

Rental has never been easier.

With its 3000 units European rental park and wide range of specialist machines, Liebherr Rental can provide for any earthmoving and material handling need. If you are looking for a flexible, efficient and cost-effective engineering solution, Liebherr Rental is now just a phone call away.

National Hotline:

0870 850 2211*

www.liebherr.com



Liebherr-Rental Ltd.
Normandy Lane, Stratton Business Park
Biggleswade SG18 8QB
Tel +44 (0) 1767 60 2240
Fax +44 (0) 1767 60 2244
www.liebherr.com

LIEBHERR
RENTAL

The rise and RISE of personnel lifts

Good news - latest figures from the Health & Safety Executive shows that the number of fatalities from falls at height in 2006/7 hit a record low. The bad news is that falls from height are still the most common type of accident that causes fatal injuries. Despite this record low, 45 people still died from a fall from height - with more than half from the construction industry - not to mention the large number of serious injuries.

So although the Work at Height Regulations (WAHR) coupled with the general increase in health, safety awareness and risk assessments appear to be having an impact - albeit small - there is still a long way to go before working at height is truly safe.

The HSE has not banned ladders. Estimates suggest that there are more than two million of them in daily use throughout the UK. In many situations they are still the best or only method of working at height. However, in the LadderBook published by the Ladder Association, the message is unequivocal - if and when it is right to use a ladder, use the right ladder and get trained to use it properly. Ladders should only be used for low risk and short duration tasks and no single task should take more than 30 minutes. So for longer jobs, consider another type of access equipment.

However, if the risk assessment rules out the use of a ladder, one of the growing numbers of personnel lifts may be the answer. The push around scissor lift has been highly successful in the UK and is now gaining ground in France, Germany and Scandinavia. Most of its

success has been in converting users from ladders and low level scaffold towers.

In the USA much of the same work is already carried out from self propelled scissor lifts. However, where the push around personnel lift scores is its price, weight and simplicity. Although not yet available in the UK, JLG's LiftPod - launched internationally at Conexpo in Las Vegas in March - appears to tick all the right boxes that are black marks against a conventional ladder.

Developed in Australia, the Lift Pod offers a 4.4 metre working height and fills the gap between ladders and work platforms, combining the portability of a ladder with the protection of a platform. The most ladder-like powered product to date, the LiftPod has a 150kg lift capacity, leaves the operative to use both hands to work, has a proper guard-railed platform that prevents falls and a tool tray allowing work to be carried out more easily and safer. Made up of three basic components - base, mast and 600mm x 500mm basket - each weighing less than 25kg, the LiftPod is easily transportable in a van or pick up

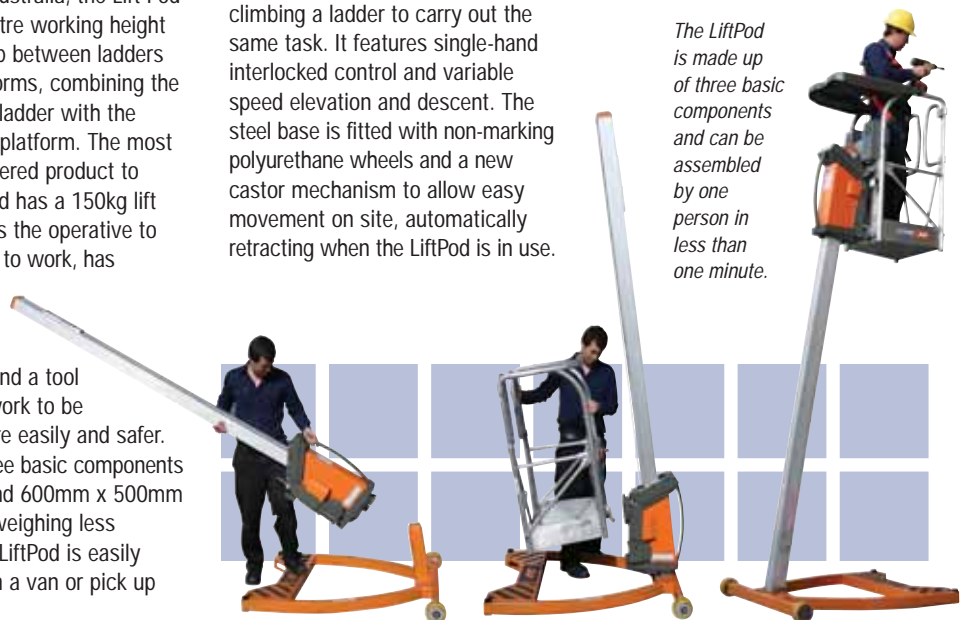


between sites and can be assembled by one person in less than one minute.

In keeping with its simplicity, the basket is elevated using a battery operated drill or an optional battery pack. According to JLG, the LiftPod can improve productivity by more than 20 percent compared with climbing a ladder to carry out the same task. It features single-hand interlocked control and variable speed elevation and descent. The steel base is fitted with non-marking polyurethane wheels and a new castor mechanism to allow easy movement on site, automatically retracting when the LiftPod is in use.

The machine that really set this sector alight is the Pop-Up - a push around, battery operated scissor lift. Launched about two years ago, it has sold well in excess of 3,000 units, showing that a simple, well-designed and inexpensive machine can be successful.

The LiftPod is made up of three basic components and can be assembled by one person in less than one minute.



With a one metre higher platform, the Pop-Up Plus has a 2.6 metre platform height



The original version has a 1.63 metre platform height offering an alternative to step ladders for low-level access work. A fully-charged battery is good for up to 400 cycles (about two weeks use) and simple, easy to understand controls make it an easy machine to operate. Building on its success, Pop-Up has

launched a higher version - the Pop-Up Plus - with an additional metre platform height (2.6 metres) which has so far sold in excess of 400 units.

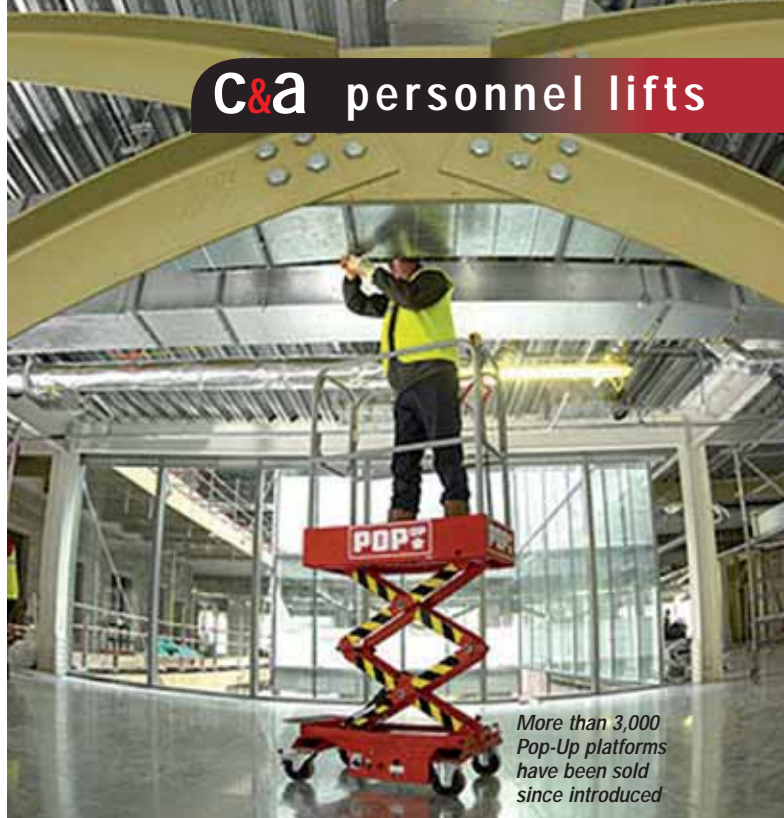
Both machines have platforms measuring 520mm by 1010mm and weigh 215kg and 300 respectively.

Following in the Pop-Up's footsteps is the lightweight, push around CTE Power Tower. Not dissimilar in overall concept, the 315kg Power Tower was developed in partnership with the Lavendon Group and uses an in-line sigma-type lift mechanism to give a 3.1 metre



Using an in-line sigma-type lift, the Power Tower has a 3.1 metre platform height.

C&a personnel lifts



More than 3,000 Pop-Up platforms have been sold since introduced

platform height. A bigger payload (250kg rather than 240kg) and a larger platform (650mm by 1,500mm) completes the picture. One important safety feature of the Power Tower is the automatic braking system, which locks the

castors as soon as the platform is raised. As an alternative to alloy towers it offers a lift capacity of 227kg and with an overall width of just 790mm, passes easily through standard doorways. Its low weight and 5.10 metres working height makes it ideal for mezzanine floors.

Get Lifted™



Smoothly to Rough Terrain

www.dinolift.com

DINO Lift®

Your experienced partner in...
...powered access platforms.



- Large inventory of new machines from major manufacturers
- Machines supplied in the condition you want
- We make it easy and speak your language
- We offer OEM replacement parts for most brands
- A second to none after-sales service
- A designated division for aluminium scaffolds systems



The number 1 is
always on top!


PlatformSales
EUROPE

PlatformSales Europe • Maxwellstraat 50 • 3316 GP Dordrecht • The Netherlands
T. +31 78 65 217 65 • F. +31 78 65 217 60 • E. sales@platformsaleseurope.com • I. www.platformsaleseurope.com

Weighing just 300kg and with a platform height of 4.5 metres, the car towable Monkey Tower is said to be ideal for short-term installation and maintenance work



Completing the more unusual personnel lifts are two trailer mounted platforms - the 4.5 metre Monkey Tower and the TP9000 powered scissor lift with a seven metre platform height. Launched at SED last year, the Monkey Tower is the brain-child of designer Alan Watt. The manually operated trailer mounted platform which will be on display at Vertikal Days has been significantly modified since it was first displayed and is a neater, more solid and reliable unit.

The platform is said to be ideal for short-term installation and maintenance work and weighing 300kg it is easy to tow and to move into position on site. Elevation is by hand winch which locks the platform at 250mm intervals up to a maximum height of 4.5 metres. With safety in mind, access to the platform is from within the unit via a side ladder and platform trap door with all safety barriers and handrails automatically in place.

"Since launching we have made several 'technical' changes such as the way the ladders slide together, hiding the mechanicals, a different style winch, moving to powder



The Faraone PK models available from Kermco offer compact dimensions and platform heights up to 5.2 metres without outriggers



coating rather than galvanized and making it completely maintenance free," said Watt. "Several large companies are looking at ordering sizeable numbers and we have still to get into the larger hire companies. Even so, we are hitting forecasts since full production started in January this year."

Powered access manufacturers UpRight and Genie have both built up their businesses on the back of vertical aluminium push around lifts and both still produce them in significant numbers. Other manufacturers such as and Böcker

Kermco says that it sees the new PK models going head to head with other push around lifts given the greater working height and more compact dimensions. Gross weight of the PK70 is just 380kg while lift capacity is 200kg the only downside is a shorter platform and slightly lower lift capacity limiting them to single person operation.

After several years of coming, US-built Custom Equipment machines have finally obtained CE compliance and should do well in the UK and continental Europe once it decides on distribution. A well known sales company with initials for a name is expected to confirm at Vertikal Days that it has been appointed as the UK/Ireland distributor. Custom's Hy-Brid (HB) series includes - the 4.87 metre working height HB1030/1030E and the six metre working height HB1430, lightweight scissor lifts with roll-out deck extensions that have fully proportional dual-motor electric drive system, integrated battery charger and self contained hydraulic lift pump and motor unit. The machines also have a unique front wheel steering system that allows the machines to operate on many traditionally 'off-limit' floor coverings such as carpet and tiles.

Weighing just 550kg and 760kg respectively and with low stowed platform heights and electric steering, the machines are proving very popular in North America working on low pressure bearing floors.

Another American company looking to make a come back and win a slice of the push-around lift market is Bil-Jax. In pre-CE days its Cougar lift range was relatively popular. Currently it offers models such as the Odyssey 34 with

the Tomcat 24 is the only CE compliant Bil-Jax machine currently available.



The Custom Hy-Brid machines - now CE compliant - are narrow and lightweight and ideal for working on low pressure bearing floors.

Bil-Jax, Faraone, JLG and Haulotte, among others, have all joined the market since and all of them are now dipping a toe into the UK market.

Faraone and its recently appointed UK distributor Kermco, launched its new lower height, no outrigger PK range at SED and will also be on display at Vertikal Days. The push-around range includes new models, the 6.0 metre working height PK60 and the 7.2 metre PK70, dubbed the 'Push-around King' by Kermco.

With platform heights of up to 5.2 metres they are based on the larger Faraone PK models which offer heights of up to 12 metres. The new lower-level models are similar to the original Pop-Up and Power Tower in that they do not require outriggers, although they are available as an option to permit levelling on uneven ground and to help with loading into lower headroom vans.

The new PK models offer compact dimensions of just 1.69 metres high, 1.28 metres long and 780mm wide allowing for easy transport in the back of a van.



personnel lifts C&a



The UpRight UL35E abandons the usual box section adopting a stacked mast configuration

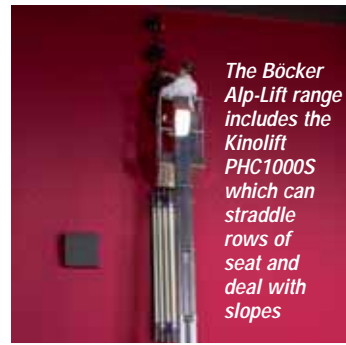
success or failure depends on distribution.

UpRight's UL range of push around lifts has changed little over the years, using thin wall aluminium box section which it claims gives greater rigidity compared to the forklift type most popular with other manufacturers.

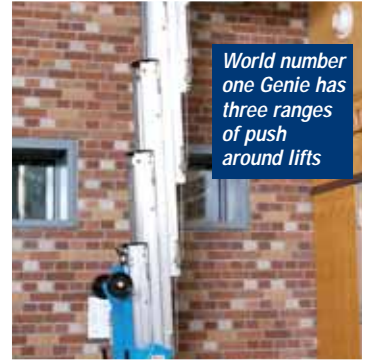
At last year's SED, the company unveiled a new model - the UL35 making a four model range (UL25, UL32, UL35 and UL40) from 7.62 to 12.15 metres. The new machine abandons the usual box section adopting the more usual stacked mast configuration. However since the launch, little further information on the model has been available.

World number one Genie has continually invested in push around lifts and currently has three ranges including the original AWP line with heights up to 12.29 metres to the heavier IWP range. With up to nine metres platform height it is aimed more at industrial applications where a more compact base and no

platform heights of more than 10 metres. However it is the tomCAT 24 - the largest in a three model range - that is currently CE compliant and likely to sell. Unusually for this type and size of platform, Bil-Jax uses steel, forklift type masts giving a capacity that is higher than most at 159kg in spite of its compact base. As with all new entrants into any market,



The Böcker Alp-Lift range includes the Kinolift PHC1000S which can straddle rows of seat and deal with slopes



World number one Genie has three ranges of push around lifts

outriggers is appreciated and easy transportation is not an issue. Genie also produces the DLP dual mast range that offers a two man platform with working heights to 12.62 metres.

Böcker's Alp-Lift is a range of vertical masted personnel and materials lifts - originally based on Genie designs but modified in 2000 - with



nifty lift



trailer mounted • self propelled • self

JLG was another manufacturer late into the personal lift market.



capacities between 350 and 500kg and lift heights to 14 metres.

An interesting variation is the Kinolift PHC 1000S which can be set up in about 10 minutes to straddle rows of seats and slopes such as in a cinema or theatre. Most of the major manufacturers offer such an option but the Böcker version is more modular.

As well as the LiftPod, JLG was late into the market and now has its Alumaloft range, by virtue of acquisition. Haulotte also only entered the market about three years ago, launching its Quick-Up range, but is struggling against the more established products and a maturing market. In fact it is very hard for any manufacturer to successfully span products as diverse as a

130 ft plus self propelled boom lift and a tiny 20ft push around.

Genie grew up with such a spread and has managed to hold both ends of the spectrum thanks to a dealer network established when the AWP was its largest product, while others continue to battle with the dilemma.

It would appear that early entrants into the mast type push around market got the design pretty much spot on, as little has changed over the years. The growth of 'alternative' personnel lifts add useful features, such as a two man platform in a different design package. Their increasing popularity indicates that these also provide an attractive offering - good height, stability, performance and price.

The LiftPod may well create a whole new product area for future development by other manufacturers. Will it be the powered product that finally makes a big dent in ladder usage turning ladder die-hards into aerial lift users? Only time will tell.

Using board carriers gives platforms increased versatility.

C&a personnel lifts



If a ladder is too risky a small platform might be the answer



Haulotte entered the market about three years ago with its Quick-Up range



A range for all reasons

Niftylift's extensive range of work platforms delivers cutting-edge specifications and class-leading performance.

Easy to use and maintain with after-sales support that is second to none, they're unrivalled in value, safety and reliability.

So whatever your reason, **Niftylift** has the range for it.

niftylift.com

Fingle Drive, Stonebridge, Milton Keynes, MK13 0ER.
Tel.: +44 (0)1908 223456 Fax.: +44 (0)1908 312733
email: sales@niftylift.com / info@niftylift.com

f drive • track drive