



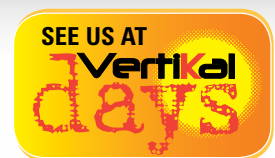
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On the cover:

Terex Cranes' new CTL 1600-66 at its launch in Italy earlier this month. With a load moment of 1,600 tonne metres the luffing jib crane is the largest of its type produced by the company.



C&A contents

17

Tower cranes



27

Trailer lifts



35

Vertikal Days



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Tel: +44 (0)8448 155900 Fax: +44 (0)1295 768223
E-mail: info@vertikal.net

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Comment 5

News 6

H.A.B enters administration, Wilbert acquired, Huisman to build world's largest crane, Skyking takes on Easy, Martina Moritsch steps down, Tadano acquires Cranes UK, Denka deliveries flow again, Effer launches five new models, JLG



ships first 1850SJs, 10 Manitowocs for ALL, Sennebogen moves UK crane distribution, Finland changes regs on transport platforms, LUXcranes luffer, MBO at Scholpp Crane & Transport, Liebherr invests in Switzerland, Crane operator fined, Liebherr adds 53K, Time expands in China, Terex launches big luffer, New Magni telehandler and Financial results round-up.

Tower cranes 17

After several years in the doldrums tower cranes are making a big comeback reflecting the growth in global economic confidence. This is particularly true in the UK where we interview David Lawrence, sales director of rental company HTC along with a round up of recent new product launches.

Trailer lifts 27

If there is a 'poor relation' product sector in powered access it must surely go to trailer lifts. Once they made up a substantial proportion of the European powered access fleet but for a variety of reasons all that has changed. Cranes & Access investigates....



Vertikal

Days preview 37

Vertikal Days 2014 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.



Don Ahern

interview 65



Don Ahern has been in the rental business all his life, yet over the past three years or so has - for one reason or another - hardly been out of the headlines with his companies Ahern Rentals and Xtreme Manufacturing. Mark Darwin finds out more in this extended interview.

IPAF summit 71

This year's IPAF Summit and awards dinner was held at the Beaumont Estate in Old Windsor, UK and attracted a record number of delegates. Here are the highlights.



regulars

Training 75

IPAF Focus 77

ALLMI Focus 79

PASMA Focus 81

CPA 82

Innovations 83

Books and Models 85

Letters 87

What's on 89

Online directory 96

In the next C&A

The next issue of Cranes & Access scheduled for mid-June, will have a full review of the 8th Vertikal Days event at Haydock Park as well as features on All Terrain cranes, Spider lifts and a preview of the APEX show in Amsterdam. If you have any contributions or suggestions, please contact our editorial team.

On résiste à l'invasion des armées, on ne résiste pas l'invasion des idées
A stand can be made against invasion by an army, no stand can be made against
invasion by an idea

Victor Hugo - Histoire d'un crime 1851

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Editorial team

Mark Darwin - Editor
Edward Darwin - Assistant editor
editor@vertikal.net

Associate editors

Rüdiger Kopf (Freiburg)
Alexander Ochs (Freiburg)
Leigh Sparrow

Sales & customer support

Pam Penny
Clare Engelke
Karlheinz Kopp

Production/Administration

Nicole Engesser

Subscriptions

Lee Sparrow

Publisher

Leigh Sparrow

Advertising sales

UK based

Pam Penny pp@vertikal.net
Tel: +44 (0)7917 155657
Clare Engelke ce@vertikal.net
Tel: +44 (0)7989 970862

Germany based

Karlheinz Kopp khk@vertikal.net
Tel: +49 (0)761 89786615

Italy

Fabio Potestà,
Mediapoint,
Corte Lambruschini,
Corso Buenos Aires 8, V Piano-Interno 7,
I-16129 Genova, Italy
Tel: 010 570 4948 Fax: 010 553 0088
email: mediapointsrl.it

The Vertikal Press

PO box 6998 Brackley NN13 5WY, UK
Tel: +44(0)8448 155900
Fax: +44(0)1295 768223
email: info@vertikal.net
web: www.vertikal.net

Vertikal Verlag

Sundguallee 15, D-79114,
Freiburg, Germany
Tel: 0761 8978660 Fax: 0761 8866814
email: info@vertikal.net
web: www.vertikal.net



AWP versus Darwin Awards?

Whenever I talk to people about Cranes & Access and Vertikal.net, one section they have all seen and enjoy is the 'Death Wish' series. For those that are unaware, the reports deal with people who risk life and limb to work at height or on lifting operations. These are the sort of people who would probably qualify for a Darwin (no relation) Award - given to people who improve the human gene pool by accidentally removing themselves from it - by cutting corners and not using the proper equipment.

At the recent IPAF Summit, IPAF technical officer Chris Wraith asked the question 'how safe are aerial lifts?' - a question posed because of concern regarding IPAF's global accident statistics which show an increasing number of fatalities each quarter.

The concern was exasperated by the general media and even some construction related magazines which sensationalised the story, with no consideration of the facts (no change there then....) implying that the statistical increase related to an actual increase in fatalities caused by.....aerial lifts.

It should go without saying that until a reporting/measuring system has fully matured, the figures - while useful - are relatively meaningless. As input to the report becomes more widespread, the figures will undoubtedly rise further - but does that mean powered access deaths are on the increase or that platforms are unsafe?

Of course not, it just means that the method of collecting the statistics has improved. And given the growth of the accident recording project (currently expanding at 25 percent a year) the fatality numbers will continue to increase for several years to come as more companies input data. This information can be analysed however and used to further reduce the very small number of accidents and fatalities that occur while using aerial work platforms.

However, to prove his point on how safe powered access is, Chris proceeded to baffle delegates with various calculations that attempted to provide a direct comparison with the safety records of other equipment and sectors. It all sounded very grand and the end result was that powered access is significantly safer than say driving a car (what isn't?) and possibly safer than flying on a scheduled flight. QED.

Whatever the figures in deaths per thousand hours worked etc... if you want to see how unsafe it can be working at height, just take a look at the Death Wish reports on Vertikal.net and ask yourself which equipment would you rather use? It's a no-brainer - unless of course you are going for a Darwin Award.....

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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