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On the cover:

A closer look at the 1,000 tonne Terex AC1000 which finally appeared at Bauma China after its initial announcement more than six years ago.



C & A contents

17

Heavy lift cranes



25

Annual Rental Rate Guide



35

Large truck mounts



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Comment 5

News 6

TVH acquires Mateco, Change of ownership for Ainscough, Big Genie on the way, Odewald buys stake in Scholpp, Dick Schalekamp leaves Riwal, Sky Aces announces the Fanlift, Huisman installs record quayside crane, Sennebogen launches crawler crane, Dingli announces new UK distribution, New Bronto 60 metre truck mount,

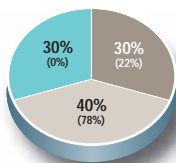


Hiab launches loader crane, Ejar orders 10 Liebherr cranes, Access Link joins Partnerlift, Big Effer for Cuadrilla.

Heavy lift cranes 17

Given the reliance of many industries on large cranes, Mark Darwin takes a look at the dearth of crawler and mobile cranes with capacities between 800 and 1,000 tonnes and talks with Dougie McGilvray of Weldex International - one of the world's leading crawler crane rental companies.

Annual Rental Rate
Guide 25



Another year has passed since we looked at the crane, access and telehandler rental rates in the UK and Ireland.

Once again access and telehandler equipment has performed better than cranes posting a strong year, but is it all doom and gloom for cranes?



Large truck
mounts 35

Over the past few years the larger truck mounted platforms have enjoyed increased popularity with uses ranging from wind farm maintenance to television coverage of sporting and national events. We take a look at the latest developments in machines over 50 metres, with a focus on the 55 to 75 metre area where a great deal of development is taking place.

A Look Back
at 2012 43

2012 has been another mixed year with the economic situation remaining fragile. However in spite of this it seems most companies in our sector fared better than in 2011. Our annual review looks back at the industry highlights as well as the major news and events from the world at large.

Bauma China 53

With interest growing in the Chinese market for construction equipment and more buyers in the West at least showing an interest in Chinese-built products, Cranes & Access visits the sixth Bauma China trade show to check out the latest developments.



regulars

ALLMI Focus 57

Training 59

IPAF Focus 61

Innovations 65

PASMA 63

Books and Models 67

Letters 69

What's on 71

Online directory 80

In the next C&A

In the February issue of Cranes & Access we will feature Self-propelled boom lifts, Spider cranes, Batteries, Harnesses, Big telescopic cranes as well as the first Bauma preview.

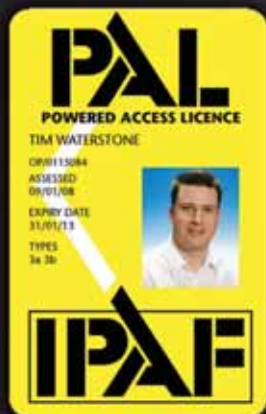
"Quand la Chine s'éveillera, le monde tremblera" - "Let China Sleep, for when the Dragon awakes, she will shake the world."

Napoleon Bonaparte

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c&a

comment



Fit to burst?

China's increasing presence in the lifting and access sectors has made the country's bi-annual equipment show - Bauma China an increasingly international event, so Cranes & Access headed off to Shanghai at the end of November to report.

With more than half the world's mobile cranes produced in the country, the loader crane market set to take off and powered access gradually emerging, this is not a market you can afford to ignore. However it would appear that some major international manufacturers are beginning to lose patience, after trying to be part of what increasingly looks like an out of control growth rollercoaster.

China is constantly held up as an economic miracle, and there is no denying the utterly incredible progress the country has made and is making. However rising labour costs are causing some producers to repatriate production or move to lower cost markets such as Vietnam. China is approaching the classic stage where it needs to add value and move up the progress chain for growth to continue. In our own sector the explosive growth in the crane industry is in danger of exploding as the frenetic pace and pressure to grow the fastest appears to have introduced problems that are all too familiar. As we go to press Zoomlion has been accused of inflating its sales, something it has vehemently denied, while fingers are also being pointed at others.

Local crane makers continue to build product at record levels - in the face of a market that has almost halved. As a result thousands of units have been shipped to local dealers and users on long terms with precious little chance of being paid. New facilities are being built, some with more capacity than total world demand. The major producers, particularly XCMG, Zoomlion and Sany have launched a mind-boggling number of increasingly large cranes at a pace no western company would ever contemplate, even if they had the resources.

Chinese producers are understandably keen to export more of their production. However for trade to flourish there must be a level playing field with a fair set of rules, this does not currently seem to be the case. Until now importers, realising that chasing the local truck mounted market was a non-starter, were happy to help local producers by sharing technology while selling their larger and more sophisticated products to the large contractors. Even this sliver of the market is now shrinking as the big local cranes become available.

Something has to give if disaster is to be avoided. Less blind hustle and a more level playing field and we will all benefit.

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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