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Haydock back on the map

The first Vertikal Days event for the lifting industry held at Haydock Park near Manchester in late September was beset by wet and windy weather. In spite of this more 1,000 visitors and exhibitors made it an event to remember. In total 53 companies exhibited a wide range of products from the three metre high Power Tower to the first seven axle Spierings mobile tower crane in the UK with City Lifting.

Most exhibitors reported good levels of business with strong sales of product from their stands. While the numbers of visitors did not measure up to the big general construction equipment shows, every visitor counted and everyone certainly had time to talk. The new event was different in that once visitors arrived everything was included, from parking to coffee and cakes to lunch and refreshments. A number of visitors commented how nice it was to not keep having to dip their hands in their pockets some even said 'that it was the best day out they had had in a long time', really!

Although the event was all about people, the focus of the show was still the equipment and services that each of the exhibitors were offering. In the following pages we bring you as many photographs of the event as we can fit in three pages on the basis that a picture speaks a thousand words.

That said a number of exhibits deserve a special mention, some of the major crane manufacturers decided that given that this was a Bauma year there was no point in participating in Vertikal Days, preferring to join in next year.

Some crane companies however made exceptional efforts with their exhibits. MTI, the Jost distributor, used the event to unveil the new Jost JTL 68.4, flat top hydraulic luffing tower crane. The crane, which can be assembled with a mid sized All terrain crane (the heaviest component weighs less than five tonnes) has a 40 metre jib with a jib tip capacity of 1,500kg and has a maximum lift capacity of four tonnes. The first unit was sold to City Lifting who used its new seven axle Spierings to dismantle the new crane and take it home with them.

City Lifting conveniently had a stand adjoining that of MTI on which it exhibited both the new Spierings and one of its Comansa compact city tower cranes. The top slewing crane was assembled in the same time as it takes to put up a self erecting tower crane.

Cranes UK flew the flag for the mobile crane fraternity exhibiting

three of the all-new Tadano Faun cranes launched at Bauma, including the 40 tonne ATF40G-2, 50 tonne ATF50G-3 and 90 tonne ATF90G-4 the first of these cranes to arrive in the UK. In fact staff in both Germany and the UK worked flat out to make sure that the cranes were shipped in time to make it to Haydock. The company said that it had a great show and looked forward to next year's event.

Local crane hirers, Bob Francis and Ainscough supported the event, along with access sales and rental companies AJ access, Easi-UpLifts and Facelift, all helping to bring a cranes and access show back to the North West.

Ainscough showed a new fall arrest system for trailers. The extremely simple built in safety net can be deployed and stowed in less than two minutes, is very light weight and takes up no room in the trailer. The company reported strong interest in the device.

In addition the event attracted some of the largest aerial lifts in the country including the world's largest spider lift, the Teupen Leo 50 from Ranger Equipment; the UK's largest truck mounted lift, the 90 metre

Bronto S90HLA from Zenith; the world's largest scissor lift, the 32 metre Holland Lift G320 and the world's largest spider crane, the Unic 706.

It was also the first appearance in the UK for the new Leguan scissor lifts, PB Liftechnik's new electric scissor lifts, Platform Basket's new 15.75 spider lift, Haulotte's new telescopic handler, Uprights new boom range from Snorkel, the new identity from Instant towers, the new Ruthmann truck mounts, Allan Access's new van mount with no outriggers, the CTE Power Tower and the PL9000 from Planet Platforms.

In summary

The new concept worked well and all visitor input was highly positive. Many stated that they were "happy to see cranes back at Haydock" and in a post show written exhibitor survey, 88 percent said that had already decided to exhibit next year - the majority voting for Haydock Park on June 25th/26th 2008.



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Local crane rental company Ainscough, not only showed off one of its new Liebherr cranes but also showed its easy set up safety nets for flat bed trucks and trailers. The device can be set in minutes and provides a safety net in case anyone should fall.



The UK's largest truck mounted lift the 90 metre Bronto S90HLA also made an appearance on the Thursday. Owned by Zenith platforms the machine was one of three large Bronto truck mounts on display.



The Ascendant stand sported its all-new 17 metre lift on an Iveco chassis. This new British-built lift incorporates single side outriggers to provide excellent outreach in a small footprint.



Facelift also had a 28 metre Falck Schmidt spider lift on its stand. Sold to Universal of London the machine can pass through a single doorway and then reach up into high atriums.

The Facelift 52 metre Bronto equipped with the unique lifting attachment allows the machine to place glass panels weighing over a 1,000kg while a man installs it from the platform.



At the larger end of the market local crane rental company Bob Francis (left), showed several cranes including its new Grove GMK2025 and GMK5100.



In terms of sales Kranlyft UK and Alan Peck(r) showed the way. The company sold eight of its Maeda cranes off the stand, including two of its LC785 compact crawlers.



Haulotte had its new 14 metre telehandler on show. The new unit turned quite a few heads, although the preference was for the all black colour scheme seen at Bauma.



PLC power pads had a range of its nylon outrigger mats on show along with the Telefant hydraulically lowering trailer from Switzerland. The company shared its stand with Vanson cranes, which had one of its more compact self erecting tower cranes on display.



Another all new lift launched at Vertical Days came from Allan Access. The new van mount has more than 12 metres working height, 12 metres outreach and requires no outriggers yet has a cargo carrying capacity of 450kg.



Genie showed its latest telehandler - the compact GTH 2506 with six metre lift height and 2,500kg lift capacity - along with a good selection from its aerial lift line.



Amongst its many models on the stand, JLG's tiny ES1230 mast type lift is proving a winner in the UK.

The Cosmic Sausages entertained during the day and evening.



Instant-UpRight, the alloy tower producer used the show to unveil a completely new corporate identity and branding which included the new company name.



Jost distributor MTI launched the new Jost 68.4 flat top hydraulic luffing jib tower crane. The new crane has a 40 metre jib with a jib tip capacity of 1,500kg and a maximum lift capacity of four tonnes. The unit on show was sold to City Lifting.





The worlds largest self propelled scissor lift, the Holland Lift G320 with 34 metre working height towered over most of the exhibits. Russon Access also showed a range of models from the Manitou line up.



Power Lifting introduced the Bocker range of aluminium cranes. The AHK27/1200 was fitted out as a lift crane while the AHK31/1500 was set up as a 31 metre aerial work platform. The AK32/1500 truck mount was also on show equipped with both lifting and aerial platform options.



City Lifting showed off its brand new seven axle Spierings mobile self erecting tower crane. With a lifting capacity at height and long radius equal to a 300 tonne plus telescopic, the crane is ideally suited to congested city work. It also had one of its Comansa flat top city tower cranes on display. The unit offers a real alternative to folding self erectors.



Niftylift showed off its new HR21 4x4 articulated boom lift which is now available with a bi-Energy power pack as well as its most popular models the 12 metre working height HR12 bi-energy and the T120 trailer lift.



Another new spider lift was to be found on the Promax stand where the company had the new 15 metre Platform Basket 15.75. Designed to pass through a single door the company reported sales from the stand.



Skyjack used Vertikal Days to show off its new 45ft boom lifts. The new model. The SB45J offers excellent reach and rough terrain performance in a rugged and simple to maintain package.



Compact crane specialist Valla cranes, had a selection of electric powered crawler pick and carry models for industry and public authority type work.



Tadano Faun showed three of its new All Terrain cranes, the 40 tonne ATF40G-2, the 50 tonne ATF50G-3 and the 90 tonne ATF90G-4 all of which were unveiled at Bauma and now beginning to ship.



CTE and Planet Platforms launched the new Power Tower, the unique push around powered lift that uses a sigma type linkage to provide a five metre working height with 250kg lift capacity. CTE also showed its new CS179 spider lift and its 19 metre Z19 sigma linkage and telescopic boom truck mount. Planet also displayed the new TP9000 trailer mounted scissor lift.



Skyking - the UK distributor for GSR and Wumag truck mounted lifts and Bluelift spider lifts - had a range of product including the 45 metre WT450 from Wumag in Wilson Access colours, a 29 metre GSR E290PX and Bluelift SA16 Compact.



Energy Batteries unveiled the new maintenance free Trojan gel batteries for aerial lifts.



The granddaddy of all spider lifts though was found in the demo area where Ranger had the massive 50 metre working height Teupen Leo 50GT.



UpRight displayed its range of scissor lifts and several models from the Snorkel boom lift range all branded in UpRight blue. It also announced that IPS the UpRight distributor in the UK and APS the Snorkel distributor have reached an agreement to form a jointly held company to sell and support UpRight products in the UK.



Unic GGR Glass showed off the recently launched 706, the world's largest spider crane, first seen in prototype form at Bauma earlier this year.



First time seen in the UK, Leguan's skid steer based scissor lift.

Vertikal days