



The incident at the Corinthians stadium

Fatal crane collapse at Sao Paulo World Cup stadium

In late November two people died when a large crawler crane collapsed at Sao Paulo's Arena Corinthians stadium which is due to host the opening ceremony for the 2014 football World Cup on 12th June.

The boom of the crane - a 1,350 tonne Liebherr LR 11350 owned by Brazil's largest crane company Locar - appears to have gone over the back and to the side of the machine breaking the superstructure connections.

The crane was specifically brought in to install the large roof structure and was working with suspended derrick mast counterweight, lifting the final 420 tonne section into place when things went wrong. An investigation is continuing and while claims of excessive hours, seven day working and pressure to complete the job have been made, no official statements have been issued.

New access rental supplier

A new UK-based access rental company United Powered Access has formally started trading to external customers. The company which is based in Lymm, Cheshire is owned by the CA Group - one of the UK's leading metal roofing and cladding system manufacturers - which has an equally strong contracting business specialising in industrial, commercial, public sector and refurbishment markets.

Greg Miller - an experienced access veteran of almost 30 years - set up and is heading United after being recruited to look into the feasibility of a new rental operation to supply CA's own needs and those of like-minded contractors following problems sourcing specific equipment.

Miller settled on two major suppliers to begin with, Skyjack for scissor lifts, especially the company's SJ9250 and 8841 big deck models, and Niftylift for booms - particularly its Hybrid 4x4 units although it has taken a range of machines including the HR12 Bi-Energy, HR12 4x4, HR17 and HR21. The Skyjack models include 6826s and SJ vertical mast models. With more units on order the fleet should exceed 200 units by mid-year.



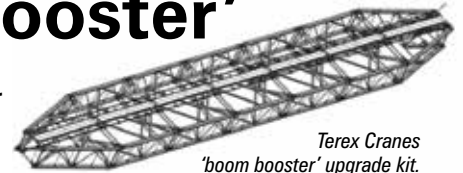
United Powered Access' new premises in Lymm.



Tim Ward of Niftylift hands over the latest boom lifts to Greg Miller of UPA.

Terex Cranes reveals 'boom booster'

Terex Cranes has released preliminary specifications for a new capacity-increasing upgrade kit for its CC 8800-1 crawler crane.



Terex Cranes 'boom booster' upgrade kit.

The 'Boom Booster' is currently on test with first shipments planned for this summer. Terex claims the 'boom booster' provides a significant increase in capacities with long system lengths, is cost effective to transport and can be retrofitted to any CC 8800-1.

The new kit comprises five, 10 metre long by 10 metres wide bolt-together boom sections, plus two 11 metre long bolt-together tapered sections, providing a new extra wide boom of up to 72 metres, to which standard boom sections can be added. When using the boom booster the maximum counterweight on the carrier jumps from 640 to 800 tonnes, giving the CC 8800-1 in Booster SFVL configuration with 86 metres of main boom plus a 12 metre jib (90 metre hook height) a capacity of 953 tonnes at 20 metres and 892 tonnes at 24 metres radius - ideal for long heavy items.

Fassi acquires Cranab

Italian loader crane manufacturer Fassi has acquired a controlling interest in Swedish timber crane manufacturer Cranab, in partnership with three Swedish investment companies - Mittkapital, Ekonord and Inlandsinnovation - via their jointly held Z-Forestab fund. Details of the equity split have not been revealed.

At the same time Cranab has acquired Bracke Forest AB, a manufacturer of forestry attachments including scarifiers, planting machines, biomass heads, felling heads and equipment for mechanised seeding.



A Cranab forestry loader crane

Boom upgrade kit for Liebherr LR 1600/2

Liebherr has introduced a boom upgrade kit for its LR 1600/2 crawler crane which increases lifting capacities by up to 20 percent and extends the heavy duty lift height by 15 metres. The new SL-10 system, combined with 12 metre fixed jib takes the maximum hook height to more than 160 metres at which it can lift 71 tonnes.

A more direct comparison with the standard boom shows an increase in capacity from 77 to 92 tonnes at a hook height of 147 metres. The boom kit allows the crane to erect the latest generation of wind turbines with tower heights of up to 150 metres. The derrick system has also been improved to allow the longer main boom and jib combinations to be erected.

A LR 1600/2 crawler crane fitted with Liebherr's new SL-10 boom upgrade for big turbines





Bronto launched its XR range at Bauma – the new 47m will be on a two axle chassis

Bronto to launch two axle 47m

Bronto plans to introduce a 47 metre platform mounted on an 18 tonne two axle chassis this year. The new S47XR will be the third unit in the company's XR series, joining the 56 metre S56XR and 65 metre S65XR launched at Bauma. The S47XR will have the same specification levels and technology as the larger models. Expect to see it in sometime this summer.

'Secondary Guarding' - its official

The UK Strategic Forum for Construction Plant Safety Group has changed the name it uses to refer to 'anti-crushing' devices for boom lifts, from 'Anti-Entrapment' to 'Secondary Guarding'.

The change followed a proposal from IPAF technical officer, Chris Wraith which stated: "All aerial work platforms are safe by design and fitted as standard with a device to provide primary protection. Additional equipment or devices fitted to reduce the risk of an overhead crushing injury offer secondary protection and should not replace good practice by management and the operator."

Wraith added: "The term anti-entrapment implies that the use of these devices will prevent entrapment, even though there is no single solution to prevent overhead crushing incidents from occurring. A reduction in serious incidents will only come about by the combined efforts of operators, site management, hire companies and manufacturers and this renaming is a step in this direction."



Anti-Entrapment devices are now known as Secondary Guarding

Speedy CEO resigns

Steve Corcoran the chief executive of UK rental company Speedy, resigned late last year following the discovery of financial irregularities within its International division, following the recent take-over of the division by ex-Lavendon director Andy Wright.

The company says that it will re-state its 2012/13 financials and is likely to take a £3 million hit on pre-tax profits in the current year, which ends in March. The company also had to negotiate waivers with its lenders having broken some clauses in its loan agreements. Financial consultants Deloitte have been appointed to investigate and the international division's finance director suspended. Corcoran said he believed that it was appropriate that he resigned, and will depart following the appointment of a replacement.



Steve Corcoran

Skyjack launches secondary guarding systems

Skyjack has announced two secondary guarding options for its range of boom lifts - the mechanical SG-M structure which features a lightweight protective steel structure that physically protects the operator from being pressed against the controls and the SG-E electronic system which features a sensor bar that, when pushed, instantly stops all machine functions and initiates a siren and high intensity flashing beacon.



The Skyjack SG-E secondary guarding system

If the bar is released within a second, the siren and beacon will cease, and the selected function will return. If pressure is applied for more than a second, they will continue to operate and the engine will stop, halting all functions until the machine is reset.

Skyjack developed the solutions in co-operation with UK based Select Plant Hire, the rental/equipment division of Laing O'Rourke, which recently purchased 250 Skyjack platforms, including 46ft and 63ft articulated boom lifts. The devices can be ordered on new Skyjack booms or retrofitted to any model manufactured since 2006. Neither system impairs operator visibility, platform space or access to the work area, and both are said to require minimum maintenance.

Palfinger acquires three

Palfinger has made three new acquisitions, including two specialist access companies targeting the offshore sector - one in Austria and one in the Middle East - and a Russian forestry and recycling loader cane business.

A JSC Solombalsky logging crane



The first acquisition is an 85 percent stake in Palfinger Systems which manufactures, sells and rents 'customised access systems'. The business is a division that Palfinger did not acquire when it took over Palfinger Systems offshore loader crane business in 2012 and was owned by Hubert Palfinger Senior. The company has revenues of €1 million, employs 50 staff, and recently won a €10 million contract in Singapore, which it now needs to deliver.

The second is UAE/Qatar rope access specialist Megarme Group, which has 500 employees, mostly abseilers. The company carries out repair and maintenance work on ships and oil rigs from bases in Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Qatar. Revenues are around €15 million.

The final acquisition is a 60 percent stake in PMGroup Lifting Machine, a further 20 percent of the equity will be purchased by Steindl Forsttechnik. The group comprises two Russian crane manufacturers Velmash and Solombalsky Engineering Works, which produce and distribute a broad range of timber and recycling cranes and attachments.



A Velmash loader crane

Manitex completes Valla takeover

Manitex has now completed the acquisition of Italian pick&carry crane maker Valla for an 'earn-out' sum of \$1.2 million. Valla had revenues last year of \$7.5 million and an operating profit of \$700,000. Manitex said that it expects Valla to make an earnings contribution in 2014.

Founded in 1945, Valla was still family owned, headed by Antonio Valla, a Californian-based lawyer. It produces a line of mostly battery electric cranes with lift capacities ranging from two to 90 tonnes, which both wheeled or tracked models in the line-up. Best known for its boom trucks, the deal increases the Manitex presence in Italy, where it already owns port handling specialist CVS Ferrari. Manitex also owns Badger Rough Terrain cranes and Little Giant conventional truck cranes.

Valla general manager Mario Riva said: "We believe that Manitex International brings a strong distribution network and valued resources to the table that will significantly enhance Valla's market position."



A Valla 20E working on a curtain walling job



Prolift adds telehandlers

The first telehandler arrives: (L-R) Richard Davis of Holt JCB, Stewart Green of Prolift, Dave Probert of Holt JCB and Rod Giles of Prolift, with Prolift's Terry Cole in the cab.

UK-based rental company Prolift Access has started adding telescopic handlers to its rental fleet. The first units are the 3.5 tonne/9.5 metre JCB 535-95 purchased through the manufacturer's dealer Holt JCB. Prolift managing director Andy Pearson said: "We have been cross-hiring telehandlers for some time now, so we see this as a natural progression for our hire fleet. We have also ordered some 12 metre telehandlers."

New CEO for Sany America

Sany America has appointed Mike Rhoda as chief executive, replacing Tim Frank, who resigned in October. Rhoda will have overall responsibility for manufacturing, sales, marketing and support for all Sany products in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Central America.

Prior to this appointment Rhoda was chief technology officer with Doosan Infracore Construction Equipment and spent over five years with Volvo Construction Equipment.



Mike Rhoda

Michelin launches new crane tyre

Michelin has launched a new crane tyre - the X-Crane + - an upgraded version of the X-Crane tyre which claims 20 percent longer life, as well as improved comfort and safety. It has also added a new tyre size - 385/95 R25 - as well as the 525/80 R25 and the 445/95 R25 sizes and has an F speed rating (80kph).

Michelin claims that the new tyre is safer thanks to an increased surface contact area, a new rubber compound in the tread, which reduces heat build-up in the shoulders and higher resistance steel re-enforcing wires. The company also says that the more rigid tread compound wears more evenly and generates fewer vibrations, and can be re-grooved further extending the tyre's life.



The new Michelin X-Crane + tyre



The Skyjack scissor lifts includes 50 SJ3219s, 30 SJ4632s and 10 SJ3226s

More machines for AFI

UK rental company AFI has purchased 118 new aerial lifts, taking its fleet investment for 2013 to around £7.5 million. The latest order includes 90 Skyjack slab scissor lifts, 15 Genie boom lifts and 13 truck mounted lifts for the Wilson Access fleet acquired earlier this year.

The Skyjack order includes 50 SJ3219s, 30 SJ4632s and 10 SJ3226s, while all 15 of the Genie models are Z45/25. The 13 truck mounts include models from Multitel, CTE, GSR and Palfinger, with working heights ranging from 20 to 45 metres. The new machines will be distributed to AFI's 19 depots in the UK.

Roxu transfers to South America

Spanish crane rental company Grúas Roxu has opened a new South American subsidiary in Costa Rica and shipped 10 cranes and 10 aerial work platforms from Spain to start the new venture.



Roxu cranes being loaded for shipment to Costa Rica

The equipment, includes some large boom lifts and a 350 tonne All Terrain crane and joins a number of other cranes already working in the region, including a 1,200 tonne Liebherr LTM 11200-9.1 employed on a wind farm development in northern Costa Rica. 20 more units will follow in the spring and some operators will relocate with the cranes. The company plans to transfer at least a third of its fleet which includes 160 mobile cranes, 80 large loader cranes and more than 700 aerial lifts, topped by a 112 metre Bronto truck mount.

Coskun Vinc's new T540 outside Ruthmann's sales and service partner's Acarlar Makine depot



Double first for Ruthmann

German access rental company G. Winkelmann has ordered the first 63 metre Ruthmann T630 - scheduled for delivery in June - it will be the largest truck mounted lift in the Winkelmann fleet.

At the same time Turkish crane and access company Coskun Vinc has taken delivery of Ruthmann's first 'height performance' truck mounted lift in Turkey - a 54 metre T540. Mounted on a three-axle 26 tonne chassis, it features a four section main boom, 16 metre top boom and maximum outreach of 40 metres. The platform has a 600kg capacity and can be extended to 3.82 metres which, the company claims, is currently the largest work platform on a regular truck mounted lift.



The 63 metre T630 truck mounted lift at the company's international sales and service partner meeting in Germany

Integrated Logistics takes AC1000

Kuwait heavy lift company Integrated Logistics has taken delivery of a Terex AC1000 All Terrain crane. The crane - billed by Terex as a 1,200 tonne capacity class machine - has a standard 50 metre boom which can travel on most roads, and can be extended to 100 metres by removing the boom nose and adding more telescopic sections.

Saleh Al Huwaidi, chief executive of Integrated Logistics, said: "We needed a high-capacity crane that would offer quick mobilisation, even in congested areas, for single-lift jobs. The crane's first job will be placing a 200 tonne steel girder in a tandem lift with our Terex AC 500-2."

Christian Kassner, Terex Cranes international sales manager, added: "The markets in which Integrated Logistics operates are highly competitive, and the AC1000 gives the company a competitive edge by offering low transportation costs and short rigging times." The Integrated Logistics fleet includes 400 cranes topped by a 1,600 tonne Terex CC8800-1.

Christian Kassner handing over the AC1000 to Saleh Al Huwaidi



Largest Liebherr tower crane on test

Liebherr's new 1000 EC-B 125 - unveiled at Bauma and currently its largest capacity tower crane - is currently completing an intensive test programme at the company's Biberach facility.

As well as the dynamic and static overload tests, which included a 158 tonne lift to test the crane's 125 tonne maximum capacity, Liebherr is testing a new climbing system which at around 45 minutes for each climbing stage takes half the time of conventional climbing equipment. The crane is aimed at wind turbine erection and power station and plant construction.



Each stage in the climbing process can be completed twice as fast as with conventional climbing equipment.

25 new JLGs for SAS

JLG has received an order for 25 aerial lifts from UK rental company Safe Access Solutions (SAS), worth around £650,000. The order includes both diesel and dual power articulated boom lifts and ES electric slab scissor lifts. The first units have already been delivered. SAS director Peter Whittall said: "Discussions with JLG began some months ago and the partnership we have established is paying dividends in terms of customer response to our equipment and the backup and support we receive."



SAS managing director Dean Corrie (L) and Peter Whittall with three of the new JLG lifts

Tanfield Engineering calls in the administrator

Having transferred Snorkel to Xtreme and Don Ahern, Tanfield has placed its subsidiary Tanfield Engineering into administration, having failed to find a buyer.

The business, while not large, posted losses of £732,000 last year and has negative net assets of around £367,000. The administrator said it plans to run the company while seeking a buyer.

A statement from Tanfield said: "No immediate buyers were identified and in order to preserve the group's cash reserves to run the plc to realise value from the company's two principal investments in Snorkel and Smith Electric Vehicles, the company has appointed administrators for this business unit. They are optimistic that they will find a buyer and preserve as many jobs as possible."

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Loading the hydraulic box with spoil

Penny's new hydraulic spoil box

UK-based loader crane and tail lift manufacturer Penny Hydraulics has launched a new hydraulic spoil box which eliminates working from the bed of the vehicle, when loading or unloading loose material.

The FV300/2 has been conceived for highways maintenance operations, and offers a maximum capacity of 300kg. The box can easily lift loads from ground level onto the bed of a truck. The unit includes full proportional control for all main functions and thanks to its low weight can be installed on a wide range of commercial vehicles. It can also be removed allowing the crane to be used with different lifting attachments such as an electric winch where down hole handling is required.

IPAF introduces Smart PAL Card

The International Powered Access Federation (IPAF) has launched its Smart PAL (Powered Access Licence) Card with an embedded machine-readable microchip and can be used to ensure only trained operators use work platforms on site.

Using a Smart PAL Card along with a reader device can be used by site managers to ensure that only correctly trained operators can operate equipment and track who has used which machine for how long to prevent fraudulent use. Standard PAL Cards will continue to be issued and accepted on site.



The new IPAF Smart PAL Card which has a wireless icon and a microchip embedded within

250 Skyjacks for Modern

Singapore-based rental company Modern Access & Equipment has taken delivery of 250 Skyjack electric slab scissor lifts. Modern group is based in Hong Kong with branches in Beijing Guangdong and Macau as well as its Singapore operation and offers aerial work platforms, scaffold and fall arrest equipment for sale and rental.

Klein Phua assistant general manager said: "The addition of Skyjack to our rental fleet will greatly complement our current rental fleet which consists of various aerial brands."



(L-R) Simon Cracknell of Skyjack with Klein Phua of Modern Singapore and Ashley Leontwich of Skyjack

Hiab China JV moves ahead



A Chinese built loader crane

Regulatory approvals for Sinotruk (Shandong) Hiab Equipment Company are all cleared and Hiab owner Cargotec is making a €10 million equity investment in the joint venture during year one. CNHTC's dealers and service stations throughout China will be used for the distribution, sales and service of Hiab's cranes and hooklifts. The joint venture will also develop CNHTC's existing loader cranes and production base for the Chinese market.

Thorough examination of lifting eyes

The UK's Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA) has issued a draft Technical Information Note on the thorough examination of lifting eyes, which includes whether or not lifting eyes are classed as lifting accessories subject to a thorough investigation. The association is seeking feedback and comment before publishing.



A permanently attached lifting eye does not require thorough examination



An example of a removable lifting eye

A key element of the note states: "If the lifting eyes are able to be removed from the load, for example by unscrewing, they are classed as lifting accessories and must be thoroughly examined at intervals not exceeding the six months required by Regulation 9(3)(i) of the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER). If the lifting eyes are

permanently attached to the load, for example by welding, they are part of the load and do not require thorough examination. They do however need to be inspected at appropriate intervals under Regulation 6 of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER)."

CE for Cushman scissor lift

Cushman has completed CE approval and certification for its Titan buggy mounted scissor lift which is now available for sale in Europe. The unit was shown at last year's Vertikal Days to gauge market interest before the company started the CE testing and approval process. Cushman launched the unit in the USA just over a year ago, having developed it in partnership with Compact Equipment. It combines a standard Cushman industrial truck with the lift stack and platform of a Custom HB-1030E scissor lift, and thanks to the higher chassis, boasts a platform height of just over 11ft, for a working height of almost 5.5 metres.



The Cushman Titan scissor lift

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Palfinger takes over as chairman

Hubert Palfinger has taken over as chairman of Palfinger's supervisory board from Alexander Doujak who has resigned. Hannes Palfinger - his brother - is the new deputy chairman. Hubert Palfinger, 44, has sat on the Palfinger board since 2005, and has been deputy chairman since 2008. Doujak spent 18 years with Palfinger, serving in a number of roles initially as a management consultant before joining the supervisory board in 2006 and becoming chairman in 2010. These moves are seen as the final step in the on-going generation change on the supervisory board.



Hubert Palfinger



Alexander Doujak

Hertz may exit equipment rental



Hertz is considering the sale of its Equipment rental division among other options, following moves by some activist investors and 'unusual and substantial trading' activity in its shares. The company has retained Bank of America Merrill Lynch and Barclays to 'advise on improving shareholder returns' and to help defend itself against an attack though the adoption of a Poison Pill strategy to block hostile investors from accumulating more than a 10 percent holding in the company.

New MD for Nationwide Platforms



Jeremy Fish

Lavendon has appointed Jeremy Fish as managing director of its UK-based Nationwide Platforms operation. The move follows the surprise departure of Mike Potts and other senior managers at the end of October. Fish joins the company following six months as a consultant to Ainscough Crane Hire, prior to that he spent eight years with generator rental company Aggreko where his most recent position was managing director of emerging markets.

200 Hiabs to Chausson Matériaux in France

Hiab has won a contract to supply 200 loader cranes to Toulouse-based Chausson Matériaux, one of France's largest independent building materials suppliers.

Five medium-capacity XS models will be delivered during 2014 and early 2015, all fitted with the HiPro operating system and Combdrive remote control. Chausson Matériaux currently operates a fleet of 400 Hiab cranes, which will increase to 550 with this order.



A Hiab XS544

60ft scissor from MEC

US aerial lift manufacturer MEC will launch a new 60ft Rough Terrain scissor lift at Conexpo in March, with first shipments due to commence in April. The new lift will be the highest scissor lift currently produced in North America.

With a 20.2 metre working height the MEC 6092RT is based on the 5492RT running gear but uses a new scissor stack.

It joins the company's '92' range of 2.34 metre wide scissor lifts and will feature the 7.5 metre Ultra-Deck dual platform extension with platform capacity likely to be between 580 and 600kg for CE models. Total weight is about 9,200kg.



The MEC 6092RT will be based on the 5492

JCB's £150m UK expansion plan

JCB has announced plans to invest £150 million - its largest single investment ever - to expand its operations in Staffordshire, UK, creating an additional 2,500 jobs by 2018. The move is part of a five-year plan for Staffordshire and part of a wider global growth strategy.

Plans include a new purpose-built 32,500 square metre plant for JCB Cab Systems in Beamhurst, near Uttoxeter; expansion of the plant in Rochester to increase hydraulic cylinder production; a brand-new, 20,000 square metre purpose-built facility in Cheadle for JCB Earthmovers and JCB Compact Products operations and a new training facility for JCB staff, to be run in conjunction with universities to support apprentice and graduate training programmes.

Youngman issues Boss X upgrade

UK access specialist Youngman has issued an upgrade notice, following an incident involving a Boss X3 which continued to raise while being used by dry walling specialist BDL on a London site at the end of October.

Fortunately the employee avoided hitting the ceiling and his colleagues quickly used the lower controls to bring the platform down. The machine's owner Mr Plant Hire found that the control solenoid contacts had stuck, causing the motor to continue to run and pump oil into the lift cylinder until the pressure relief valve was opened. There were no obvious signs of damage or failure to the solenoid.

Although Youngman failed to replicate the incident, it has issued a retrofit upgrade kits to all owners of older Boss X series machines, adding the later machine's two way valve. In the meantime it recommends users maintain the batteries in a decent state of charge as a precaution to avoid spikes in the current to the solenoid.



The original Youngman Boss X3

Record profits for Ashtead

Ashtead - owner of Sunbelt and A-Plant - has reported record first half profits of £207.8 million 82 percent up on last year, while revenues increased 23 percent to £849.7 million. Revenues at Sunbelt increased 21 percent to \$1.11 billion with operating profits up 40 percent to \$345 million. In the UK revenues at A-Plant jumped 33 percent to £138 million. The company says that trading remains strong and expects full year profits towards the upper end of expectations.



Non-slip crane pads

UK-based composite component manufacturer Nylacast has introduced a non-slip 'Getagrip' crane outrigger mat.

Available as an option on its range of Bigfoot crane outrigger mats, a non-slip coating has been applied to the top surface to help prevent users or pedestrians from slipping on the hard cast nylon plastic surface in wet or wintery conditions.

Nylacast has introduced a non-slip option for its Bigfoot crane outrigger mats.



New owner for Raimondi

Prince Khaled bin Alwaleed Al Saud, owner of Saudi Arabian investment company KBW Holding, has purchased Italian tower crane manufacturer Raimondi for an undisclosed sum. The company plans to spend around \$100 million expanding its Italian production and building new facilities in Brazil, Saudi Arabia and India.



Prince Khaled bin Alwaleed Al Saud

New online access company

Alloy tower and low level access equipment manufacturer Instant UpRight has launched a new on-line sales company, Go Direct Access.

Aimed initially at general tradesmen, small contractors and DIY enthusiasts in the UK and Ireland, the company will sell standard TT250 towers up to 9.1 metres, TP100 and 150 podium steps and folding low-level work platforms, including T200 Towermatic low level platforms. Most of the products on offer are built at the company's new plant in China and prices are said to be highly competitive. As well as offering free same-day delivery, customers will receive a short training video of each product highlighting key features and set up techniques.



TP100 Podium steps

Isoli appoints TH White

Isoli has appointed Palfinger crane dealer TH White to distribute its range of recovery vehicles and equipment in the UK.

TH White's loader crane division has workshops in Devizes, Wiltshire and Bradford, Yorkshire. The Isoli recovery products will be mounted and installed under licence at the company's Bradford workshops. Isoli truck mounted aerial lifts will continue to be sold and serviced in the UK by APS.



An Isoli tilt back truck bed teamed up with a loader crane

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- **Platinum Equity** is to sell specialist aerial lift rental company **Nesco** to **Energy Capital Partners**.

- **Willenbrock Fördertechnik** has appointed **Ralf Dingeldein** managing director.



Ralf Dingeldein

- **Sevcon**, the producer of motor controllers for aerial lifts/fork trucks, has three new directors.

- Spanish rental company **Grúas Roxu** has shipped 20 cranes and aerial lifts to Costa Rica.

- Dutch rental company **HWS** has taken delivery of a 25 metre **CMC PLA250** and two 21 metre **PLA 210**.

- **Boels** has ordered 300 **JCB** machines for £11 million.

- **Liebherr** says it will re-evaluate the future of its plant in Ireland following a strike and court decision.

- UK rental company **One Call Hire** has taken delivery of 20 Manitou MT625 telehandlers.

- **Theisen Baumaschinen** has appointed **Martin Hollerith** as sales manager.



Martin Hollerith

- **Niftylift** has received its two Queens Awards.

- **Riwal Brazil** has opened a second location in the Campinas region of São Paulo.

- Dutch rental company **HWS** has ordered seven more **Niftylifts**.

- The first 27 units of **Custom Equipment's** new Hy-Brid 1230 have been sold to **American Scissor Lift**.

- **JCB's** chief executive **Alan Blake** has retired after 25 years with the company.



Gareth Jones

- **Gareth Jones** the commercial director of UK crane rental company **Ainscough** is to leave.

- Vermont-based **Wood's CRW** has acquired the Carlisle, Pa, branch of **Link Belt Mid-Atlantic**.

- **NCSG** has acquired Calgary-based, **Mullen Rigging** and Industrial Services.

- UK-based **Smart Platform Rentals** has opened its fourth location in Dartford, near London.

- Hoist manufacturer **Geda** has appointed **Mace Industries** as a distributor in the UK.

- **Ahern Rentals** has acquired **Alliance Rental** of Georgia with owners **Rusty Kaylor** and **Russ Stear**.

- **Genie** has appointed **Joe Harper** as territory manager for Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana.



Joe Harper

- **Eisele** has taken delivery of three **Terex All Terrains** and a **Spierings** mobile self-erecting tower crane.

- **Ruthmann** has appointed **Talhu Oy** as its distributor for Finland.

- Indian heavy lift and haulage company **CTC** has taken delivery of its first **Terex** crane.

- **IPAF** has launched its 'Clunk Click' harness lanyard campaign in **Singapore**.

- Italian rental company **Vento Noleggi** has ordered six 20 metre **CTE ZED** truck mounted lifts.

- **Liebherr** expects 2013 revenues to come in close to last year's record levels.

- German access company, **HK Aerial Work Platforms**, has taken delivery of three **Oil&Steel** aerial lifts.

- **Socage** has shipped its 1,000th 20 metre **DA320** truck mounted aerial lift.

- UK rental company **Lifterz Work Platforms** has taken delivery of the first of six new delivery trucks.

- A sharp slowdown in the equipment market in **India** is likely to hit profits at UK-based **JCB**.

- **Todd Hildebrand** co-owner of **Alexander Equipment Rental** in Illinois has died age 46.



Todd Hildebrand

- **Terex AWP/Genie** has appointed **Kuehne+Nagel** to provide global transportation management services.

- **Isoli** has obtained EU Type Approval for its PT225 and PNT205 truck mounted lifts.

- **Volvo** has sold its **Volvo Rents** North America to **Platinum Equity** for around \$1.1 billion.

- **Meva Formwork** Systems has appointed **Ashtead's Leada Acrow**, as its sole rental supplier.

- **Kalmar** has received an order for 12 hybrid E-One 2 rubber-tyred gantry cranes from **Kenya Ports Authority**.

- **DAS Otomotiv** has expanded its **Terex Cranes** territory to include Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan.

- UK-based **Smiths Equipment** has appointed **Martin Prater** as fleet manager.

- **Terex** is to sell its off-highway truck business to **Volvo** for \$160 million in cash.



Rod Abbott

- UK crawler crane veteran **Rod Abbott** is to retire from **NRC** after 52 years.

- UK rental company **LTS Powered Access** has taken delivery of the UK's first **JLG Toucan 12E Plus** mast boom.

- German rental company **Sönke Jordt** has taken delivery of a second **Tadano Faun ATF180G-5**.

- **Ray Ledger** is retiring as chairman of UK based **Kimberly Group**.

- Mexican mining company **Grupo Mexico** has taken delivery of a **Terex AC350/6**.



Pat Collins

- **Link Belt Cranes** has promoted **Pat Collins** and appointed two new product managers.

- **Trojan Battery** has appointed **Manikandan Dunamis** as its distributor for India.

- Swedish rental company **Hyreshuset** has taken delivery of a 22 metre **Dino 220XTC** spider lift.

- **Speedy** has appointed **Deloitte** to investigate financial irregularities in its International division.

- UK rental company **LTS Powered Access** has moved to new premises and taken more **Niftylifts**.

- Suspended platform specialist **Spider** has promoted **Steve Leon** as Las Vegas district sales representative.

- Scottish rental company **Easy Reach Access** has purchased a 27.5 metre **Ommelift 2750 RXBDJ** spider lift.



Nick Field

- **Riwal** has appointed **Nick Field** as country manager Germany and expanded two of its locations.

- **John J. 'Jack' Shaughnessy**, retired president of **Shaughnessy Crane Service**, passed away.

- **Link Belt** has appointed **Sam Meroney** as district manager North Eastern USA/ Eastern Canada.



Sam Meroney

- **Link Belt** has appointed **Raul Ureña** as district service representative for South America.



Raul Ureña

- Australian rental company **Skyreach** has taken delivery of a 63ft **Skyjack SJ63AJ** boom lift.

- **Riwal** has opened a new depot in Leek, near Groningen, the **Netherlands**.

- **Liebherr** has won several orders for LHM mobile harbour cranes from the Middle East.

- **Alimak Hek** has appointed **Keith Hancock** as UK product manager for mastclimbers.

- **Australian Crane & Machinery's** overhead maintenance platform has received an Australasian Railway award.

- **HWS** has taken delivery of three new **Holland Lift** heavy duty scissor lifts.

- **Kalmar** has received an order for eight rubber-tyred gantry cranes from the **Port of Oslo**.

- The **LEEA** has launched new training courses covering the thorough examination of overhead cranes.

- Slovakian utility **Zapadosloveska energetika** has ordered 10 **Isoli PT165** truck mounted lifts.

- **Ashtead** has rebranded its **A-Plant Acrow** formwork business as **Leada Acrow**.



Dave Bratton

- **Dave Bratton** of **Briggs Equipment** has retired, **Mike Winemiller** replaces him as CEO

- UK-based **Ainscough Crane Hire** has opened its 30th depot in Exeter.



Mike Winemiller

- Danish church renovation specialist **Dansk Kirkekalk** has taken delivery of a 32 metre **Falcon FS320Z** spider lift.

- Italian rental company **Antonioli** has ordered 21 **CTE ZED 20.2 H** truck mounted lifts.

- UK rental company **Lifterz** has appointed **Steve Gerrard** as operations manager.

- **HSS Hire** has acquired machine cleaning specialist **Premiere FCM (TecServ)**.

- UK-based **Safe Access Solutions (SAS)** has opened a third branch in Shepperton.

- **Genie** appointed five German and Austrian telehandler distributors at a dealer meeting in Germany.

- UK Utility **SSE** has issued a Safety Bulletin regarding the buckling of a **Land Rover** mounted boom lift.

- Austrian rental company **HBV Arbeitsbühnen** has acquired the first **Genie S-65** Trax boom lift in Austria.

- **Edwards Lifting Services** in the UK has purchased its first crane.

- Canadian crane group **NCSG** has reportedly hired advisers to explore the sale of the company.



Terry Brown

- UK telehandler rental company **UK Forks** has reported a strong first half in terms of profits and revenues.

- **Harsco Infrastructure UK** has purchased 19 new **DAF CF** trucks equipped with **PM 28.5** loader cranes.

- **Terry Brown** has retired from Illinois based **North American Rentals** his role is taken up by **John Kendzora**.



John Kendzora

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