

cranes & access

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April/May 2015 Vol.17 issue 3

Spider lifts

Lifting wind turbines

**Vertikal Days
preview and
show guide**

...New owners for Ainscough...Manitou unveils 12m Man'Go...Kubota telehandler prototype...

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KOBELCO

On the cover:

German heavy transport manufacturer Scheuerle showed off its second generation Rotor Blade Adapter at Intermat which allows the trailer carrying the blade to negotiate tight corners and obstacles by raising and rotating it as needed.



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Vertikal Days preview



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Spider lifts 17

Slowly but surely, the tracked spider lift is becoming more of a mainstream rental product as rental companies and end users appreciate its 'jack of all trades' abilities. Of all the aerial work platforms, spider lifts can deal with almost



every type of ground conditions making them the 'go anywhere' platforms.

We take a look at recent developments as well as a few interesting applications.

Lifting wind turbines 27

In spite of the fact that the European wind energy industry installed more than double the capacity of new coal and gas combined last year there are some dark clouds on the horizon. Mark Darwin investigates and also talks in-depth with Declan Corrigan of wind turbine installation specialist Windhoist.



Vertikal Days
preview and
show guide 39

Vertikal Days 2015 is now just a couple of weeks away and promises to be the largest so far both in terms of the number and space taken by exhibitors. We include a full show preview guide with all the exhibitors, new products and essential show information.



IPAF Summit 67

This year's IPAF Summit was held in Washington DC close to the Pentagon, the second time it has been held in the USA since 2013. While the number of delegates attending was substantially down on last year's meetings in the UK, the event was well organised and the content of the presentations to a high standard. Cranes & Access reports.

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In the next C&A

The next issue of Cranes & Access - scheduled for mid-June - will be looking at Tower cranes, Trailer and SD lifts and Heavy transport as well as having reviews of Vertikal Days and Interimat shows. If you have any contributions or suggestions, please contact our editorial team.

"Don't cry because its over, smile because it happened"

Dr . Seuss

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More characters needed

Whether you love or hate ex Top Gear presenter Jeremy Clarkson, you have to admit he was a character...and his departure from the globally popular show has upset most of the programme's viewers. The antics that resulted in him being fired

from the BBC were probably a step too far, but he was one of the very few people in his position and profession who would actually say something that sounded like it had not been edited and censored by the PC (Politically Correct) police.

This got me thinking. The cranes and access industry has always had its share of 'characters' but are they slowly disappearing? For me a character is someone who openly speaks their mind, often against the accepted way of thinking and is usually very controversial. They are individualists, possibly a little eccentric, happy to go their own way, and often known to live life to the extreme and sometimes to excess.

Those old enough to have worked through the 1960s, 70s, 80s and 90s will fondly remember a good number of larger than life characters who spoke their mind openly, had more than their fair share of failings, but were always highly successful at what they did, and were thus loved/tolerated/hated by those who had to manage or work with them and in some cases for them.

Unfortunately as with society in general, there is a growing pressure to avoid saying or doing anything that might offend anyone - even if it is the truth. The trend for companies - particularly the larger corporations - is not to employ such individuals and to carefully cull those that remain - probably for fear of possible disciplinary/employment law trouble in the future - and in some cases to ensure homogenous conformity. In fact it would seem that only professions such as designers, artists and musicians are now tolerated or saluted for being 'a bit off the wall'.

But what is life and business without such individuals? Nothing can change if everyone agrees - creativity and spontaneity are stifled and we will all end up being managed and run by automatons, too afraid to say what they really think - like being run by committees and we all know the result of management by committee...

Fortunately we do still have characters in this industry - both old and young. They make things happen because they will take a decision and get the job done. They question the establishment and push forward change. We need such people, these radical thinkers, these doers, who are not afraid to take risks and speak out when all around are silent, because without them, business (and television) is a much, much poorer place.

Mark Darwin

Comment and feedback is most welcome via post, email, fax or phone stating if we may publish them or not: editor@vertikal.net

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