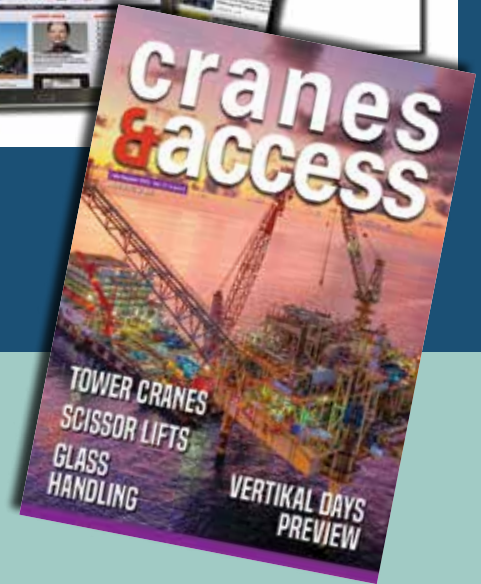


SUBSCRIBE TO THE  
**C&A**  
NEWS PACKAGE  
AND GET THE  
INDUSTRY'S  
MOST WIDELY  
READ NEWS



**Vertikal**  
.net



**EVERY ISSUE**  
Delivered to your door  
— **PLUS** —  
**DIGITAL ISSUE**  
Online

To get your  
**SUBSCRIPTION**  
up and running  
register online at  
[www.vertikal.net/en/subscriptions](http://www.vertikal.net/en/subscriptions)

**YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION**

£40.00/€60.00

(UK and Ireland)

€75.00 (Rest of Europe)

\$110.00/£60.00 (Other regions)

Payable by BACS transfer/  
credit card/cheque

**AN INDEPENDENT NEWS SERVICE COSTS MONEY AND  
NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT SUBSCRIBE TODAY!**

# FLANNERY LAUNCHES KIRKLEES TRAINING HUB

The Kirklees College Engineering Centre in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, UK has opened a new Operator Skills Hub. The mobile Hub is located in the grounds of the college and is funded by Flannery Plant Hire.

This is the fifth mobile Skills Hub of its kind in the UK and features virtual reality construction machinery simulators and classroom facilities for Skills Bootcamps. The college has also created a live construction site adjacent to the Hub for hands on training, with equipment provided by Flannery.

The Skills Bootcamps provide intensive courses for adults aged 19 plus looking to develop equipment operating skills. More than 1,400 participants have completed the programme across the UK so far.



The new Kirklees Skills Hub

## £45K FOR FALL

UK based Atrium Conservatories has been fined £40,000 plus costs of £5,309 after employee Leslie Baker, 56, fell two metres while installing an orangery extension in Abberley, Worcestershire. Baker was working on roof trusses when he stepped onto an unguarded opening for a future skylight, falling two metres to the ground. He sustained a serious head injury, several broken ribs, a ruptured spleen and kidney damage.



The HSE investigation found no external scaffold had been installed to provide safe access, no internal measures were in place to prevent falls, while the work was not properly planned or with suitable safety instructions provided to those working on the job.

## FALL COSTS £7,500

Gary Smith, trading as GJ Smith Roofing in the UK was fined £2,125 plus costs of £5,445 after a man fell three metres from a flat roof on one of his jobs, due to a lack of edge protection. This is the second time he was caught working at height without edge protection.



The incident occurred on a job in December 2022 when a team, working on his behalf, was replacing a flat roof on a house in the Luton area North of London. One of the men was carrying large wood board across the roof when he inadvertently stepped off the edge of the roof falling more than three metres to the ground, sustaining a fractured vertebrae and broken ankle.

HSE inspector Tim Nicholson said: "Clearly Smith hadn't learnt from his previous failures. Sadly, this latest offence resulted in a man being seriously injured. What makes this incident even more frustrating is the fact it could so easily have been avoided."

## LIEBHERR SIMULATOR

Liebherr has launched the LiSIM Move, a mobile harbour crane simulator for operator training on the LHM 550 and LHM 800 mobile harbour cranes across container, bulk and breakbulk operations.



The simulator includes original Liebherr controls along with a virtual reality and instructor interface. LiSIM Move offers 16 container handling exercises, five bulk handling tasks and six breakbulk operations. The system has adjustable settings including ship draught and lighting conditions with performance tracking.

The simulator can be used for skill development, recruitment assessments and onboarding. Training scenarios include basic manoeuvres and operational challenges, with environments including ULCVs, Post Panamax vessels, hoppers, barges and breakbulk zones.

# MEC OPENS ENGINEERING TRAINING CENTRE

US manufacturer MEC Aerial Work Platforms has opened a new 'Engineering Center of Excellence' at its Kerman, California headquarters, featuring advanced computer technology, communication spaces, testing equipment, and a Research & Development lab.

The 745 square metre facility is designed to encourage collaboration between MEC's engineering, technical support, and product quality teams to develop new products. It will also serve as a training centre, providing professional development opportunities and host collaborative projects to advance safety, performance and technology developments.



## WHO TRAINED THEM THEN?

Spotted by one of our regulars in La Jolla, California, several men working from two 26ft slab scissor lifts with a height issue.

The scissor lifts have not been positioned so that the platforms could reach the required work height, so, one man has stood on the top guardrail to reach. The risks include a potentially serious groin injury should that foot slip off the rail.

This incident highlights the benefits of step-up options that most scissor lift suppliers now offer - although this team have developed their own using a short plank. A 19ft micro scissor lift or even portable push around lift would have been ideal for the job.

