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UK & Ireland **c&a** top 30

Top 30 Crane, Powered Access & Telehandler rental companies 2007

Our annual look at the UK and Ireland's largest lifting equipment rental fleets has been further refined for 2007.

Cranes

Mobile cranes

The top 30 mobile crane listing has changed very little over the past two years. One notable point in this year's numbers is the merging of David Slack's Nationwide Crane services into Ainscough and Hewden exiting the over 100 tonne market. As in previous years we have included the other cranes within the big mobile fleets, but have ranked each company purely on the number of road going cranes that it runs.

Crawler cranes

The crawler market continues to improve in the UK with a number of regional mobile crane hirers dipping their toes in the water. There have been no changes at the top with substantial investment from Weldex maintaining its position at the top of the UK crawler crane market.

Tower cranes

Last year response to our survey was poor and as a result our numbers abysmal, this year things have changed and we have seen good feedback from most large companies in the sector. As a result this years chart has changed significantly, some due to the dynamic market, some because we have corrected errors from last year.

It was almost nine years ago that the first Cranes & Access fleet survey was completed - back then it was the UK Top 10 Cranes and Access fleets.

This year we sorted through over 300 companies before sending out over 150 personally addressed survey forms with most responding rapidly and professionally.

We did notice that in general the Access rental companies were both more open, and more organised than the crane fraternity, although there were good and bad examples in both camps.

As usual we have had to estimate one or two fleets, in such cases we have used as many cross reference sources as we could and compared them with previous years inputs. We have also kept a beady eye out for the 'wiseacres' who think it is strategically clever or amusing to over or underestimate their fleets. Inevitably some of this will creep in.

On behalf of the Vertical Press I would like to thank all of you who have contributed to this feature and helped create an increasingly useful look at our industry.

Leigh W Sparrow *Publisher.*

TOP 30 MOBILE CRANE HIRERS					
Company	Mobile	Crawler	Tower	Mobile Tower	Total
Ainscough	497	0	0	8	505
Hewden	229	0	0	0	229
Quinto	82	0	0	0	82
Marsh Plant	74	0	0	0	74
King Lifting	68	0	0	3	71
Bronzeshield	63	0	0	2	65
James Jack	60	0	0	0	52
Baldwins	59	6	0	0	65
William O'Brien	56	3	0	0	59
Emsley	52	0	0	1	53
Kavanagh	52	1	0	0	53
Emerson	51	1	0	0	32
Peter Hird	49	0	0	0	49
Terranova	45	0	0	0	45
Mammoet	40	0	0	0	40
Brynn Thomas	38	2	0	0	40
Sparrows	37	23	31	0	91
McNally	37	2	0	0	39
GBK	33	0	0	0	33
Winter Lift	33	0	0	0	33
Select plant	32	35	270	0	337
Crane Hire Dublin	32	0	0	0	32
Davies	32	5	0	0	37
A. Jardine	32	3	0	0	35
Southern Cranes	30	0	0	0	30
Abba Crane hire	29	0	0	0	29
Dewsbury & Proud	28	0	0	0	28
MacSalvors	26	0	0	0	26
Bob Francis	24	14	0	0	38
Beck&Poltzer	23	0	0	0	23
City Lifting	22	3	102	12	139
NMT	22	0	0	4	26
Peterborough Crane	22	0	0	0	22



TOP 12 CRAWLER CRANE HIRERS			
Company	Total units	Full size	Minis
Weldex	112	112	0
AGD	100	60	40
NRC	75	55	20
Unic GGR	63	0	63
Select Plant	35	35	0
BPH	33	33	0
Sparrows	23	0	23
Hire Maeda	20	0	20
Easi-UpLifts	17	0	17
Bob Francis	14	14	0
Eco Lift	10	0	10
Caledonian	12	0	12





TOP 10 TOWER CRANE HIRERS			
Company	Total Units	Top Slewlers	Self Erectors
Select	270	270	0
Falcon	226	205	21
HTC	210	210	0
London Tower Crane	200	177	23
Arcomet	185	130	55
WD Bennetts	121	117	4
City Lifting	114	77	37
Kier Plant	110	100	10
Mantis	103	16	87
Ladybird	74	23	51

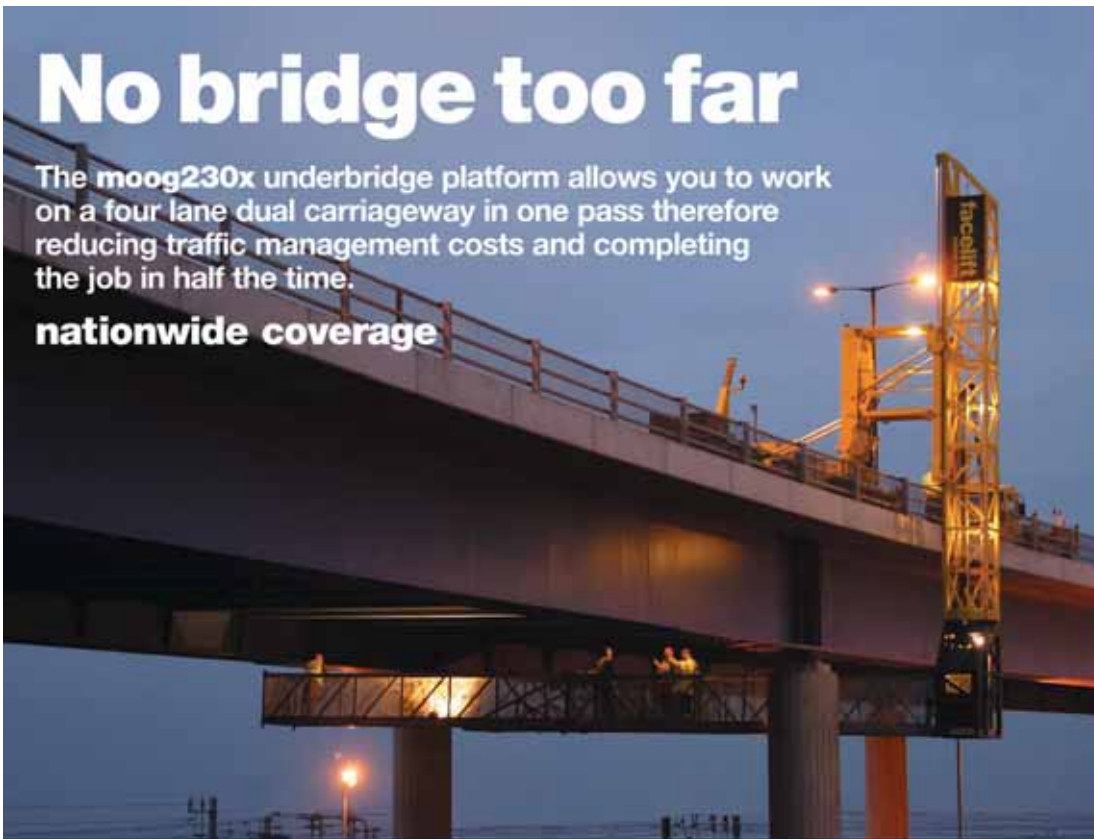


LARGEST CRANES TOWERS		
Company	Model	Capacity in tonnes
Select	Comedil CTL630	630
HTC	Wolff 600EC	600
Falcon	Potain K4/56	392
Arcomet	Potain MD365	365
WD.Bennetts	Jost 316	316
City Lifting	Comansa 21LC290	290
Mantis	Saez TLS65	90

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LARGEST CRANES MOBILES

Company	Model	Capacity in tonnes
ALE	Gottwald MK1500	1,500
Ainscough	Liebherr 11000DS	1,000
Baldwins	Liebherr 11000DS	1,000
McNally	Demag TC2800	1,000
Port Services	Liebherr LTM 1500-8.1	500
Brynn Thomas	Grove GMK5450	500
James Jack	Grove GMK7450	500
NMT	Terex-Demag AC400	400
GBK	Liebherr LTM1400	400
William O'Brien	Liebherr LTM1400	400
Kavanagh	Demag AC350-1	350
Terranova	Demag AC350	350
Bronzeshield	Liebherr LTM1300/1	300
Peterborough crane	Grove GMK 6300	300
Emerson	Demag AC755	250
King Lifting	Demag AC350-1	250
Winterlift	Liebherr LTM1250.6-1	250
John Sutch	Demag AC250	250
Davies	Grove GMK 5200	200
Emsley	Liebherr LTM1200	200
Sparrows	Terex-Demag AC200-1	200
Southern Cranes	Demag AC200	200
Abba	Liebherr LTM1200-5.1	200
Marsh Plant	Liebherr LTM5130-5.1	130
Quinto	Liebherr LTM1120	120
Hewden	Demag AC100	100
Bob Francis	Grove GMK5100	100
Beck&Pollitzer	Grove GMK4090	90
A. Jardines	PPM ATT900	90

CRANE COMPANIES AND INVESTMENT

Company	Investment past 12 Month	Depots	Employees
Weldex	£22,000,000	3	140
Ainscough	£20,610,000	24	1,026
HTC	£10,000,000	2	350
Hewden	£8,000,000	22	355
McNally	£6,000,000	3	N/G
Brynn Thomas	£5,000,000	4	63
Kavanagh	£5,000,000	4	82
Bronzeshield	£3,000,000	3	80
Marsh Plant	£3,000,000	7	145
Port Services	£3,000,000	3	60
Bob Francis	£2,700,000	3	57
BPH	£2,700,000	1	48
Emerson	£2,500,000	1	83
Peterborough Crane	£2,500,000	1	27
Sparrows	£2,450,000	3	65
Falcon	£2,300,000	1	267
AGD	£2,000,000	1	80
City Lifting	£2,000,000	2	80
Terranova	£2,000,000	2	80
Winterlift	£1,800,000	2	48
GBK	£1,500,000	3	45
NRC	£1,500,000	2	55
A. Jardine	£1,000,000	3	45
P.Hird	£1,000,000	1	n/g
Ladybird	£500,000	1	16
Beck&Pollitzer	Not disclosed	15	275
WD.Bennetts	Not disclosed	2	80
Davies	Not disclosed	3	45
Emsley	Not disclosed	2	77
Mantis	Not disclosed	4	50
NMT	Not disclosed	4	30

LARGEST CRANES CRAWLERS

Company	Model	Capacity in tonnes
Weldex	Liebherr 11350	1,350
ALE	Liebherr LR1800	1,200
BPH	Kobelco CKE2500	250
NRC	Sumitomo SC1500SL	230
AGD	IHI CCH1200	120
Bob Francis	Manitowoc 1000E	90
Davies	Hitachi SCX900-2	90

TOTAL FLEET COMBINED BOOM LENGTHS

Company	Total Boom length in metres
Ainscough	23,910
Hewden	11,205
Weldex	9,250
Marsh Plant	3,750
NRC	3,660
AGD	3,200
King Lifting	3,000
Quinto	2,900
Emsley	2,500
Kavanagh	2,383
Brynn Thomas	2,270
James Jack	2,260
William O'Brien	2,050
Bronzeshield	1,900
McNally	1,900
Sparrows	1,850
BPH	1,800
Emerson	1,793
Winterlift	1,680
Davies	1,600
Terranova	1,450
A. Jardines	1,208
GBK	1,204
Bob Francis	1,200
NMT	1,160
Unic GGR	1,008
Peter Hird	950
Port Services	950
Beck&Pollitzer	950
Peterborough	900



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Access

Rapid changes are afoot in the powered access business as American style consolidation creeps in. Lavendon has led this process, continuing to buy both quality regional rental companies and more recently, soak up machines from national players when it acquired Wizard Workspace, the UK's 10th largest access rental company in our 2006 study.

The Wizard fleet has been merged into that of Nationwide Access while other Lavendon additions continue to operate as independent regional companies and are thus shown in their own right. Other departures from this year's chart includes Universal - a part of which was acquired by Facelift after it went into administration and then liquidation - and Venture, previously All Access.

The other interesting point is the number of fleets with 2,000 or more units, a few years ago this fleet size was the reserve of Hewden and Nationwide.

Now it is rapidly becoming typical of the larger regional players.



C&a

top 30



LARGEST MACHINES

Company	Boom	Scissor	Spider lift	Truck mount	Trailer Lift
Facelift	46m JLG 150HAX	17m Skyjack 9250	38m Palazzani Mantis	60m Bronto S62MDT	29m Omme EBIZ29
Nationwide	46m JLG 150HAX	32m Liftlux SL320	28m Teupen Leo 30H	70m Bronto T72M	N/A
Easi-Uplifts	41m Genie Z135/70	20.5m Liftlux SL205-25	40.25m Falk Schidt FS420c	68m Bronto S70MDT	26m Denka DL28
Hi-Reach	41m Genie Z135/70	32m Liftlux SL320	n/a	n/a	N/A
Skylift Hire	41m Genie Z135/70	21m JLG SL21-25	30m Omme 3000RBD	n/a	15m Genie TZ50
PAS	41m Genie Z135/70	32m Liftlux 320/30	n/a	n/a	n/a
Platform Company	41m JLG 1350	30m Terex TS100	n/a	n/a	15m UpRight TL49
UK Platforms	41m JLG 1350	16m Haulotte 18SDX	n/a	n/a	n/a
Access Rentals	38m Grove AMZ131	32m Holland Lift G320DL30	n/a	n/a	N/A
Hewden	41m Genie Z135/70	20.5m Liftlux SL205-25	n/a	n/a	15m Genie TZ50
Charles Wilson	41m Genie Z135/70	16m Genie GS5390	n/a	n/a	15m Genie TZ50
Manlift Hire	41m Haulotte H43TPX	26m Liftlux SL26d	32m Palazzani Ragno 34	51m Wumag WT530	15m Aerial K17
A-Plant	41m JLG 1350 SJP	24.5m Liftlux SL245-25	n/a	n/a	15m Nifty T170
Higher Platforms	38m Genie S125	20.5m Liftlux SL205-25	10m Nifty Trax 120	18m CTE Z-20	10m Nifty T-120
GPT	38m Genie S125	16m Genie GS5390	n/a	n/a	15m UpRight TL49
Panther	24m JLG 800AJ	16.5m Holland-Lift N-165EL12	28m Teupen Leo 30T	42m Oil&Steel Eagle 44	15m Genie TZ50
GT Access	26m Terex TB85	15m Liftlux SL15	30m Teupen Leo 30	n/a	15m Nifty T170
AFI	38m Genie S125	24m Liftlux SL245-25	n/a	n/a	N/A
Aerial Platform Service	41m JLG 1350SJP	26m Liftlux SL260-25	n/a	n/a	N/A
AJ Access	26m Genie S85	15m Skyjack 9250	n/a	n/a	10m Nifty T-120
AMP	26m Genie S85	16.5m Holland-Lift N-165EL12	11.5m CTE T135	18m CTE Z-20	15m Nifty T170
EPL	26m Genie S85	12m JLG 40RTS	n/a	44m Bronto 46XDT	n/a
Kimberly	38m Genie S125	31.5m Holland Lift G300	n/a	n/a	n/a
Loxam	36m JLG 120HX	20.5 Liftlux SL205-25	n/a	70m Bronto 72HLA	n/a
Lifterz	19m Nifty HR21	16.5m Holland-Lift N165EL12	n/a	n/a	10m Nifty T-120
Rapid Platforms	19m Nifty HR21	15m UpRight LX50	27m F.Schmidt FS290	38m Multitel 40TJ	19m Dinolift 210
Active Platforms	38m Genie S125	16m Genie GS5390	n/a	n/a	11m Aerial K13
HSS	10m Nifty HR12	10m Genie GS3246	n/a	n/a	11.5m UpRight TL38
Zenith	n/a	n/a	n/a	88m Bronto S90HLA	n/a

TOP 30 ACCESS COMPANIES

Company	Total	Booms	Scissors	Spider Lifts	Push rounds	Truck mount	Van Mount	Trailer lift
Nationwide	7,140	3093	3660	50	130	204	3	0
Platform Company	4,122	1626	2496	0	0	0	0	10
AFI	4,075	1,258	2,812	3	0	0	0	2
Hewden	2,719	1295	1398	0	1	0	0	25
HSS	2,318	405	1,391	0	314	0	0	208
Easi UpLifts	2,282	1,342	759	65	15	34	25	42
Panther	2,085	421	1407	20	9	23	4	5
A-Plant	2,060	855	1025	135	0	0	0	45
Hi-Reach	1,827	604	969	0	210	0	0	44
Access Rentals	1,778	590	1,100	88	0	0	0	0
Loxam *	1,760	650	850	0	0	115	145	0
Kimberly	1,123	420	668	0	35	0	0	0
UK Platforms	1,093	613	480	0	0	0	0	0
GPT	1,060	400	650	0	0	0	0	10
SGB	870	400	450	0	20	0	0	0
Charles Wilson	857	305	515	0	25	0	0	12
Skylift	854	350	475	20	0	3	0	6
Aerial Platform Service	680	230	450	0	0	0	0	0
AMP	662	269	363	7	3	5	3	12
Highway Plant	545	200	300	10	10	10	0	15
Facelift	510	163	153	25	2	79	29	59
Higher Platforms	436	150	270	10	3	0	0	3
EPL	416	100	66	0	0	117	133	0
Kestrel	387	120	250	0	0	1	10	6
Platfinder	382	105	225	20	20	0	0	12
PAS	367	126	241	0	0	0	0	0
GT Access	338	93	224	6	12	1	0	2
Manlift	322	146	140	4	9	18	0	5
AJ Access	257	129	121	0	4	0	0	3
Rise Hire	246	0	0	0	0	0	246	0
Peter Hird	240	75	150	0	10	0	0	5
London Tower service	195	34	140	0	21	0	0	0
Aquarius Leasing	176	0	0	0	0	1	175	0
Lifterz	173	47	115	0	9	0	0	2
Groupings from Main chart								
Lavendon UK	10,760	4,053	5,950	87	145	233	266	26
Access Link	3,795	1,275	2,150	90	85	90	30	75



TOP 12 VEHICLE MOUNTED FLEETS

Company	Truck Mount	Van Mount
Loxam	115	145
EPL	117	133
Rise Hire	0	246
Nationwide Skylift	204	3
Aquarius leasing	1	175
Facelift	79	29
ES Access	84	0
Smart Rent	60	0
Easi Uplifts	34	25
ES	30	20
Orion	35	0
Panther	23	4

TOTAL FLEET PLATFORM HEIGHT

Company	metres
Nationwide	93,432
Platform Co	45,100
AFI	40,000
Hewden	33,600
Easi uplift	30,233
A-Plant	23,100
Access Rentals	21,500
Hi Reach	17,685
Panther	17,646
UK Platforms	16,500
HSS	16,000
Kimberly	11,100
Skylift Hire	10,750
GPT	10,550
SGB	9,800
Facelift	8,310
C.Wilson	7,570
Aerial	6,850
AMP	6,815
EPL	6,230
Higher Platforms	5,000
Highway Plant	5,000
Manlift	4,100
G.T Access	3,960
Rise Hire	3,259
AJ	3,177
PAS	3,100
Planfinder	3,100
Peter Hird	2,250
Lifterz	1,900
LTS	1,220



COMPANY DETAILS & INVESTMENT

Company	Investment	Depots	Employees
Platform Company	£25 million	10	262
Nationwide	£15 million	45	666
Aerial Platform services	£14.5 million	3	40
Skylift Hire	£11 million	3	40
Hewden	£8.75 million	19	202
A-Plant	£8 million	12	97
Hi-Reach	£6.5 million	8	60
Easi-UpLifts	Not disclosed	7	145
Panther	£6 million	6	107
Kimberly	£5.6 million	4	52
Facelift	£5.5 million	7	159
Charles Wilson	£4 million	12	215
HSS	£3.75 million	350	2,458
Higher Platforms	£3 million	4	30
Rise Hire	£2.8 million	6	22
AMP	£2.7 million	5	63
LTS	£1.8 million	1	7
AJ Access	£1.75 million	2	30
SGB	£1.5 million	4	40
Manlift	£1.5 million	3	16
Active Rentals	£1.4 million	1	15
EPL	£1.1 million	8	124
PAS	£0.9 million	3	22
Aquarius	£0.85 million	1	16
GT Access	£0.8 million	2	20
Rapid Platforms	£0.65 million	1	38
UK Platforms	£0.5 million	6	52
Access Rentals	Not disclosed	11	89
GPT	Not disclosed	10	160
Kestrel	Not disclosed	1	28
AFI	Not disclosed	17	260





c&a

top 15

Telehandlers

This is the fourth year that we have included Telehandlers in our look at the major rental companies. At the top Hewden appears to have widened its lead, expanding its fleet to about 2,300 units, while Fork Rent is joint fourth as its order for 1,000 units from JCB are delivered.

The majority of the telehandler rental market remains in the hands of general plant hire companies together with a few specialists, such as UK Forks and Fork Rent. An increasing number of powered access companies are also now expanding their telehandler fleets. We touched upon the number of aerial lift rental companies entering the market last year - The Platform Company continues to increase its fleet. At the same time companies such as Fork Rent are going the opposite way adding access platforms to its fleet.

TOP 15 TELESCOPIC HANDLER COMPANIES								
Company	Total Units	Fixed	360	Largest Fixed	Largest 360	Main Brand	Depots	Employees
Hewden	2,291	2,291	0	17m	N/A	CAT	19	202
UK Forks	1,350	1,300	50	17m	25m	JCB	6	105
A-Plant	1,021	1,021	1,021	17m	N/A	JCB	12	97
Fork Rent	750	750	0	17m	N/A	JCB	1	28
GE capital	750	725	25	17m	21m	JCB	26	300
Hessle	570	520	50	18m	30m	Manitou	3	50
GPT	450	425	25	17m	21m	Manitou	10	150
Charles Wilson	298	295	3	17m	21m	Manitou	12	215
Easi-uplifts	302	273	29	17m	25m	Manitou	7	145
The Platform Co	230	230	0	17m	N/A	JCB	10	262
Hawk Plant	250	225	25	17m	18m	Terex	4	400
Skylift Hire	180	175	0	17m	N/A	JCB	3	40
Kimberly	65	65	0	17m	N/A	JCB	4	52
Aerial Platforms	30	30	0	17m	N/A	JLG	3	40
Hi-Reach	15	15	0	13m	N/A	Manitou	8	60



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