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On the cover:

Dutch international heavy lift specialist Wagenborg Nedlift staff check a remote controlled shackle at the Vopak Vlaardingen tank storage terminal during the construction of 52 new tanks. The shackle allows slings to be disconnected without the need for men to work at height.



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Big telescopic cranes 17



Gareth Jones

Over the past 12 months or so there has been a number of interesting large All Terrain cranes coming to market. We take a look at cranes in the 1,000 and 400 tonne classes. We also interview Ainscough commercial director Gareth Jones about recent changes at the company.

Electric scissors 26

Battery powered scissor lifts are by far and away the most popular form of powered access equipment. We review the market paying particular attention to the 12ft mast-type products and the growth of the 10ft self-propelled lifts evolving from the push-around sector.



Bauma 2013 preview 37

The world's biggest trade show – Bauma 2013 – is now just a few weeks away. This month we have the second major preview of new cranes, access and telehandler products and include an exhibitor listing and map.



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What happens when something goes wrong when working at height and you need to be rescued? We take a look at the procedures and equipment as well as outlining planning methods that can reduce the risks significantly.

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February is the time for general rental shows including the Executive Hire Show in the UK and the ARA's Rental Show in the USA. Cranes & Access attended both in order to check out new models and to gauge the mood of the industry.



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In the next C&A

In the next bumper issue of Cranes & Access out early May we take a look at the market for self-erecting tower cranes and spider lifts, report on the IPAF summit held in Miami, Florida and review Bauma 2013.

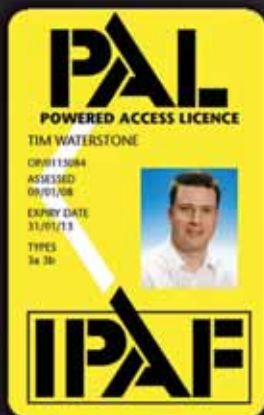
He who dares not venture must not complain of ill luck

- Anon

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c&a
comment



Does what it says on the tin

The slogan of a Television advert for Ronseal fence preservative in the UK a few years ago has now become a standard phrase in everyday conversation.

"It does exactly what it says on the tin" is the phrase and it means... well exactly that. But product description and claims can be a delicate and tricky area, and when you get it wrong can have far reaching consequences. Take the 'horse meat' scandal that swept through Europe recently. That product certainly wasn't mentioned on the tin or carton.....

Whatever you claim for a product it has to be able to conform. Take the case of crane capacities as mentioned in the large telescopic crane feature on page 17. Over the years it has been common practice to have the maximum lifting capacity in the crane's nomenclature. For instance the new Tadano ATF400G-6 has a maximum capacity of 400 tonnes, the Liebherr LTM 1750-9.1 is a 750 tonner (Liebherr always puts a number one before the capacity.....but you get the drift.)

But delve a little deeper and you might find that the crane in question may or may not be able to actually lift its maximum stated capacity, or may only achieve it by using certain 'other' optional equipment.

One manufacturer - Terex Cranes - has started to move away from its usual nomenclature such as the 100 tonne AC100, 250 tonne AC250 etc... and now gives new cranes names with any numbers purely being 'representative' of the model's performance. The Challenger 3160 for example, is a three axle crane with 160 tonne metre load moment - equating to a 55 to 60 tonne crane in old money. Some of its other models - the number on the Eazy 90 self-erecting tower crane for example - probably have more to do with perceived size and performance compared to competitors than actual performance. There is nothing wrong in that but is it all getting a bit confusing?

If you look further into the various manufacturers load charts you'll find maximum capacities may be rated at 2.5, 2.7, 3, or even 3.5 metres so direct comparison is tricky at best. A common standard for quoted maximum capacities would be helpful. There has been some recent discussion between manufacturers regarding such a standard, but as yet nothing has yet been decided.

All we need is that they meet expectations and do 'exactly what it says on the tin'.

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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