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On the cover:

Visitors to Liebherr's recent '2012 Customer Days' event in Germany were treated to a spectacular 'crane mobile' - the brain-child of chief crane designer Hans-Dieter Willim. The particularly tricky lift involved a 3,000 tonne capacity LR 13000 lifting an LR 11350, which in turn picked up an LR 1350/1 supporting an LTR1100. What can't be seen from this distance however is a scale model LG 1750 lifting a small All Terrain from the end of the LTR1100!



C & a contents

17

Industrial access



27

Pick & Carry cranes



35

Telehandlers



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Comment 5

News 6

Hiab agrees Chinese JV, ALE to build 5,000 tonner, HSE confirms charging date, Fatal truck mount collapse in Glasgow, Ainscough acquires West Country Crane Hire, City Lifting expands Spierings fleet, Wolffkran unveils hydraulic luffer, Kimberly to float? VP swindles Tadano for \$9 million, Bigge 125D up and running, Ranger drops Teupen sales, TDL to distribute Terex, IPAF develops PAL + training, New models from Liebherr, Terex launches new luffer, Financials round-up, News highlights.



Industrial access 17

With many companies gearing up for scheduled maintenance and shutdowns we outline the pros and cons of different methods and latest equipment available for working at height.

Pick & Carry cranes 27



Are pick & carry cranes making a come-back in Europe and North America? We take a look at the increasing number of manufacturers vying for this growing niche sector of the crane market.

Telehandlers 35

If there is one item of equipment that gives an early indication of the economy - good or bad - it is the telehandler. With last year being a bumper year for sales - up 50 percent - Cranes & Access reviews the latest product developments.



Dealer Guide 39

The UK and Ireland 2012 Dealer Guide gives you the very latest information on where to source lifting, access and telehandler equipment.



Vertikal Days 51

This year's Vertikal Days was the biggest and best ever. We have an extensive photo roundup of the event which featured more exhibitors, more products and more visitors than ever before.



Liebherr Customer Days 70

Liebherr unveiled two new cranes at its '2012 Customer Days' and visitors given the chance to view its expanded Eningen facility, see equipment demonstrations and a spectacular firework/laser show finale.



regulars

ALLMI Focus 59

Training 61

IPAF Focus 63

Innovations 67

Books and Models 69

Letters 71

What's on 74

On-line directory 81

In the next C&A

In the next issue of Cranes & Access out mid-September we will have the results of the 2012 Top 30 rental company survey, we look at van and small truck mounted lifts and round-up truck mounted and taxi cranes.



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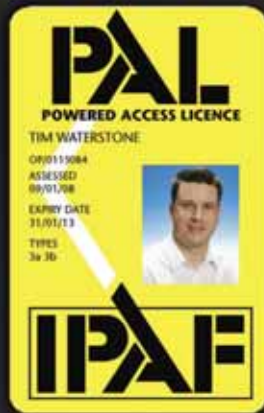
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c&a
comment



For the record

Over the past few years traffic to the Vertikal.net website has grown to record levels - more than 33 million hits last month! During that time it has resolutely reported on accidents from all over the world from the plain stupid to the tragic.

Numerous supporters of the website within both the crane and access industries have questioned whether the level of accident reporting gives the wrong impression - that this is a dangerous industry and one not to become involved in.

Let's get one thing straight - the reports cover accidents where a lesson can be learnt, to show others what can and does go wrong and to avoid similar incidents in the future although the original driver was to stop the stupid rumours that would circulate and escalate after an incident in the absence of the facts. The website's efforts have had some impact for example as the catalyst for IPAF's Clunk-Click campaign that has increased the wearing of harnesses in booms and in raising awareness for the need to use outrigger mats even on smaller cranes and platforms.

At the same time the Death Wish series has highlighted how much work remains to be done and in some cases naming and shaming has worked wonders, even if it has caused a few sleepless nights worrying about threats of legal action and more... We will continue to report on the stupid and tragic with the aim of improving safety, in the hope that accidents will eventually be reduced to the truly accidental.

However a website can only play a minor role, the industry urgently needs to be more mature and open about accidents and near misses and make more information available sooner (the IPAF Accident Reporting initiative will help). We could also do with more common sense in regard to things like road worthiness tests for cranes, where legislation could improve the sector by taking poorly maintained cranes that are potentially dangerous to the public, as well as damaging to the industry's reputation, off the road.

In the UK the recent Health and Safety Executive cost recovery scheme - Fee for Intervention - should start this October and aims to recover costs from companies which do not fully comply with the HSE or are at fault.

It might be argued that the HSE will target the sectors which are historically the worst offenders - i.e. construction, industry and farming - to help fill its coffers. But hopefully the additional scrutiny may also lead to these sectors improving procedures and therefore reduce accidents more rapidly.

Watch this space.....

Mark Darwin

Please mail, email or fax any comments you may have, to the editor, stating if we may publish them or not.

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