

Rain couldn't dampen Italian spirit

With Bauma reinforcing its position as the biggest and best construction show in the world earlier this year, shows such as Intermat and SAIE have almost been relegated into national gatherings.

That said, SAIE in Bologna, Italy, is still an important show, particularly for lifting equipment such as cranes, loader cranes, access platforms and telehandlers - primarily because of the importance of these products within a country that produces so much of this type of equipment.

Although it was the tower cranes' turn to take a year off, mobile cranes, access platforms, lorry loaders and telehandlers were all out in force. And because many are built in Italy, there were many new products to be seen - saved specially to launch on home soil.

We bring you the highlights of the 43rd SAIE, which in spite of the atrocious weather, still showed that it has a heart and soul, often lacking in other European exhibitions. Italian engineering also meant that there were one or two interesting and unusual machines. If you have never been, it is certainly worth giving it a try. This year we will let the pictures do the talking.



Effer unveiled two new loader cranes: The, 92 tonne/metre Effer 1355/9S (mounted) features X-type outriggers which keep the sub-chassis shorter and also gives a better load slewing range. Being lifted is the 470/6S - a six extension unit with a 41.6 tonne/metre capacity and an outreach better than 26 metres.



Grey skies and empty aisles - but only when the rain was really heavy on the final day, otherwise there was quite a good turnout at SAIE 2007.



A massive new 200 tonne/metre articulated loader crane from Cormach - the 225000 E9 - has been designed specifically for industrial moving. The nine section beast has a 45 tonne lift capacity at 4.5 metres and is capable of lifting 6.1 tonnes at 23 metres and taking more than a tonne out to 42 metres.



Platform Basket had two models making their Italian debut - the 18 metre, 18.75 spider lift and the 15 metre 15.75.



GSR introduced a new 17 metre telescopic boom - the E179T. Mounted on a 3.5 tonne truck the unit is capable of 12 metres outreach.



A new articulated truck mounted boom from Multitel Pagliero - the MX270D - extends the MX range to 27 metres. The unit seen at the show was mounted on a 5.6 tonne chassis to meet Italian self-drive rules and offered 13 metres outreach. The platform will be mounted on a Mitsubishi Canter 7.5 tonne chassis in the UK and should be available at the beginning of 2008 at an attractive price.

Barin showed off its impressive AP 73/35J2 truck platform with a maximum height of 73 metres and outreach of 35 metres. The company is looking for a dealer in the UK.



Adding to the small number of trailer mounted scissor platforms is this one from SUP Elefant.



CTE launched several new truck mounted platforms including the 20.8 metre working height Z21 and the 19 metre, 230kg capacity Z19.



Imai showed its upgraded and redesigned Jekko SPD500 spider mini crane. The company is expanding, adding a new 400 sq metre assembly facility to boost production to 15 cranes per month. It is also in the process of setting up sales company Jekko UK, likely to be based in the London/South East area.



CMC showed off its new 20 metre TB200 mounted on the popular 3.5 tonne Nissan Cabstar.



Bluelift, distributed by SkyKing in the UK, showed off its new 18 metre C18 spider platform.



Italian manufacturer Galizia showed off several of its pick and carry cranes including its largest, the 25 tonne capacity F250E.



Oil&Steel had a good selection of its tracked and truck mounted platforms on show including the first showing at SAIE of the Octopussy 21 and Scorpion 2012.



SAIE saw the culmination of four years of development work when Palfinger introduced its new 'High Performance' models with 80 variations being introduced over the next three. Features of the new machines include the new hexagonal boom, a 10 percent increase in capacity for a similar gross weight, a maintenance free boom system, more environmentally friendly corrosion protection and new control panel and hose protection. The launch acrobatics was pretty good too!



Rapidly expanding loader crane manufacturer Fassi - which hopes to build 11,000 cranes next year - limited its new machines to just one - the 950 AXP. The company now claims to be the world's third biggest producer of loader cranes.



Expanding Italian telehandler, Dieci is always introducing new products at SAIE and this year's show was no different. The impressive stand included the new Dedalus 30.9 as well as its restyled roto machines which featured a new cab, Perkins engine and a reworking of the mudguards and lights. This year's output of 2,200 units is hoped to increase by 50 percent in 2008.



PM showed this Iveco Daily 4x4 with small crane



Genie has introduced the the GTH4017SX - a lower cost, simpler machine aimed specifically at the rental market.



Italian manufacturer Tecchio showed three new platforms - two truck mounted and one spider. Biggest was the K427, a 27 metre working height, 7.5 tonne truck mounted platform with a jacking width of 3.2 metres and a working outreach of 13.4 metres. Mounted on a 3.5 tonne chassis, the 22 metre K422AT with an outreach of 11 metres, and the third new machine, the K622/DAT spider platform. Working height is 21.6 metres with 10.8 metres outreach. Width with the jacks out is 3.5 metres. The unit has a two tracking speeds up to 1.3 km per hour. All three lifts offer 265kg platform capacity.



Grove had several cranes on its stand including this RT540CE



Haulotte was back in the black for SAIE



Originally unveiled at Bauma, SAIE was the first time anyone had seen Bison Palfinger's production version of its hi-spec TA25 Business truck platform mounted on a 3.5 tonne chassis.



TCM showed its new C2000 - a compact 200 tonne crane mounted on a four axle Astra truck with an overall length of just 10.5 metres. The five section 28.8 metre main boom can also be equipped with an 11 metre, double extension jib.



Faresin showed two new models - the 15.45 a 360 degree roto machine and the 6.25 compact model. Improved visibility to the right side of the machine is aided by a redesigned engine cover.



Faraone showed a variety of products from ladders, towers and its PKS 890XL self propelled mast lift.



For many, this was their first sight of the 130 tonne capacity Liebherr LTM 1130 5.1. The unit has a 60 metre main boom with the addition of up to a 19 metre swing away extension and two seven metre long lattice sections. The unit has a 12.26 metre long chassis and is 2.75 metres wide. Other features include active speed-dependent rear axle steering, air operated disc brakes and a 370kW (503hp) Tier 3 engine.



The Merlo 39.10 with stabilisers. Many visitors to the Merlo stand were intrigued with its self propelled, high speed articulated booms. After many months soliciting industry opinion and interest far exceeding initial expectations, Merlo is finishing its new, dedicated assembly line and will start production at the end of the year for sales in Spring 2008. Telehandler output was up 20 percent this year with two new products at the show. The Roto 40.26 is the upgraded 40.25 with increased lift height but also has a redesigned boom which gives more performance for the same weight. The second new machine is the 39.10 - a compact machine with stabilisers as standard - to satisfy the demand in the UK and France.

Several new Privilege series from Manitou were on the stand including the roto MRT 2150 (above) which can lift up to five tonnes to 20.6 metres, and the MRT 3050 which can take the same load to 29.7 metres. Largest machine on the stand was the 21 tonne capacity MHT 10210.



The Terex RC60 and RC30 Rough Terrain cranes should be available in the first half of next year. The popularity of the TCC 45 telescopic crawler means that delivery is now well into 2009.



The new Merlo Roto 40.26



Joe Lyons (L) and Brian Crisp of UK Cranes, helping man the Tadano Faun stand where a 220 tonne ATF 220G-5 had pride of place



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Following the launch of its 25 tonne machine at last year's SAIE - and several sales to Holland and Ukraine - Mister Gru has unveiled a larger capacity crane, the 35 tonne MG35 HS Ecopower city crane. With the same dimensions as its smaller cousin, with bigger wheels (14.00 R25), Kessler axles and a Mercedes 190kW engine, the unit has a much higher road speed of 70 km per hour. The six section boom extends to 28 metres. Options include a self leveling forklift attachment, hydraulic luffing jib and independent electric power.



The Leader stand included its own products as well as those of Instant and UpRight



Not new but just one of several unusual machines at the show. This is a 60 tonne Ormig pick and carry crane is sold primarily to shipyards.



Not currently available in the UK - mainly the Middle East and North Africa - are the co.me.t truck mounted and spider machines. The company produces three crawler models - 12 metre, 16 metre and 18 metre. It was also showing a new 19 metre, 3.5 tonne truck mounted Eurosky AT.



Leader claims to have taken 100 orders for its 20 metre Jet 200 truck mounted lift. The unit has many innovative features including the jib which can be retracted into the main boom for travel and to create a regular straight boom while the turret pivots, with a hydraulic cylinder to improve outreach and incorporates the lift's overload sensor.



With a total weight of 3.3 tonnes, this unit from Copma can be towed behind many 4x4s and then left on site to carry out lifting duties. The unit can move under its own steam, via a drive assist feature on the trailer wheels. Using the Copma 110T crane, the unit is aimed at building and rental companies, having a 20 metre hook height with up to 14 metre outreach. The crane can also be fitted with a man basket with a platform capacity of 350kg. Copma says that it is gauging the reaction but it is confident that the unit will sell - perhaps 50 units a year.



Leader also showed a 16 metre spider lift called the Jumper 160, the first two of which have been sold in Holland. The new model features an unusual crawler chassis with a raised drive sprocket and pinion mounted bottom rollers which allow the lift to travel over obstacles without the mid track tip problem that occurs on many tracked machines.



Mini cranes were well represented by Imai, Unic and Maeda. Unic Cranes showed several models including its smallest and its largest, the recently launched 706.



On show a 10 year old JLG that has passed through its rebuild facility in Tonnesins, France. The company says that it is now opening a similar centre in the UK. Also on the JLG stand was a S680 boom with a four metre long platform.



Anna Matrosova and Konstantin Gorkachov of Cranes&Access Russia at SAIE where the latest Vertikal publication was launched.



Locatelli had several cranes on display, including the 40 tonne ATC40, the 60 tonne Gril 8600 and the 35 tonne Gril 8400T on its indoor stand.



Terex was showing its new stabiliser system for its telehandlers.



As well as its monster loader cranes, Cormach showed this elevating cab to help visibility when using the larger units.



In the numerous halls there was a wide variety of ladders, steps and tower products this year.



IPAF held regular platform and safety demonstrations throughout the show.



Cela showed its new T350, a 35 metre working height machine with up to 26 metres of outreach. Not many large Cela machines are seen in the UK but about eight fire fighting machines are now with the London Fire Brigade. Currently its biggest model is 54 metres although a 65 metre platform is scheduled for next year's SAIE.



Italian loader crane manufacturer KLM has added a new model - the 11 tonne/metre KG11.0. Its products are also badged by Terex. KLM claims that it is the only manufacturer that has booms that extend past the vertical.



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