

Sarens to launch heavy-lift crane

Belgian-based international lifting specialist Sarens is launching a 3,250 tonne 120,000 tonne/metre heavy-lift crane of its own design, the SGC 120. The crane, whose concept originated with Rigging International prior to its acquisition by Sarens, is a classic ringer design slewing on a double ring track system which sits on a load-bearing mat. The resulting maximum ground bearing pressures are less than 20 tonnes per square metre, virtually eliminating any special ground preparation requirements. The crane promises some useful capacities and will handle 600 tonnes at up 100 metres radius.

The outer ring has a 38.5 metre diameter, which relates to just over 44 metres to the edge of the load-bearing mats that the two rings sit upon. The main boom is a twin boom design with a maximum length of 130 metres, supported with twin back masts. A 90 metre luffing jib can be added which features a massive 68 metre jib pendant to ensure good capacities when fully luffed out.

Sarens says that the crane ships in 135 standard 40ft containers and when in position has up to 3,600 tonnes of counterweight which is

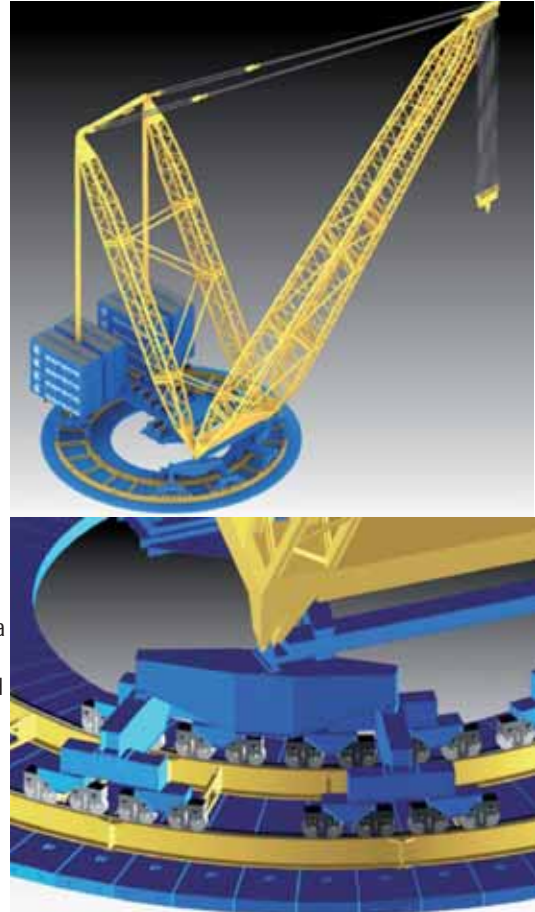
made up of specially reinforced 40ft containers filled with locally sourced materials.

The SGC120 uses up to six high power winches, rather than strand jacks, with 61 tonnes of line pull and line speeds of up to 20 metres/minute making it more akin to a heavy-lift crane than some other lifting machines of this size.

For applications requiring frequent movements the crane can be mounted on a dual parallel track rail system laid out to suit the job site.

Set up requires a 300 tonne and a

200 tonne crawler crane, a 100 tonne telescopic crane, along with a 10 and a 20 metre boom lift, a 10 tonne fork truck and a team of riggers. Time required for unloading and erecting is claimed to be around 20 days. Sarens has designed the SGC120 to European and American crane and lifting standards, including ASCE 7, ASME-B 30, ASME-NQA-1, 2.15 and EN 13001-1 & 2. A number of international patents have been applied for



The crane's slewing bogies employ multiple rollers to help keep ground bearing pressure down

and the crane is planned to be ready to start work in early 2011.

Zoomlion to show Rough Terrain cranes at Bauma

Chinese crane manufacturer Zoomlion has announced that it will introduce a four model range of Rough Terrain cranes with maximum capacities of up to 100 tonnes. The new cranes have been designed with the North American market and buyers in mind, although it says that it expects to sell the same machines on a global basis. As part of its introduction programme the company has signed a worldwide distribution agreement with Global Crane Sales of Houston, Texas. Global will also take on the distribution of a number of Zoomlion tower crane models in North America.

Zoomlion currently has two Rough Terrain models ready to ship in mid-July, the 35 tonne RT35 and 55 tonne RT55. An RT55 is due to be displayed at Bauma later this month - the crane features a 34 metre main boom, plus 10 metre swingaway with additional seven metre bi-fold section. Two further models with 75 and 100 tonne capacities will be launched later in the year. All are expected to be

traditional two axle designs. Zoomlion says that the new Rough Terrain cranes have been specifically designed with high capacity to weight ratios. They feature Cummins power units, Dana transmissions and Greer electronics. Global says that it can sell the new cranes at prices some 30 percent below the levels offered by the major manufacturers.

The first Zoomlion Rough Terrain crane.



Ausa announces mini telehandler

Spanish construction equipment manufacturer Ausa will launch the Taurulift T133H mini telehandler at Bauma. The new lift is an ultra compact unit with 1,300kg lift capacity to its maximum lift height of 2.7 metres.

The company says the new model features a patented 4x2 hydraulic drive axle system developed in cooperation with French hydraulic specialist Poclair. This offers a maximum speed of 20 km per hour and can handle gradients of up to 31 percent. Power comes from a 22.4 hp Kubota diesel engine and one-gear hydrostatic transmission. Attachments include a fork with side shift, bucket, grapple, Pelican scoop and Pelican forks.

The Ausa Taurulift T133H



Shaughnessy takes over as IPAF president

Steve Shaughnessy of Skyjack has been appointed as the new IPAF president taking over from John Ball who has completed his two year term of office. The hand-over took place at the IPAF AGM and Summit held in London in late March.

Wemotec's new
SMK320.67
spider crane



Wemotec and Palfinger to launch spider crane

German-based crane, access and telehandler rental and engineering company Wemotec, has teamed up with Palfinger to produce a new long boom specialist spider crane targeted at placing glass panels and steel beams. The new crane, the SMK320.67 (SMK or SpezialMontageKran which translates as 'special installation crane') has stowed dimensions of 4.87 metres long by 1.75 metres wide with an overall height of 1.98 metres. In spite of these relatively compact dimensions it boasts a 32 metre hook height and 6.7 tonne maximum lift capacity.

The articulated boom has two main arms with over-centre articulation, plus a telescopic jib, making it amazingly versatile for reaching difficult areas. Maximum outreach is a remarkable 29 metres. A four-axis manipulator arm has also been integrated into the boom design for use with an RSJ grab or vacuum glass handler, allowing a 1,000kg pane or beam to be installed overhead or into difficult to reach positions. The new crane incorporates all of Palfinger's latest technology including AOS function damping for smooth operation and HPLS power boost. Power for the SMK320 comes from both a Hatz diesel engine and AC power unit providing indoor and outdoor operation.

Heiko Haase, the man responsible for the development of the new crane at Wemotec said: "We have used our first hand experience in this area to develop this machine along with the technology and engineering from Palfinger." He also adds that the company plans to introduce a further two mini cranes later in the year. In the meantime, visitors to Bauma can see the new crane on the Palfinger stand.

The crane includes a four axis manipulator for glass handlers and grabs



Power includes both electric and diesel sources

Ranger to sell Spiderlift Company

Chesterfield-based Ranger Group, has decided to exit the rental market. The company currently rents tracked spider lifts as the Spiderlift Company. Andy Bray, Spider Lift's managing director, said that the company has taken the decision in order so that Ranger can concentrate more on its original brief - selling new equipment - without the possible conflict of competing with potential sales customers.

Bray said that he is currently in discussions with several companies with the possibility of either selling the business as a going concern or selling the platforms off 'one by one'. The company has around 24 spider lifts in its fleet, making it one of the top three spider lift specialists in the UK. He said that there is no particular deadline to complete the exit and will wait for the 'right deal or opportunity'.

The decision may have been brought about by one of Ranger's growing number of new equipment franchises which now includes Teupen, PB Liftechnik, Aichi and Giraf Track. To strengthen its sales efforts, Ranger has taken on Shane Marshall as regional sales rep for eastern England and Ireland. Marshall has worked in the access industry since 1988 and was previously a district manager with Instant UpRight. Bray plans to remain with the Ranger group following any sale.

More safe green lifts for Facelift

Facelift Access Hire is continuing its investment in new equipment taking delivery of 74 new boom lifts, trailer mounts and scissor lifts from Niftylift and Skyjack. It says the order reflects its confidence in the access market for 2010. The order includes 10 new HR21 AWD Hybrids. The four wheel drive Bi-Energy units feature Nifty's environmentally friendly technology which combines, a three cylinder Kubota 722 diesel engine, fitted with an exhaust purification system and uses the electric drive motor to boost power on steep grades or

rough terrain. When operating as a diesel under normal conditions the motor converts into a generator/alternator charging up the machine's battery pack. The HR21's are also equipped with Nifty's latest basket, the 'Toughcage' with its almost indestructible composite base and large diameter steel tube guardrails and the SIOPS safety system. The hybrids will be added to Facelift's Green Fleet to help meet the increasing demand for cleaner, more efficient equipment.

New Nifty HR21 for Facelift



Oil&Steel goes regional in UK

Truck and spider lift manufacturer Oil&Steel has announced a change in its UK distribution towards a number of independent regional offices/distribution outlets.

As part of the programme the company has already announced its first two appointments, with plans for more local technical support offices to follow.

The company is opening a new regional office Oil&Steel (Midlands) on the Leicestershire/ Northamptonshire border in partnership with access industry veteran Glyn Goodwin who has previously worked with Instant Zip-Up, Upright, Aerial Access, A J

Access, Genie and most recently Southern Plant.

The Oil&Steel northern regional office will be led by Gordon Jackson of Jackson Tools Scotland and will have dedicated sales and support staff providing telephone and on site back up. Oil&Steel chief executive Andrea Certo said: "It is absolutely vital that customers have access to our latest products and technical support in their own backyards. We intend to accelerate the commissioning of this type of office."

Oil&Steel's UK sales manager Chris Goodwin (no relation to Glyn) will begin to take a back seat role due



Glyn Goodwin



Gordon Jackson



Oil&Steel Snake 25

to increasing ill health. He has been diagnosed with Motor Neurone disease and said that he will remain active within the business for as long as he is able to contribute but has no idea how long that might be.

The latest move follows the recent appointment of Oil&Steel partner Cumberland Industries as a Sorage dealer for the UK and the departure of Oil&Steel UK director, Michela Viviani.

Palfinger enters US access market

Palfinger has acquired an 80 percent stake in Oklahoma City-based truck mounted aerial lift manufacturer ETI (Equipment Technology, LLC). Palfinger is calling this acquisition a 'strategic partnership' as the current owners are maintaining a significant shareholding and will continue to run the company.

ETI makes a range of products, including bucket trucks - both standard and fully insulated - and pick-up service truck cranes. ETI has 190 employees at three locations, with revenues of around \$45 million in 2009.

The deal will boost Palfinger's revenues by around six percent, while its North American revenues will rise from 12 percent to around 18 percent.

Palfinger chief executive Herbert Ortner said: "We have known ETI for a long time and are excited that the company is becoming part of the Palfinger Group. ETI allows us to realise our strategy of becoming a truly local player in one of our strategic core business segments."



An ETI service truck crane.



An ETI work platform

New 500 tonner for Bronzeshield

UK-based crane rental company Bronzeshield Lifting has taken delivery of a new 500 tonne Liebherr LTM 1500-8.1 All Terrain crane. The new crane tops out the Bronzeshield crane range and joins 30 other Liebherr cranes in the 60 unit fleet. The company has also placed a new order for a 200 tonne capacity Liebherr LTM 1200-5.1 which will join the fleet in May. Bronzeshield, which operates from depots in the South and East of England, ordered the eight axle LTM1500 with a fully loaded specification, including a seven section 84 metre main boom and numerous optional extras including 63 metre offsettable and 93 metre luffing jibs and Y-Guy superlift system.

Bronzeshield's managing director Bill Frost said: "One of the many things we like about Liebherr is that they consistently meet their delivery schedule - when they give you a date, they stick to it! Couple that with the build quality, technology, reliability and superb performance right through the duty charts, plus an excellent after-sales product support and we have plenty of reasons to continue with this long and fruitful association. The 200 tonne LTM 1200-5.1 we've also just ordered will add considerable muscle to our growing heavy-lift fleet and we are confident that this new addition will fulfil all our expectations".



Bronzeshield's new Liebherr LTM1500-8.1

Big Wolff's first outing



Wolffkran's largest luffing jib tower crane, the 1,500 tonne/metre 1250B is working on its first major job, a coal fired power station in Wilhelmshaven, Germany. Hitachi Power Europe is supplying the core components and subsidiary Donges Steeltec the steel works. The big Wolff is being used for the construction of the boiler support structure. Space around the boiler is very constricted leaving no room for crawler or telescopic cranes - a key reason for the selection of the 1250B which boasts a small 'footprint' for its size and is easy to assemble with no component weighing more than 15 tonnes. The 1250B has been erected with a 110 metre tower on foundation anchors and is also anchored to the adjacent stair tower at 50 metres. It will remain in this location for the duration of the contract.

Haki and Beaver 84 team up

Leading scaffold, temporary fencing and access equipment supplier Beaver 84 and system scaffold manufacturer Haki have signed an exclusive rental partnership agreement to provide Haki scaffolding systems throughout the UK. Paul Brunt, managing director of Haki said: "The hire partnership agreement is a natural fit between the two companies. With Haki's product expertise and Beaver 84's unrivalled customer service and nationwide coverage, we have a winning combination."

Bluelift to launch 22 metre spider

Italian spider lift manufacturer Bluelift will launch a 22 metre, articulated boom spider lift - the C22/11 - at Bauma. Weighing around 3,000kg it boasts a maximum outreach of 11 metres with 200kg lift capacity. Stowed dimensions are 900 mm wide and 5.2 metres long, but can be reduced to 4.5 metres if the basket is removed. (See last minute Bauma)

Prolift takes first SIOP Niftylifts

Wellington, Somerset-based Prolift Access has taken delivery of two 63ft/19m platform height Nifty HR21s fitted with the SIOPS (Sudden Involuntary Operation Prevention System) safety system - the first rental company to add them to its fleet. Prolift's owner Andy Pearson said: "We are always looking to improve safety standards and I believe that Nifty's SIOPS system is a huge leap forward." SIOPS won this year's IAPA award for the 'best contribution to safe working at height - from a manufacturer'.



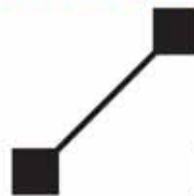
Andy Pearson with one of the new SIOPS equipped Nifty HR21

Visit us at the
Bauma 2010
 April 17 - 25, 2010
 Messe München International
 Outdoor exhibition area
 booth 1006/4

STEIGER® TB 270	
	27,00 m
	14,80 m
	3.500 kg

ruthmann.de/tb270en2

innovation at **bauma**



RUTHMANN
 professionals at work

Ruthmann GmbH & Co. KG
 Von-Braun-Straße 4 | 48712 Gescher-Hochmoor
 Phone: +49 2863 204-0 | Fax: +49 2863 204-212
 Internet: www.ruthmann.de | E-mail: info@ruthmann.de

Versatility with a difference!

The NEW ISOLI PNT210J

Multi position, In-Line & Extended 'H' Outriggers with Fly Jib

- 21m maximum working height
- 10m maximum outreach
- 3,500 Kg G.V.W.
- Auto set-up option
- Narrow stabilisation: 1.95m (outriggers closed)



The MPT-140 Land Rover Defender

- Fully Electro Hydraulic controls
- 14m maximum working height
- 7m maximum outreach
- Only 2.4m footprint
- Available on Nissan CabStar
- All cables inside boom

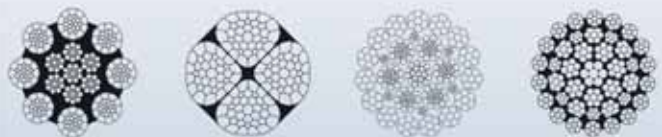


Call now for further information & specifications



Tel: 01226 716657
Email: info@promaxaccess.com
www.promaxaccess.com

Your partner for special wire ropes



www.carlstahl.com



Grove GSK55

Grove to go direct in Spain

Manitowoc has moved to a direct sales operation for its Grove mobile crane line in Spain, mirroring an arrangement already in place for its Manitowoc crawler cranes. Grove was previously sold in Spain by its long-serving distributor, Madrid-based Mopsa owned and managed by Enrique Peralta.

The new sales and service team is locally based throughout Spain and will be managed by Orlando Mota, general manager for Iberia. Back office services for the Spanish market, such as administration, will be handled from Manitowoc's regional office in Baltar, Portugal. All warranties for Grove cranes sold by Mopsa remain valid and will be covered by Manitowoc Crane Care. Potain tower cranes will continue to be sold by its long-standing Spanish dealer Iberguas.

More training for Hird



Yorkshire-based crane and access company Peter Hird & Sons has become a consortium member of the RTITB, and as such is able to deliver a number of modules to enable heavy goods drivers to comply with the new requirements under the driver CPC.

The modules include Drivers Hours, Tachographs, Health and Safety as well as Safe Vehicle Operations and Loading. The courses can be run in blocks of seven hours to suit the client or can be taken as a week course of 35 hours. All modules are approved by the Joint Approvals Unit for Periodic Training.

More military orders for JLG

JLG has received two new orders from the US government worth a total of \$45 million. The latest order is for 26 telehandler-based Engine Installation and Removal Vehicles (EIRV) for the US Navy. The order is worth around \$4 million and follows a \$41 million US Army order announced a week earlier for 311 JLG 10,000lb/4,500kg All Terrain Lifter Army System (ATLAS II) telescopic handlers.

The EIRV will be used for placing or removing engines on many common aircraft. It has a lift height of 12.5 metres, a horizontal reach of 8.8 metres and a lift capacity of 6,000lbs/2,721kg. The units will be manufactured in JLG's McConnellsburg, Pennsylvania.



The JLG EIRV



The JLG Atlas II

Yokohama introduces new crane tyre

Japanese tyre manufacturer Yokohama is to supply Liebherr, Ehingen, with its new 445/95 R25 170F (177E) RB01 tyre for its All Terrain cranes. The RB01 will be available for Liebherr's latest two axle All Terrain and will be shown at Bauma.

The new tyres are rated at 80 km per hour under full load and are said to offer a better ride with reduced rolling resistance leading to improved fuel consumption and less noise through using a new tread pattern and rubber compound. They will be available on the full product range up to 220 tonne five axle models. The three RB01 R25 tyre range includes the 385/95 (170E) 445/95 (177E) and 505/95 (183E) widths



Manitowoc opens new hoist line



Potain's plant in Charlieu

Manitowoc is investing €3 million in a new hoist production line at its facility in Saint-Nizier-Sous-Charlieu, France and closing its existing hoist plant in La Clayette, 20km away. The in-house manufacturing of hoists for Potain cranes originated in France, but the company says that the philosophies and procedures behind the

new plant will be adopted by the company's other production facilities in Germany, Italy, Portugal, China and India.

Philippe Cohet, Manitowoc executive vice president for Europe, Middle East and Africa, said: "This is a long-term investment that will modernise our production facilities in France and boost our competitiveness. It is both a response to the current low levels of demand and a move to position our company for future growth."

The facility at Charlieu will comprise four main areas of activity:

- The manufacture of large self-erecting tower cranes.
- The manufacture of hoist drums for Potain and Grove cranes.
- The production of sub-assembly of welded units.
- The production of spare parts and the provision of refurbishment services

The transfer brings the total number of employees at Charlieu to 340.

Kobelco appoints Sin Heng

Singapore based crane and access company, Sin Heng Heavy Machinery has signed a dealership agreement with Kobelco Cranes, which gives Sin Heng the right to sell all current and new models of Kobelco cranes along with spare parts and services. Sin Heng, which went public in February, recently celebrated the delivery of its 100th Kobelco crawler crane.



It's here!

the all new **city** range

of electric powered platforms from Versalift

- Low emissions
- Virtually silent operation

Access to a greener world



www.versalift.co.uk
email us at: electric@versalift.co.uk



Consider the possibilities...

www.maedacranes.com

Company and director fined for fatal accident

A company director has been ordered to pay £20,000 following the death of an employee who was also his best friend after an aerial lift toppled over in Manchester city centre in 2007. John Taylor, 65, admitted failing to ensure the safety of his long-serving employee Ian Gutteridge, 56, when they used the platform - an old Simon Topper - to reach the top of the Prince Albert monument in Albert Square. They were fitting a neon necklace to the 140-year-old statue.

Gutteridge had deliberately disabled an outrigger interlock in order to get the machine closer to the monument. He had also ignored a safety instruction to restrict the outreach. Gutteridge and a photographer who had been with him crashed to the ground, hitting their heads on the floor. Freelance photographer Jonathan Keenan, escaped with injuries to his head, back and shoulder, but Gutteridge, who had not been wearing a safety helmet, died from critical head and chest injuries.

Manchester's Minshull Street Crown Court was told that Gutteridge's actions in over-riding the safety mechanism had been known to his boss and best friend, Taylor who had been with him at the time and should have stopped him operating the machine while it was unsafe.

Taylor was fined £2,000 and the company £10,000, plus £8000 towards costs. Taylor was told however that the fines were substantially lower than would normally be imposed for a case in which a death had occurred, because of the exceptional nature of the circumstances.



Blade expands fleet with spider lifts

Bradford, UK based Blade Access has added two new 17 metre CTE CS170 tracked spider lifts to its fleet. The units are the first in the UK to have full 180 degree platform rotation and a twin drive speeds.

The company also says that it is planning to add at least four new 23 metre spider lifts in 2010. Mark Bell of Blade said: "Track mounted platforms have been a preferred choice of our maintenance division for quite a few years now and are increasingly becoming the platform of choice for many reasons. With the ability to work both indoors and outdoors on the same site they have helped to reduce costs for our clients on many projects. Both new units are available for end user hire or cross-hire throughout the UK."



UK-based Blade Access is adding spider lifts to its fleet, including the CTE Traccess CS170



The new Isoli PT 225 HE+HE will be unveiled at Bauma

Isoli announces 22.5 metre telescopic

Italian truck mounted platform manufacturer Isoli has announced a new 22.5 metre telescopic boomed truck mounted lift, the PT 225 HE+HE.

The new model will be mounted on a 3.5 tonne Nissan Cabstar chassis, will have 14 metres of outreach and a platform capacity of 230kg. The lift will also be available on a Mercedes Sprinter and VW Crafter chassis.

Gabriele Valli of Isoli said: "The PT225 is lightning fast to set up thanks to its computerised self-levelling system which can be operated from both the basket and the ground controls. The unit will also be available with 1,000 Volt protection or boom fed water and air outlets in the basket."

Manitou reports full year loss

Market-leading telehandler manufacturer Manitou has released the details of its results for 2009 and reported improving order intake for most of its products.

Revenues for 2009 are confirmed at €684.1 million, a fall of 46 percent on 2008, this includes a 10 month contribution from Gehl. A like for like comparison shows revenues declined 54 percent.

Rough Terrain handling equipment - largely telehandlers but also regular RT lift truck sales - were down 53 percent to €485 million.

Industrial material handling sales - mainly counterbalance fork trucks - were down 45 percent to €124, while compact equipment revenues - Gehl skid steers etc - fell 66 percent to €75 million. The company says that it managed to

maintain its share of the telehandler market. During the year the company almost halved its net debt to €243 million, reducing its gearing to 73 percent. It also says that it has reduced its breakeven point by around 25 percent.

The company posted a loss for the year of €131.3 million compared to a profit of €4.1 million last year. This year's loss includes goodwill impairment and other write-downs of over €65 million. The company says that 2010 has started more strongly than it anticipated and it is hiring staff on a temporary basis to meet the demand. It warns however that it does not believe that the level of the upturn is sustainable over the whole year and is still predicting single figure growth for the year.

Manitou also announced that Gehl has adopted a leaner management structure with Dan Miller moving up to president and Serge Bosché to vice president, sales & marketing.



Don't get eaten up by costs!



Do the math at the **bauma 2010**
April 19 – 25, Munich
F 8 booth N 822/5 and F 13 booth 1304/1

PALFINGER



You can't afford anything cheaper.

Quality is the most effective way of saving money. At bauma 2010 we'll gladly show you why we think that and how we can prove it. Come and do the math with us! So costs don't eat you up.

www.palfinger.com

EXCEPTIONAL



PROGRESS

www.effer.com info@effer.it



The Smart-Rig crane has some decent outreach - note the rolling outriggers

New lightweight crane

Newport Beach, California-based Smart-Rig Cranes has launched a new battery powered, ultra-compact pick & carry mini crane that weighs just 450kg. An additional 180kg of counterweight is added by filling the water tank counterweight system. The crane features a three section, six metre telescopic boom that can lift just over 1,000kg to a height of around three metres and will take 300kg to a 5.8 metre hook height or lift 225kg at its full outreach.

Measuring 2.4 metres long by 860mm wide and 950mm high at its most compact, additional stability is gained from an extendable water tank counterweight system and rolling outriggers/stabilisers that are swung into the forward position for maximum outreach. All capacities can be pick & carried.

The compact crane also features a boom mounted winch, single sheave boom nose and hydraulic lift cylinder, all operated via a small remote controller.



The counterweight tank extends for additional ballast effect.

NY crane inspector gets 2 to 6

New York City's former chief cranes' inspector James Delayo has pleaded guilty to various charges and took a two-to-six-year prison plea. The disgraced 61 year old Department of Buildings inspector admitted that he repeatedly sold answers to the crane operator licensing test as well as selling the licenses themselves for around \$500 each. He also pleaded guilty to pocketing bribes, although prosecutors were only able to prove that he received around \$10,000 over a seven year period for clearing cranes through regular inspection.

Delayo was accused of taking such a bribe from the owner of a Long Island-based crane company, Nu-Way Crane Service. The company's owner, Michael Sackaris, has been charged with bribery as has one of his crane operators, Michael Pascalli, who is said to have paid Delayo to sign off on an operator's exam that he never took.



Volvo to build technology centre in China

Volvo Construction Equipment has announced plans to build a design and technology centre that will concentrate on the development of products and components targeted at the needs of customers in the BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India and China) countries.

- The UK's HSE has issued a urgent Safety Notice following a recent fatal accident in Scotland (See training page).
- Rental software supplier InspHire has expanded its UK offices to include a new training centre.
- UK-based Speedy Hire has signed a five year, £20 million exclusive supply agreement with Connaught PLC.
- Manitex has won \$8.0 million of new orders, including \$5.0 million for boom trucks in the USA and Middle East.

- A dockside crane dropped a 126ft Snorkel boom lift around 24 metres in the port of Adelaide, Australia.



Snorkel boom

- US rental company, United Rentals is offering zero percent financing on its used equipment until the end of June.

- David Mathieson, the chief financial officer of US Rental company RSC has resigned to pursue other opportunities.

- Las Vegas-based Ahern Rentals has reported a \$70 million loss for 2009 but continues to expand its depot base opening five new locations so far this year.

- Bernard Pointet - formerly of LEV and Haulotte - has been appointed president of DLR - the French rental association.



Bernard Pointet

- US crane rental company Maxim Crane Works has sold \$250 million worth of five year senior notes.

- Ainscough Vanguard has appointed Matt Ainscough as its new managing director.

- Singapore-based crane rental company Sin Heng has successfully completed its IPO on the Singapore stock exchange.

- A tower crane that crashed down across a busy highway in Russia was caught on camera by a traffic video and is on Vertikal.Net.

- Chris Buisseret training manager of Rapid Platforms and active member of IPAF's training committee retired on April 1.



Chris Buisseret

- Manitou has streamlined the management structure at Gehl and appointed Dan Miller as president and Serge Bosché as vice president, sales & marketing.

- Tim Rowley has retired from day to day activity at Cranesafe, the UK subsidiary of tower crane anti-collision company SMIE.



Tim Rowley

- Simone Scalabrini has left Oil&Steel and has yet to confirm his future plans although he is expected to remain in the aerial lift industry.

- A tornado has been blamed for overturning a port crane in the Bahamas, causing at least two deaths.

- A large mobile telescopic crane boom, rigged with full luffing jib, crept down overnight onto a high rise facade in New York in late March. The operator had his licence suspended for not securing the crane properly.

- Michela Viviani, a director of Oil&Steel UK, has left the business.

- Peter Hird junior and partner Emma of UK-based Compact Lifting Equipment, have a new baby, William Robert Hird.



William Robert Hird

- Unic spider cranes has appointed Victoria-based Gleason Cranes Australia as its distributor

- Fabrice Bonassera takes over as the director of SMIE's UK operations, while Rowley remains available for special projects.



Fabrice Bonassera

- Balfour Beatty, the UK-based international major contractor, has recommended Niftylift's SIOPS safety cut out system and tough cage as industry best practice.

- German-based slew ring and rotary joint manufacturer IMO is setting up a production facility in South Carolina.



IMO USA new production facility

- Lavendon Group has issued 1.3 million new shares to the ex-owners of The Platform Company as part of its deferred payment.

- Work at height specialist Planet Platforms is offering a tower trade-in scheme to encourage companies to update their old scaffold towers for brand new ones.

- Gehl has appointed Shannon K. Van Dyke as vice president finance and corporate secretary.



Shannon K. Van Dyke

- CTE will make a grand unveiling of a new telescopic boomed B-Lift truck mount on a 3.5 tonne truck half way through Bauma.

- Crane manufacturer Kobelco has signed a dealer agreement with Singapore-based crane rental company Sin Heng.

- New UK tower crane rules came into force in April requiring companies to register tower crane installations on construction sites within 14 days of the Thorough Inspection.

- In mid March a small team of six - Ian James and David Walley from Bronto Skyreach UK, Christoph Pichler and Alexandra Dieterich from Bronto's Italian distributor Gbr-Pichler and Merja Viilola and Jan Denks of Bronto Finland - set out on the first Bronto Arctic Challenge, an eight day 100km self-supported snow shoe trek 300km north of the polar circle ascending Sokosti, at 718 metres, the highest peak in the UKK National park. After good initial progress the team ran into atrocious weather stopping them just a day away from their objective. They all returned safely and hope to have raised nearly £4,000 for the Alzheimer's Society. The plan is to run the Challenge as an annual industry event.



See www.vertikal.net news archive for full versions of all these stories