



# Triple trailers

THE NETHERLANDS-based trailer producer Nootboom says that its Multitrailer 3XL and Teletrailer 3XL are becoming very popular in the business of transporting wind turbine components throughout Europe. The 3XL models can be attached to almost any vehicle in the Multitrailer and Teletrailer programme for the transportation of what Nootboom says are becoming longer and longer loads, such as windmill towers and their rotor blades.

In its retracted position, the 3XL semi-trailer and tractor combination falls within the legal length of 16.5 metres, but, in three steps, can be extended up to 36 metres. Nootboom says that in this way it has accounted for the shift in material transportation from double-

extendible to triple-extendible trailers. For even longer loads Nootboom can supply semi low-loaders and flatbed semi-trailers with load lengths of up to 44 metres.

The extendable 3XL units feature a patented precambered beam concept, which means that the load floor is completely flat when the trailer is retracted, but produces minimal sagging when extended. Close attention has also been paid to the trailer's hydraulic steering and electric line cable guiding system, which on the 3XL models includes an extra loop located in the central beam to prevent any damage occurring when the trailers are being extended or retracted. ■



# Europe's biggest

BROSHUIS SAYS that, in a joint development with knuckle boom manufacturer Palfinger, it has produced Europe's largest "lift and shift" trailer. With a maximum payload of 55 tonnes, the lower deck of the trailer can extend from a retracted length 9.24 metres up to 14.74 metres. All four axles feature hydraulic steering with radio remote control over-ride facility and automatic alignment to 32 bar.

The crane itself is 90 tonne capacity knuckle boom unit, which can be detached if necessary by double action hydraulic locking pins, stabilised by hydraulic front stabiliser legs integrated into the trailer's main beam. The trailer also features a central lubrication system based on two separate pumps with 61 greasing points. ■



## We four kings

A-PLANT has taken delivery of four new King GTS44 step-frame trailers from King Trailers for transporting its powered access equipment to and from its Nottingham, Southampton, Brentwood and Bridgend depots. The tri-axle trailers have payloads of up to 36 tonnes and have all been specified with double-folding mantis ramps, to ensure the lowest possible loading angle, which King says is particularly important for access equipment such as scissor lifts with very low ground clearance.

Each trailer has also been fitted with a hydraulic winch to assist the loading of equipment, which Frank Page, general manager of the A-Plant Powered Access business in Brentford says: "makes the driver's life much easier."

Manoeuvrability of the units is improved by a self-tracking rear axle, which also reduces tyre scrub, while other features include a remote locking mechanism, which allows the rear axle to be locked into a straight position, for reversing purposes for example, and a raising capability of the front axle, which reduces tyre wear when the trailer is bare. ■

## Easy tow

VANSON CRANES has incorporated what it calls its 'fast tow' system into its latest VCT25 self erecting tower crane, designed to offer a completely self-contained unit for construction and industrial lifting. The 'fast tow' uses a twin transport axle with self-steering capabilities for use at low speed and is fitted with an integral tow bar for towing around a site using a vehicle with a 'pin' connector.

The system also features fifth wheel coupling, hydraulic jacks, a diesel generator and the required ballast needed for the crane itself.

An inverter drive system has replaced the traditional electronic systems to control the steps between motor speeds for the hoist, trolley and slew. By doing this, the company says that it has overcome the uneven motion which often causes the crane to oscillate each time the operation speed is changed.

The crane itself is capable of lifting 0.75 tonnes at a 25 metre radius, or 2 tonnes at a 10.8 metres radius. Horizontal hook height is 19.5 metres, while in the luffed position hook heights of up to 31.4 metres are achievable. ■

