Australia.

This year Sinoboom engineers have added an EU Stage V diesel and a number of other improvements including switching from all steel superstructure covers to a lighter heavy duty composite material.



Sinoboom AB46RJ with standard rotating jib

Dingli BA15 and BA17 compared to Nifty HR15 and HR17

Make Model	Dingli BA15NE	Niftylift Nifty HR15N	Dingli BA17NE	Niftylift HR17N
Working height	15.5m	15.5m	17.0m	1.07m
Outreach	9.7m	9.7m	9.7m	9.7m
Up & over clearance	5.5m	5.6m	7.0m	7.0m
Max platform capacity	225kg	225kg	225kg	225kg
Overall width	1.5m	1.5m	1.5m	1.5m
Overall height	2.07m	1.99m	2.07m	1.99m
Overall stowed length*	5.06m	4.93m	5.06m	4.93m
Total weight	7,580kg	7,250kg	7,950kg	7,780kg

*Jib tucked

The new machine, which weighs 27.3 tonnes, features a three section telescopic riser and three section top boom, plus an articulating jib with up to 150 degrees of rotation giving a maximum working height of 48.6 metres. Maximum outreach is 25.5 metres with 275kg unrestricted platform capacity reducing to just under 24 metres with the maximum capacity of 455kg, both at an up & over reach of around 19 metres. Sinoboom says it has secured a major order for the unit in the Middle East with more than 30 units delivered so far.



The new AB46RJ has a 48.6m working height

XCMG CE VERSIONS

XCMG has launched CE versions of its articulated and telescopic booms in recent months. The first is the all-electric 125ft XGS40ACK Rough Terrain telescopic, which should be unveiled at Bauma. The non-CE version - the XGS40ACK-Li - has been available in China since late last year but differs significantly from the CE model.

The CE version has a maximum working height of 40.2 metres using a four section telescopic boom topped by a 2.44 metre jib with 130 degrees of articulation - 60 degrees below and 70 degrees above the horizontal. Maximum outreach is 22.5



XCMG's 125ft, all-electric XGS40ACK Rough Terrain telescopic

metres with 300kg in the basket although the maximum platform capacity of 460kg is available at a 19 metres outreach.

The all-electric power comes from an 80.5 volt, 604Ah lithium ion battery pack with four wheel drive and four wheel steer as standard. The overall width is 2.3 metres extending to just over four metres when working, while the overall stowed height is 2.8 metres and the overall stowed length just under 15 metres reducing to 11.8 metres for transport without increasing the overall height. Total weight is 21 tonnes.

The boom has very similar specifications to existing competitors. As a quick comparison, Genie's S125 has an almost identical working height, a better 24.4 metre outreach but with just 227kg in the platform. Jib articulation is 135 degrees, and overall weight is slightly lighter at 20.25 tonnes.

NEW 20M HYBRID

Another new XCMG model is the hybrid version of its 60ft XGA20H articulated boom lift.

Weighing 9,500kg the new lift features a classic sigma type dual riser topped by a two section telescopic boom and 1.85 metre jib with 135 degrees of articulation, providing a 20.18 metre working height. Maximum outreach is 11.14 metres with an unrestricted 320kg maximum platform capacity at an up & over height of 8.47 metres.

Power is derived from a 51 volt, 346Ah lithium ion battery pack powering a 48 volt system, with electric motor four wheel drive and four wheel steer as standard. The battery pack is said to be



XCMG has launched a CE marked hybrid version of its 60ft XGA20H articulated boom lift

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BOOM LIFTS

good for up to five hours continuous operation, with a Kubota Stage V diesel topping up the battery pack to extend the working day or to recharge when no power outlet is available.

SKYJACK BOOMS GO ELECTRIC

A few years ago, Skyjack appeared to have the market - particularly larger scissor lifts - in the palm of its hand, but it has been slow to upgrade and introduce new machines. This is changing as highlighted by the launch last year of the all-electric versions of its 45ft and 60ft articulated Rough Terrain boom lifts, the SJ45 AJE + and SJ60 AJE +. Built in Hungary the new models were initially only available in Europe and Australia but are now available in the Asia-Pacific region.

Both units are essentially the same as the diesel powered + models but with the addition of

a large dual battery pack feeding an electric powered drive train and hydraulic system. The new booms have working heights of 15.72 and 20.29 metres respectively. The SJ45 has a 300kg unrestricted capacity with 7.62 metres working outreach at an up & over height of 7.45 metres. The SJ60 has a dual platform capacity of 300kg at the maximum outreach of 12.06 metres or 454kg at a working outreach of up to 9.25 metres at an up & over height of 8.31 metres. The overall weights are marginally higher than the diesels at 5,488kg and 8,888kg respectively.

The electric drive provides a slightly higher top travel speed at 4.8kph, as well as improved gradeability and braking. A HVO diesel hybrid version is planned for customers preferring a hybrid to a pure electric machine.

60FT JLG ELECTRIC

As well as unveiling several new booms at Bauma - including a new 45ft compact, a new



The new Skyjack simplified control box with indicator lights

US spec 65ft telescopic - JLG has also launched the 60ft all electric EC600AJ articulated boom lift for the North American market which should be in production this summer. With a 20.2 metre working height with dual platform capacity of 250kg/340kg the telescopic boom features a two section telescopic riser topped by a two section telescopic boom and jib with 130 degrees of articulation, and slew is limited to 400 degrees. Power comes from two 48 volt, 210Ah lithium ion batteries, driving four AC direct wheel drive motors with two wheel steering as standard and four wheel steer an option.



The new Skyjack SJ60 AJE + and the SJ45 AJE +



JLG's new 60ft all electric articulated boom lift for the North American market - the EC600AJ

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85FT ELECTRIC BOOMS FROM GENIE

Although Genie is not exhibiting at Bauma this year it introduced two new models at the ARA, including two all-new 85ft electric Rough Terrain telescopic boom lifts - S-85 XC E and the hybrid S-85 XC FE. Powered by 48 volt lithium-ion battery packs which are backed by a five year warranty, the spec includes four wheel drive and dual platform capacities of 300kg and 454kg.

As with the manufacturer's smaller E and FE booms, the new S-85s feature four independent brushless AC wheel drive motors and active oscillating axles. The rising pivot point, three section boom and articulating jib provide a 27.9 metre working height and up to 22.7 metres of outreach. Overall weight is 17.65 tonnes for the electric and just under 18 tonnes for the FE model.

Two battery sizes are available, with the larger XC battery pack in the electric E model. The larger battery is also an option on the FE which is equipped with a DPF-free engine/generator



Genie launched two all-new 85ft electric boom lifts - S-85 XC E and the hybrid S-85 XC FE - at the ARA

which can keep the battery pack topped up while working and complete a full work week on a single tank of fuel. It is also capable of recharging the battery in just 4.5 hours.

LACK OF INNOVATION?

Over the years, there have been many that have questioned the Chinese manufacturers' ability to innovate, citing that they merely copy existing designs. Ignoring the fact that a few Western access equipment manufacturers have also been guilty of blatantly copying their competitors, it would appear that the massive R&D budgets available to the Chinese companies is now starting to pay dividends both in a raft of new models and new features.

One recent example is a new boom lift steering system option from Sinoboom. Dubbed the 'Tank Turn' it is a form of skid steer which is in addition to the regular two wheel steering system, allowing the boom to turn on the spot giving it extraordinary control in tight spaces.



Sinoboom's 'Tank Turn' is a form of skid steer allowing it to turn on the spot



Sinoboom's Tank Turn switch

Introduced on the 53ft AB16EJ Plus electric articulated boom lift, the system is activated by a flick of a switch converting the machine from standard two wheel steer to 'Tank Turn'. Four independently controlled direct electric wheel drive motors counter rotate, allowing the machine to perform tighter turns than a four wheel steer model. The system is better suited to certain applications for example with non-marking tyres on a smooth, solid floor. However, it is likely to churn up softer ground, and with the wheels being pushed sideways rather than being turned it may add additional stresses to the steering and wheel components. ■



One of the very first Sinoboom AB46RJ

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Outreach: 6,4 m.

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