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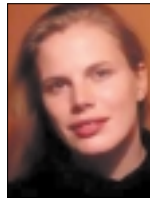
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COMMENT



What's been happening this month? A few important stories, a couple of mergers and launches. But the biggest buzz we seem to be hearing of late is about the next major industry event – Conexpo, Las Vegas.

Yup, it's finally time to pack your Stetson and get on the plane to Nevada, where an exhibition that promises to be as huge and exciting as its host city awaits you. Don't forget to do your homework – *Cranes & Access* has previewed all the must-see exhibitors on page 27.

There will certainly be a enormous number of significant product launches at Conexpo and this explains a rather dull February. Manufacturers are lying low until they have gauged response to their new machines and had a good poke around their competitors' offerings.

But, as anyone who is not crossing the Atlantic this month will say – that's quite enough about Conexpo. Closer to home is the IPAF AGM, to be held in the stunning surrounds of Old Trafford. Upon this hallowed ground the AGM will discuss issues of immense relevance to everyone involved in the access industry. IPAF strives, year upon year, to broadcast its message and reduce the number of unnecessary accidents and fatalities that occur through simple ignorance. *Cranes & Access* urges you to take note of the dates and, if you cannot attend, at least make sure that you get up to speed on what was discussed as soon as possible. Find a preview on page 14.

Heading north of Manchester, the Glasgow Wing Tower is this issue's 'UK Landmark' focus. Go to page 12 to find out how teamwork and technology triumphed to construct this uniquely beautiful building.

Back to earth again, something which should be of interest to any vigilant member of the rental industry is that of staff loyalty and breach of trust. Marsh Plant Hire's story of the discovery of 16 years of fraud could be a more common scenario than you imagine. Turn to page 30.

Finally, sometimes you just have to call a spade a spade, hence the title 'Who's got the longest?' for Tim Whiteman's annual buying guide for booms, page 21. On which Freudian note, I leave you to enjoy the March/April edition.

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Rosie Gordon
Editor

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