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On the cover:

Membrey crane and transport from Australia relocated an extremely rare Rothschild Giraffe from the Melbourne Zoo in Victoria to the Mogo Zoo on the southern coast of NSW 800km away using a Terex Franna AT-20 pick and carry crane. The move was part of a regional breeding program and reunited the 10 year old, 4,8 metre giraffe named Tanzi with her sister Shani.



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Vertikal Days show guide



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AFI acquires Hi-Reach and Access Rental Gulf and gains a new owner, Record 42,780 tonne jack-up, OSHA to delay crane rule, Liebherr to expand Irish crane facility, Palfinger Sany launch, Ashtead acquires Eve, Stopping the serial defaulters, Ball to leave Easi UpLifts, Haulotte India launched, 800 JCBs for A-Plant, First Liebherr for King Lifting, Palfinger goes direct in Austria, Tadano inaugurates Thai plant, Volvo Rents for sale? New LEEA guidance, Record gantry crane order for



Terex, 900 tonne AHC subsea crane to South Korea, One Call Hire widens telehandler fleet and financials round-up.

All Terrain cranes 17

We review Liebherr's new Variable Supporting Base, take a look at the trend for larger single engine All Terrains and compare the latest 60 tonners from Liebherr and Grove with the Challenger 3180.



Rough Terrain scissiors 27

The original RT scissiors were relatively lightweight, two wheel drive units with large tyres and highly successful as rental machines being very reliable, easy to transport and operate as well as being cheap to maintain and repair. We review how has the market developed since then as rates have remained in the doldrums and looking at current offerings.

Vertikal Days show guide 35



If its June it must be Vertikal Days! This year's show is the biggest ever and we have it all covered in this mega pull-out Vertikal Days Show Guide.

IPAF Summit 59

The International Powered Access Federation held its Annual General Meeting, Summit and Awards dinner in Miami, Florida, the first time that the events have been held outside of Europe. Here is our slightly irreverent look back at the events.

Altrex partnership 73

Following last year's announcement of the manufacturing/distribution partnership between Dutch scaffold, ladder and suspended platform manufacturer Altrex and UK-based Pop-Up Products, Ed Darwin met up with both companies to learn what the two have been working on...

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In the next C&A

In the next issue of Cranes & Access out in July we will have a full Vertikal Days review, our Annual dealer guide and with plant shut-downs approaching we will look at Industrial Cranes and Industrial Access and Push Around Lifts.

Vertikal Days really is a show - that if you are serious about the access or the crane industry - you cannot afford not to be at.

James Darnley speaking to a camera crew at Vertikal Days 2012

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c&a
comment



An end to box ticking

Are we really serious about safety and creating a safe environment at work or are companies just going through the motions? Unfortunately I fear the latter is more likely and that working on many sites is little better than it was when I started 30 odd years ago. Yes everyone has to wear an

inordinate amount of PPE (which can prevent you working properly) but are we actually any safer? There is certainly a great deal more paperwork, which in the case of anything going wrong usually proves that the blame lies with an employee or sub-contractor.

One of our letters this month tells of one man's battle with companies that obviously haven't moved on and still flout the rules when it suits them. Of course there are many companies that can hold their heads high in the knowledge that safety and fairness runs from top to bottom. But there are still way too many that do not 'walk the talk'.

Safety is more than being seen to do the right thing or ticking the right boxes - it is about each and every person from chief executive to trainee taking responsibility for and being allowed to speak up about any unsafe practice, so they are never put in a position to have to 'bend the rules' to get the job done.

Europe generally has a very good attitude towards safety and within Europe the UK is probably the most sanctimonious about safety with all the major contractors enshrining it in their communications.

The same people that expound safety mantra also work hard to force down the prices they pay to equipment suppliers to levels they know to be uneconomic, leading to them employing low bid corner-cutters, or pressuring reputable companies to provide equipment that does the job, but without the extra margin of safety they would prefer.

Once on site many contractors focus entirely on getting the job done in the fastest possible time, even if that means flouting the rules. If an operator questions a request to do something potentially unsafe, he is labelled a troublemaker and his employer ensures that he is not used again. The same contractors also try to suppress information on any incidents, while being quick to pass the blame to the supplier/ sub-contractor - after all the paperwork proves that it was their responsibility.

Isn't it time the industry practises what it preaches as well as adopting a much more open attitude to reporting near misses and accidents - for everyone's safety?

Mark Darwin

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