

TVH, Ashtead, Lavendon and the bid that never was

Late January saw a second run at UK rental company Lavendon – owner of Panther, Nationwide Platforms and EPL-Skylift – by TVH, the Belgian-based international fork truck parts supplier. The company had made an offer in late November which it announced through the stock exchange in early December after Lavendon had rejected it. After a period of silence the London Takeover Panel, responding to a request from Lavendon, ruled on January 12th that TVH must either commit to a firm and formal offer for Lavendon by February 8th or drop the approach.

The following day Ashtead – owner of A-Plant and Sunbelt Rentals – surprised everyone by joining TVH in a joint bid in which the two would split the company between them, with Ashtead taking the UK-based business and TVH the overseas operations. Ashtead/TVH put a strict limit of 115p a share on its offer compared to the 111p that TVH had offered in December. It also said that the bid would have to be recommended by the Lavendon board to proceed.

The predictable response from Lavendon – rejecting the offer – came within a few hours. Five days later the two predators announced that they were abandoning their bid and that they had agreed that neither of them will make a lone bid, at least prior to October 18th, without the others agreement.

Lavendon chairman John Standen, commenting on the announcement, said: "I'm delighted that this uncertainty has been removed. We have a clear set of objectives



to enhance shareholder value and Lavendon is very well positioned. With a strengthened board and

supportive shareholders we are looking forward to the future with confidence."

Link-Belt to unveil new telescopic..

Link Belt will unveil an all new 100 tonne telescopic crawler crane – the TCC1100 at Conexpo in March. The third model in its range of telescopic crawler cranes the TCC1100 has, according to the company been designed to be simple, robust and reliable for the general contractor or rental fleet owner.

The company claims that the unit will have lift capacities to rival lattice cranes of a similar nominal capacity. The main boom is full power to 45.7 metres and fabricated from ultra high-strength steels. A 9.4 to 16.7 metre bi-fold lattice swingaway and three metre heavy-duty fly jib are available for extra height. The heavy-duty fly is part of the main extension but can swing and pin into place separately to provide more than 18.1 tonnes of capacity. All extension combinations can offset to 2, 15, 30, and 45 degrees. The TCC1100

has been designed for easy transport and will normally require four truck loads, the main load weighing 40.8 tonnes with an overall width of 3.2 metres by 3.86 metres high. The other three loads all weigh less than 20.2 tonnes. Once onsite, the crane can be quickly self-erected and offers three operational track widths – 3.7 metres, 4.4 metres and 5.8 metres.



..And an All American AT

Link-Belt will also launch a new 250 tonne, five axle American-market All Terrain crane at the show. The ATC-3275 will feature a seven section main boom and bi-fold swingaway extension with over

90 metres on board tip height. Axle spacings and wheelbase have been designed for US roading regulations and the crane features a one-man carrier cab. Details will be released later this month.



Manitou badges more Genies

Manitou and Terex have extended their supply agreement to include British-built Genie slab electric scissors. The original supply agreement launched in April last year covered Genie compact Rough Terrain scissors which Manitou sells as the 100C and 120C.

Genie sells Manitou's mast booms under its own brand as the Genie GR20 and 26J. Manitou has now added the 19ft GS1932, 26ft GS2632 and 32ft GS3246 models to its range as the 78 SEC, 100 SEC and 120 SE respectively. The scissor lifts, built at the Terex plant in Coventry, will replace Manitou units produced in China.



A Manitou 100 SEC scissor lift.

Kimberly acquires High Level Platforms

UK-based powered access and telehandler rental group Kimberly has acquired Poole-based High Level Platforms (Holdings) Ltd the parent company of High Level Platforms of Poole, Dorset for an undisclosed cash consideration. Kimberly says that it intends to operate High Level as an autonomous entity within the group and will include retaining its own identity, management and staff. The group also includes Kimberly Access and 1st Access Rentals.

High Level Platforms has depots at Wareham, Poole and Southampton and is a member of the Access Link. Its owners Phil Ainsworth and wife Julie have retired from the business. David Solomon the current general manager has been appointed managing director and will report directly to Ray Ledger, chairman of Kimberly.

Ledger said: "This important acquisition totally reflects our strategy and follows the acquisition of 1st Access Rentals and Pinnacle Platforms in Scotland last May, both of which have been seamlessly integrated and are performing well above expectations. The deal ticks all the boxes, being well managed,



profitable, financially stable and operating a good quality fleet of equipment with an average age of less than three years. High Level will be encouraged to develop further into a major regional business covering the south coast from Brighton to Plymouth thus linking with the Kimberly Access depots in West and East London."

Kimberly was the seventh largest powered access rental company in the Cranes & Access 2010 Top 30 UK and Ireland rental companies.

JLG cuts back in Maasmechelen

JLG has announced plans to significantly reduce staffing levels – currently 297 – at its Maasmechelen production facility in Belgium. The restructuring, which it says is due to "sustained economic pressures in the European access equipment sector, resulting from the worldwide global economic crisis," is likely to see the departure of 101 shop floor and eight office staff.

A statement from the company said that the order intake for Maasmechelen has been running well below levels of previous years. "Despite strict cost control measures in recent years at JLG Maasmechelen, including temporary unemployment, unpaid leave and a general wage freeze, the plant must consider structural changes to its operation in order to position itself for competitive advantage."

As a result the company has instituted procedures under the so-called 'Renault Act' of 1998 with the Works Council.



Ashtead buys US scaffolder

Ashtead's US subsidiary, Sunbelt Rentals has acquired Empire scaffolding for around \$38 million in cash. A further \$1.5 million in cash may also become payable depending on Empire's profits in the year to 31 August.

Empire provides specialist scaffold rental, erection and dismantlement services to an industrial customer base in the Gulf Coast petrochemical industries. Based in Baton Rouge, Louisiana it operates through seven branches in the states of Louisiana, Texas, Alabama and Tennessee. In the year ending August 2010 Empire reported revenues of \$42 million, with a pre-tax profit of \$4 million. Its gross assets at year end were \$35 million. Empire was founded in late 2001 and quickly expanded to a multi-site operation. It has one of the most experienced scaffold management teams in the country with a number of the managers owning part of the equity.



Bryn Thomas goes under and is reborn

In mid-January UK-based crane rental company Bryn Thomas Crane Hire Ltd appointed Manchester-based BDO as administrator. A statement at the time said that "following a review of the business and an 'extensive marketing exercise', the majority of the business and its assets have been sold on to two associated companies, Bryn Thomas Cranes Ltd and Bryn Thomas Holdings Ltd. All 46 employees at the company have transferred to the new company."

Dermot Power, BDO business restructuring partner, said: "Bryn Thomas Crane Hire Ltd had incurred significant losses following the downturn in the construction sector and under-utilisation of its cranes. These losses were increased by the high finance costs across the fleet."

The new company - Bryn Thomas Cranes Ltd was incorporated in November along with Bryn Thomas Rail Ltd and have the same directors as Bryn Thomas Crane Hire which will now be liquidated. It was listed as a subsidiary of Bryn Thomas Holdings – one of the companies that purchased its assets from the administrator.

Bryn Thomas was founded in 1979 in Flint, North Wales and grew steadily over the years, covering an ever wider territory as the company's fleet expanded and it added larger cranes. In recent years a good deal of its



business came from North West England, including Merseyside. Its largest crane is a 2004 Grove GMK 7450. The company is listed as the 26th largest crane hire company in the UK and Ireland according to the Cranes & Access 2010 survey, with 24 mobile cranes, two mini crawlers and four mobile tower cranes.

New compact Bravi

Italian self-propelled lift manufacturer Bravisol has launched a new, low-level model dubbed the Bravi Lite. In a nutshell it is a lighter, more compact and less expensive Leonardo model with smaller platform and less working height. The fully self propelled Bravi Lite has a 2.2 metre platform height, is 760mm wide, 1.17 metres long and weighs just 398kg. The platform which is similar to a retracted Leonardo at 680mm x 1.15m, has full width saloon-style gates and the same 180kg lift capacity.

The unit also uses the same running gear as the well proven Leonardo, giving the lighter unit excellent performance characteristics. Gradeability is 35 percent a lever raises the front of the lift for high thresholds and break-over points on

loading ramps. Forklift pockets are mounted on top of the chassis which should give it good balance when lifting. A full review can be found on www.vertikal.net - put 'Bravi' in the search box.

The Bravi Lite can travel in virtually any elevator.



Two new 60ft Snorkels

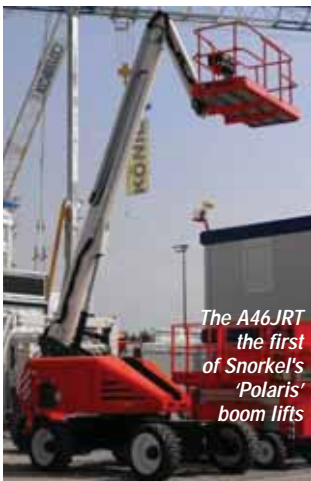
Snorkel is set to unveil two new platforms at Conexpo next month - a 60ft scissor lift and a 62ft articulated boom. The 60ft platform height S6090RT will be the largest scissor the company has ever built and possibly the highest of its kind - a mid duty construction lift. Higher models are available but only of the ultra heavy duty designs from suppliers such as Holland Lift, JLG-Liftlux, HAB and PB.

The new S6090RT features standard twin deck extensions providing a fully extended platform length of 7.3 metres. A 568kg platform capacity, standard auto-levelling hydraulic jacks with a no stabilisers option on the lower height units, which will also feature platform capacities of up to 900kg.

The S6090RT will be the largest unit in what will be a family of four twin-deck, Rough Terrain scissors, the other models will have platform heights of 32ft, 43ft and 52ft.

The second new model is an all-new 62ft articulated Rough Terrain boom lift, the A62JRT - the second unit in the company's 'Polaris' boom family. It shares its chassis and many other components with the first Polaris model introduced at last year's ARA, the 46ft T46JRT straight telescopic boom lift.

The new A62J will replace the current AB62 and will offer 13 metres of outreach and nine metres 'up and over' clearance. A 2.4 metre articulated jib supports a standard 2.4 metre wide platform with three-way entry and 227kg capacity.



The A46JRT the first of Snorkel's 'Polaris' boom lifts

The 238HSL boasts a maximum tip height of 94.5m when fitted with 24.4m fixed jib



New HSL crawler from Link Belt

Link Belt will launch the 238HSL - an all new 137 tonne lattice boomed crawler crane - at Conexpo.

The new crawler fits between the 218 HSL and 298 HSL and is targeted at general contractors for applications such as steel erection, bridge work and pile driving. Main features of the 238 HSL include a 15.2 to 79.2 metre main boom and a fixed jib option with 27 tonne lift capacity and lengths from 9.1 to 24.4 metres. Maximum tip height/boom jib combination is 94.5 metres.

A luffing jib will be available later.

The boom includes a new base and tip section, while all intermediate extensions are Hylab 5 sections. The crane has folding upper guardrails, full-length right and left catwalks with grab handles, a rear-view high-resolution camera and a colour information screen in the cab. Power is supplied by an Isuzu 6HK1 engine with interim Tier IV Diesel Particulate Filter. The seven piece modular counterweight totals 50 tonnes and features a remote control removal system. When stripped the main structure with self-erection equipment weighs less than 40 tonnes.

JLG launches the 340AJ

JLG has officially launched the 34ft platform height 340AJ Rough Terrain articulated boom lift shown first as a prototype at SAIE in October. The quirky new unit is designed to be lighter and easier transport and to offer significantly lower running costs than large RT boom lifts. See 'Small booms save costs' feature on page 17.



The JLG 340AJ



The new Genie scissors

New Genie RT69 scissors

Genie is introducing three new compact Rough Terrain scissors - the 2669RT, 3369RT and 4069RT. The new range features an oscillating front axle and increased power. The entire RT69 family has up to 30 percent more engine power, increased platform work space, a simplified link stack and the ability to drive at full height.

Cramo moves into Germany

Finnish-based international rental company Cramo has acquired Thiesen Baumaschinen with locations in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Hungary. Cramo is paying Thiesen's owner Arrex Beteiligungs GmbH around €85 million for all the shares in the privately held company. The purchase price comprises €40 million in cash plus €7 million in new Cramo shares.

Cramo will also assume Thiesen's debt and leasing liabilities of around €38 million, using existing long-term credit facilities to finance the transaction.

Thiesen claims to be one of the top three rental companies in Germany with a mixed fleet of earthmoving, access equipment, telehandlers and tools. In addition to rental the company operates a small sales operation.

Around 90 percent of its revenues are generated in Germany, where it has 90 depots, with the rest from nine depots in Austria, three in Switzerland and one in Hungary. It employs 274 and generated revenues of €85.7million with an EBIT of €3 million in 2009.

Alexander Renner of Thiesen and Vesa Koivula of Cramo on completion of the deal

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Planning saves the day

A strong risk assessment coupled with good planning and a sharp operator recently saved a big crawler crane from tipping on a German wind farm.

The LTR11200 travels between turbines



The crane, a 1,200 tonne Liebherr LTR11200 telescopic belonging to Karl Hartinger Kranbetrieb of Rimbeck-Warburg in Germany, was working on a new wind farm near Wiesmoor in Eastern Friesland, located on moorland with a peat bog substrate. The crane, which features a narrow-track option specifically for such wind farm work, had completed one turbine and was travelling fully equipped to the next when the ground beneath the road started to subside.

With an all up weight of 415 tonnes and applying a ground pressure of 16.5 tonnes/metre, the crane began to move as planned. But then the tracks began to dig deeper and deeper into the sides of the road with large cracks opening up in the space between the two crawler tracks. One side of the road was clearly softer than the other causing the crane to list dangerously. It was clear to the operator that the speed of the tilt would only gain momentum if left. Fortunately the Hartinger team had highlighted this as a potential risk when planning the job and were travelling with the outrigger beams spread in their star formation and the jacks partially extended with mats chained to the outrigger pads.

The operator, Burkhardt Hartinger, the company's junior chief executive who had been operating the crane with its

remote controller, followed the contingency plan to stabilise the crane and then right it.

In order to level the crane the jacks which had by now come into contact with the ground, had to be raised to allow further cribbing to be placed under mats. This was probably the most critical part of the exercise. However all went well and the crane was soon levelled and stabilised. The crew then removed the lattice boom extensions and 80 tonnes of counterweight which proved sufficient to get the crane moving again.

In the end the LTR11200 was on its way just three hours after it had started to tip. The turbines on this site are around 500 metres apart and the LTR11200 normally takes three to four hours from completing one turbine to starting the next.

The Liebherr LTR11200 lifts the 51 tonne blade star element at 18 metres radius to a height of 108 metres.



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More Kobelco crawlers for Mammoet

International heavy lift company Mammoet has ordered a further 24 Kobelco crawler cranes adding to its initial five unit order placed at Bauma last year.

The first order was for five 250 tonne CKE2500-2 for operations in Brazil, Sakhalin and Middle East. Mammoet has increased this order to 23 units and added six, 180 tonne CKE1800, bringing the total number of Kobelco crawler cranes ordered in the past year to 29.

The latest cranes are scheduled for a number of projects, with seven CKE2500-2s heading for the massive Gorgon off-shore LNG project in Western Australia, while three others - fitted with tilt-cab, 91 metre main boom and 61 metre luffing jib - are destined for The Netherlands.

Jan van Seumeren Jr, Mammoet's chief technical officer said: "The reliability and capacity were the key factors in deciding to buy

The first five of a total of seven 250 tonne Kobelco CKE2500-2s being commissioned to work on the Gorgon LNG project in Western Australia.



another 23 units of the CKE2500-2 for our worldwide operations."

Mammoet ordered the very first Kobelco CKE2500 in 2000, the CKE2500-2 came along in 2005 and Kobelco says that to date more than 800, CKE2500s have been delivered worldwide, making it one of the best-selling crawler cranes on the market.

CEA to go ahead with show

The UK's Construction Equipment Association (CEA) has confirmed plans to organise a new biennial equipment show, Plantworx, filling the void left by the closure of SED. The first show will be held at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire in May 2013.



The CEA's aim is to promote site equipment digging and demonstrations along the lines of the original SED. Key sectors will include groundworks, earthmoving, civil engineering, compaction, cutting and demolition.

CEA chief executive Rob Oliver said: "Plantworx is the CEA's response to our members' enthusiasm for a new event which will give them a solid return for their marketing investment. We plan to be responsive to both exhibitor and visitor requirements. This is an exciting project for us as a large number of leading companies have already pledged their support."

Ramirent acquires Danish rental Company

Finnish-based Ramirent has acquired the assets of Jydsk Materiel Udlejning, an access rental company located operating from two outlets in Herning and Holstebro, Denmark. The business will contribute around €1.5 million in annual revenues to the group's Danish subsidiary. Owner, Peter Korsholm Jeppesen will remain with the company.



Palfinger Marine's new heavy duty foldable PFM marine crane

First heavy duty marine crane for Palfinger

Palfinger Marine has designed its first 'heavy-duty foldable' marine crane for one of the world's state-of-the-art research ships. The PFM range is aimed at the large marine crane sector having a load moment of up to 350 metre/tonnes and the ability to combine different marine-specific winches.

The crane was delivered in December by Palfinger's Japanese dealer, Sekigahara Seisakusho to the Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation, which has partnered with Mitsubishi Heavy Industries to build a scientific research ship to development maritime resources in Japan's coastal areas. There is special interest in researching the mineral deposits and gas hydrates on the sea bed in order to make them usable as energy sources of the future.

Five different Palfinger marine cranes will be installed on the ship to lift and move measuring instruments and equipment. "Designing a crane of this size meant a totally new development," said Johannes Lindenbauer, head of sales for Palfinger Marine cranes. "Developing a special extension boom system which features a knuckle boom and a telescopic outreach of up to 21 metres was a particular challenge."

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New Hydra platform

Terex road equipment has launched its smallest truck-mounted under-bridge inspection platform to date - the Hydra HPT 11/38 - which uses a similar superstructure to its HP trailer mounted under-bridge units. Weighing 11.8 tonnes (26,000lbs) fully equipped, the vehicle can be driven on a regular state driving licence in the USA, rather than a Commercial Driving Licence. The HPT 11/38 features an 11.5 metre long telescopic platform, with 450kg maximum capacity. The platform can be lowered to 4.8 metres below ground level and features 180 degrees of rotation. The scissor-type separation device allows the vertical tower to be extended up to 1.8 metres from the edge of the truck. The superstructure functions are powered by an 18hp petrol/gas engine in order to save fuel compared to the truck engine. Terex claims that the new unit takes just five minutes to set up and fully deploy.



The new Terex Hydra HPT 11/38 truck-mounted under-bridge inspection platform



JLG announces EN15000 solution

JLG has announced that it is equipping its CE marked telehandler range with a 'patent pending' progressive overload device in order to fully comply with EN15000:2008. The standard requires a longitudinal load moment system complete with motion cut-outs to prevent both static and dynamic overloading.

The new system monitors the loading of the rear axle to determine forward stability. When the system senses the rear axle is getting 'light' the operator is informed via a display in the cab and the lift and telescope-out function are restricted in speed and if necessary cut altogether, forcing the operator to retract or lower the boom.

On machines that frequently use buckets - usually with lift heights of 10 metres or less - the overload function is deactivated while the unit is in travel mode, allowing it to be used dynamically for breaking-out bulk material. Brian Boeckman, JLG's global director product management for telehandlers said:

"Significant effort has gone into the design of this system to ensure minimal impact on machine productivity."



Waste Recycling crane from Palfinger

Palfinger has launched a new loader crane specifically aimed at the waste recycling sector. The 22.1 tonne/metre PK 23501-W will be mainly used for emptying recycling containers such as those used for glass and paper, particularly when installed below ground level.

The PK 23501-W is mounted behind the cab with the boom stowing on top of the compactor unit. The boom system features fully enclosed telescopic cylinders and a clearance height to match the height of the compactor.

The main four section boom is mounted alongside the knuckle in order to reduce overall stowed length, while optimising the hook height. In spite of the unusual configuration, maximum radius is a healthy 10.2 metres. The crane was designed for the Dutch market but is now being rolled out across Europe.



Engineer liable for crane collapse

Singapore's High Court has held a structural/mechanical engineer liable in a civil suit over the collapse of a tower crane that killed three people at the National University of Singapore in February 2008. Engineer Tan Juay Pah - who is also an authorised crane inspector - will have to pay damages to crane supplier Lee Tong Boon, who in turn has to compensate the main contractor Kimly Construction. The investigation following the collapse revealed defects in the tower foundation anchors which should have been picked up prior to erection.

Kimly sued Lee Tong Boon for s\$500,000 (\$391,000). The victims families each received s\$111,000 (\$87,000) in compensation. The accident stopped work on the site for 25 days while the investigation was carried out. Lee Tong Boon successfully argued that if he should lose the claim then Tan should be liable for paying the fine. Justice Tay Yong Kwang, said: "It is clear in the documents that Mr Tan endorsed the checklist for the inspection and testing of the tower crane under the relevant regulations, even if he did not have the opportunity to inspect the mast anchors before the erection of the crane took place."

Tan had been hired by the crane's owner - Lee - to assess its suitability for the job. In November 2006 he conducted a load test and certified it fit for use and that its critical parts had been checked and found to be sound. A year later when the crane was due to be erected at the university, he was employed again to check and certify it, which he did.

In his defence Tan claimed that the evidence was unreliable and did not establish a case in law. He also blamed the engineer hired to design and supervise the building of the crane foundation and the company that erected and maintained it. Those claims were dismissed with costs. Tan is considering an appeal while Lee faces criminal charges in relation to the accident.

First Comansa cranes in India



One of the four Comansa Jie cranes at Marwa power station

Comansa has delivered its first four tower cranes in India. The cranes, built by the group's Chinese joint venture Comansa Jie, were sold to BGR Energy Systems which specialises in the design and construction of

power stations. It purchased the four 21CJ290-18 tonne flat top cranes specifically for the erection of four massive cooling towers on two power plant projects.

Palfinger up 29%

Austrian-based loader crane and truck mounted lift manufacturer Palfinger has issued a preliminary statement indicating a 29 percent rise in revenues and a strong recovery in profitability.

Estimated revenues will be €650 million, EBIT is expected to be around €35 million compared to a loss last year of €5 million. It anticipates a further 20 percent growth in 2011.



Harsco Infrastructure slips 8%

Harsco Infrastructure – previously SGB, Hünnebeck and Patent – saw revenues fall by eight percent in the fourth quarter and 11 percent for the year. Fourth quarter revenues were \$265 million with an operating loss of \$98.9 million. For the year as a whole the division posted revenues of \$1.03 billion with a loss of \$145.3 million, compared to a profit last year of \$68.4 million.

Orders jump 52% at Cargotec



Cargotec - owner of Hiab loader cranes and Kalmar reach stackers - saw order intake for its Industrial and Terminal division jump 52 percent in the fourth quarter.

Full year revenues of €1.53 billion were down three percent on 2009, while order intake improved 34 percent to €1.69 billion. Operating income was €37.1 million compared to a loss in 2009 of €10.3 million. The company expects revenue growth in 2011 of 10 percent.

Manitowoc returns to growth

Manitowoc Crane has reported its full year results which show a return to growth in the fourth quarter. Revenues for the quarter were up 2.3 percent on last year to \$491.4 million, while order intake climbed 28 percent to \$572 million.

Revenues for the full year were down 23 percent to \$1.75 billion, while operating profit was \$89.7 million

compared to \$145 in 2009. However profits in the fourth quarter were \$30.4 million up 66 percent on 2009.



Manitou up 35%

Manitou has issued a trading statement that shows fourth quarter revenues grew 35 percent on strong order intake. Total revenues for the year were €838.3 million, an increase of 23 percent on 2009 of which telehandler and RT fork trucks sales were up 21 percent to €586 million. All regions showed growth, with the strongest coming from North America.

JLG lift sales climb sharply

JLG's has posted its first fiscal quarter results which show revenues overall falling 56 percent, due to the ending of some inter-company defence work.

Sales of aerial lifts and telehandlers climbed 30 percent to \$290.6 million while the company's order book more than tripled. The completion of the subcontract business along with planned restructuring costs caused the business to slip into negative territory with an operating loss of \$16.7 million, compared to a profit last year of \$13.3 million.

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Haulotte has appointed **Bernie Duque** as vice president of aerial work platforms for North America.



Bernie Duque

UK-based **Midland Truck Mounts** has bought its first ever new platform – a **Multitel MX225**.

Access Parts & Hire UK laid off its staff at the end of January and closed its Oswestry location.

Scottish crane hirer **Weldex** has made it into the UK 100 fastest growing private equity supported companies.

Tower crane specialist **Wolffkran** has opened a new full service operation in Lund, southern Sweden.

Italian-based truck mounted lift manufacturer **Socage** has appointed **Exan** as its dealer in Estonia.

Irish-based lifting and wind power specialist **McNally/Windhoist** has taken delivery of a 750 tonne **Liebherr LG1750**.

German-based **Wemo-tec** has opened a UK rental operation for under-bridge inspection equipment.



Wemo-tec

US-based association **AEM** has issued a new safety manual for knuckle-boom log loaders.

US-based **United Rentals** has full year and fourth quarter 2010 results which show improving rates and utilisation.

Italian platform manufacturer **Socage** has reported revenues up 55 percent in 2010.

Terex Cranes displayed a Terex **Changjiang LT 1070/1** truck crane on its stand at BC India earlier this month.

Temporary roadway supplier, **TPA**, has ordered fifteen new trucks equipped with **Atlas** loader cranes.

James I. Scheiner, a director of **Harsco** since 1995, passed away aged 65.

Skyjack, owner **Linamar**, has purchased three component plants in France from the **Famer Group**.

UK-based **London Tower Service – LTS** – has taken delivery of two new 26 tonne **Scania** delivery trucks.

German tower crane specialist **Wolffkran** has sold 44 tower cranes for work in Mecca.

Niftylift has appointed **Modern (Singapore) Access & Equipments** as its dealer for Singapore.

UK-based **Caledonian Plant Maintenance/Access** has entered liquidation - its owner has started again under a new name.

Tanfield, owner of **Snorkel** aerial work platforms, has issued a brief trading update for 2010 showing flat numbers.

Donna Wells previously of UK based **Zenith Aerial Platforms** has joined **Blade Access Specialists**.



Donna Wells

Canadian-based crane dealer **Strongco** has completed its rights issue raising a net \$7.86 million.

Florida-based **Ring Power Crane** has appointed **Keith Summerlin** as its used crane manager.

Cargotec, owner of **Hiab** and **Kalmar**, has acquired **Navis**, a US-based terminal operator systems provider.

Caterpillar has reported full year results which show a 62% rise in fourth quarter revenues.

Sleator Plant has delivered a number of **Genie** booms and scissors to **Baloo Hire Centres**, Northern Ireland.

US-based **Maximum Capacity Media**, publisher of **Lift and Access** and **Crane Hot Line** has promoted **Mark Bridger** to publisher.



Mark Bridger

OSHA has settled with **MMR Contractors** and **Fluor** over the dismissal of an employee who raised crane safety concerns.

UK scaffolder **NSG** has increased revenues by 10% in 2010 and sees a positive upward trend.

Dutch-based rental company **Eyke Hogendoorn Crane & Rental** has changed its name to **Arentis**.

Loxam has opened its first location in Morocco in partnership with **Stokvis** an equipment distributor.

Finnish-based access equipment manufacturer **Dinolift** has appointed **Karin Nars** as its new managing director.



Karin Nars

German crane manufacturer **Sennebogen** has appointed **GMMCO** as its sales and service partner in India.

Ashtead has announced that **Brendan Horgan** has replaced **Joe Phelan** as CEO of **Sunbelt Rentals**.

Hertz Equipment Rental has announced the departure of its president **Gerry Plescia**. **Mark Frissora** will take over temporarily.

Skako lift has appointed **Carlsson & Co of Falkenberg**, south Sweden as a new dealer in Sweden.

Suspended platform specialist **Spider** has appointed **John Carmichael** as district sales rep for New York City.

Palfinger has launched a new crane specifically aimed at the waste recycling sector.

Waukesha, Wisconsin-based **Dueco** has been appointed as a **Fassi** crane dealer to the utility industry.

Kentucky-based **Bramco** has appointed **Gary Hirsch** as vice president of its Crane Division.



Gary Hirsch

The administrators of **Bryn Thomas Crane hire** have confirmed that the business has been sold to its directors.

Italian rental company **Nacanco** has opened two new depots and added **Genie** mast booms to its fleet.

Tanfield has announced the departure of director **Geoff Allison** and the issue of new share options for directors.

Skako, owner of **Denka** and **Falck Schmidt**, has appointed **Eurolev Verticale Solution** as its distributor for France.

German-based port and overhead crane manufacturer **Demag** has formed an alliance with the **Weihua Group**.

Brazilian-based access specialist **Mills** has confirmed the purchase of a 25 percent stake in scaffold contractor **Rohr**.

Renzo Pagliero has been elected president of the powered access sector of **AFNIA**, the Italian Automotive Association.



Renzo Pagliero

Terex has appointed five regional 'distributors' in the UK for the **Genie** aluminium and trailer lift ranges.

Hoist and mastclimber manufacturer **Alimak-Hek** has appointed **Cornelis Jour** as a regional sales manager.

Mammoet, the Dutch based heavy lift company, has acquired the 50% share of **KR Wind** that it does not already own.

Bigge Crane and Rigging has opened its new Gulf Coast headquarters.

Siemens and Associated British Ports have announced a joint work agreement in for the Port of Hull.

Finnish-based international rental company **Ramirent** has appointed **Bjorn Larsen** as to head its Norwegian business.



Bjorn Larsen

Bernard Hunter of Edinburgh, Scotland has taken delivery of the UK's first 100 tonne **Liebherr LTM 1100-4.2** All Terrain crane.

The first **Intermat Middle East** will be held in Abu Dhabi from 28th to 30th March 2011.

Manitowoc has appointed **Scott Keckler** as vice president Crane Care, Americas.



Scott Keckler

US-based **Acme Lift**, which claims to be the world's largest re-rental company has completed a \$77 million recapitalisation.

A new Lexus advert in the USA shows a **Tadano** crane lifting five cars in a chain to demonstrate chassis strength.

Terex has completed the redemption of its 7-3/8 percent Senior Subordinated Notes due in 2014.

Finnish-based **Konecranes** has acquired **Gruas Koman Limitada**, its former licensee in Santiago, Chile.

UK-based rental company **Chippindale Plant** has ordered 25 **Manitou** telehandlers.

A **CEN** project to determine if current scissor lifts comply with **EN280** has got underway in four EU countries.

Dutch transport trailer manufacturer **Nooteboom** has supplied two new semi low-loaders to UK based **AFI**.

Arizona-based re-rental specialist **Acme Lift**, has appointed **Steve Nadelman** as president and chief operating officer.



Steve Nadelman

UK-based **Independent Parts & Service** has relocated to larger premises to keep pace with growing demand.

Rusty Kaylor of **Alliance Rental** has acquired **Interstate Aerials southern**, from the **New Jersey rental company**.

The **Crane Industry Council of Australia (CICA)** has launched a voluntary accident reporting scheme for cranes.

Italian-based truck mounted lift manufacturer **Isoli** has appointed **Statech** as its distributor for the Czech Republic.

Chinese aerial lift manufacturer **Dingli** has moved into Australia and established **Dingli Australia**.

Manitowoc has appointed **Gilberto Ferreira** as director of **EnCore**, the company's remanufacturing programme for the Americas.

IPAF has 'flagged' the fact that the late **Nigel Pargetter** in the British radio drama **The Archers** should have used a **MEWP**.

Hamburg-based **AFI GmbH** has appointed an administrator under Germany's insolvency laws.

UK rental company **Hewden** has announced a £20 million investment in new construction equipment.

Cargotec has received an order from the port of **Carfagna** for 24 rubber tyred gantry and two ship to shore cranes.

JCB has appointed **Evansville**, Indiana based **Black Equipment** as a new dealer for parts of Indiana and Kentucky.



Gil Male

IPAF technical officer **Gil Male** is retiring this year and the federation is looking for a replacement.

Snorkel has appointed **Vibro Tech**, a division of **Interprima**, as its distributor for Romania.

Auctioneers **Ritchie Bros** achieved a new record for crane sales last year, selling 1,870 cranes to 1,350 buyers from 63 countries.

Irish-based rental company **Dromad Hire** has purchased a number of **Hinowa** spider lifts.

Tadano is expanding its operations in Central and South America, opening an office in Panama and an assembly facility in Brazil.

Italian-based truck mounted lift manufacturer **Isoli**, has appointed **SHN** of **Wroclaw** as its distributor for Poland.

UK-based parts specialist **Davis Access** has added battery chargers to its controller and electrical component rebuild services.

The **UK Health & Safety Executive** has issued a warning regarding the oscillating axle interlock on **JLG 400/500RTS** models.

UK-based **Crowland cranes** has purchased a new 220 tonne **Tadano-Faun ATF220G-5**, its largest crane.



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