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C&A

spider lifts

Of all the equipment types that we cover, spider lifts are currently one of the most active, exciting and innovative sectors. This was highlighted at Bauma where most of the major access equipment news involved spider lifts. With so much going on we have dedicated the next few pages to looking at the latest changes and model introductions.

Where do you start? The spider lift market just gets more and more intriguing as its growth gathers steam. New companies are still entering the market which already has more than 25 existing players, yet surprisingly only one of the major full-line aerial lift manufacturers - JLG - has products in the sector, and even then they are built for the company by Hinowa.

Major rental companies are entering the market, either by acquiring spider lift specialists or starting their own specialist fleets. While the manufacturers are introducing new models and concepts at a cracking pace. It is certainly an exciting time for the sector which for many years C&A has predicted to be one of the main areas of growth potential in the powered access market.

For new products and news Bauma is a good place to start and there were many stories to tell. First

off the grid, just before the show opened was German truck mounted platform manufacturer Ruthmann announcing that it had acquired a 60 percent stake in the Marti Group - owner of Italian spider and small truck mounted lift manufacturer Bluelift and Ram. The company will be renamed as Ruthmann Italia with a board of directors comprising Gianni Marti along with Uwe Strotmann and Rolf Kulawik of Ruthmann. Ruthmann Italia will continue to build the Bluelift spiders from 12 to 26 metres at the Marti production facility in Montescudo near Rimini, and will market them under the Ruthmann Bluelift brand with the truck mounts rebranded as Ruthmann Ecoline. KLM loader cranes will continue under the Marti Group and is unaffected by the agreement with Ruthmann. Ruthmann immediately took over the distribution of Bluelift products in Germany and Austria from long-

term representative Rothlehnner which was effectively left without products in this sector at the show. International distribution for both Ruthmann and Bluelift continues unchanged.

Ruthmann Bluelift 26 metre

The latest and largest Bluelift spider is the 26 metre SA26. Based on its best-selling 22 metre SA22, the new SA26 is aimed at the tree care, facility management and rental market, with a dual sigma type riser, four section telescopic boom and articulated jib. With an overall weight of 3,350kg the new machine offers up to 14.5 metres outreach with one man, or 11 metres with its 250kg maximum platform capacity. The unit can complete a parallel lift at full outreach from a height of three metres to almost 12 metres - clear up and over height is 9.5 metres. Stowed width is 990mm, extending to 1.2 metres for

additional stability. Overall height is 1.98 metres and 5.58 metres - 4.91 metres with the quick disconnect platform removed. Platform rotation is 160 degrees and a micro switch is fitted to ensure that the basket is installed correctly before lifting functions can be activated.

The multi-position outriggers can be set up with 4.5, 3.7 or 2.7 metres overall width, without sacrificing maximum outreach, asymmetric set up is also available as an option. Both systems automatically adjust the working envelope to match the footprint and provide the maximum allowable performance for the space available.

Leading UK rental company acquired

In the UK the largest spider lift rental company Higher Access which is claimed to have around 200 platforms, was acquired by national general rental company Vp for £4.1



Ruthmann announced a 60 percent stake in Bluelift at the show - and had this 26 metre Ruthmann Bluelift spider on its stand



(L-R) Gianpiero Marti, Rolf Kulawik, Gianni Marti and Uwe Strotmann on the Ruthmann stand following the announcement of its acquisition Marti/Bluelift



The most unusual and interesting machine to be unveiled at Bauma was the Teupen Puma 42GTX

million in an all-share purchase deal. Higher Access has depots in Burnley and Luton and has joined Vp's telehandler business - UK Forks. It would appear that several other major rental companies were in the running for this acquisition, with at least one of them deciding to re-evaluate its strategy for entering this specialist market, possibly purchasing a fleet of spiders for a green field approach?

Palfinger enters the market

The latest manufacturer to join the growing number of spider lift producers is Palfinger with an all new 15 metre P150 AJTK spider lift - an unexpected new launch at Bauma. However, with similar developments at Ruthmann it was hardly a surprise as a few years ago Palfinger acquired a majority holding in SkyAccess, rebranding it as Palfinger Italia to design and produced a cost effective, simpler range of small truck mounted platforms.

The new spider is a development of Palfinger Platforms Italy which is essentially mounting the superstructure of its Smart truck mounted platform on a tracked chassis, to create a 15 metre working height spider lift. The P150 is the first and smallest in a range of at least four models which will run from 15 to 25 metres to include the P180, P210 and P250, all of which will be available in the not too distant future. The new models all feature dual sigma risers telescopic booms and jibs on compact crawler chassis, which for the P150 AJTK has an overall width of 800mm and will clear a two metre overhead



Latest manufacturer to join the growing number of spider lift producers is Palfinger with an all new 15 metre P150 AJTK spider lift



The Puma P42GTX uses the lift mechanism from the 40 metre Leo 40 spider mounted onto a Swiss-built Menzi Muck M545 4x4 self-levelling walking spider excavator chassis

restriction. Features include a two entry point, side opening basket, with retractable steps. Diesel, petrol and electric power packs, and more unusually an optional tow hook that can be used to attach a trailer for tools, work equipment or materials.

New Teupen Puma

Perhaps the most unusual and interesting machine to be unveiled at Bauma was the Teupen Puma 42GTX which uses the lift mechanism from the 40 metre Leo 40 spider mounted onto a Swiss-built Menzi Muck M545 4x4 self-levelling walking spider excavator chassis. The end result is a 42.7 metre, go-anywhere platform with 16.7 metres of outreach and a maximum capacity of 400kg (300kg at maximum outreach). Although the unit uses a proven chassis and boom, it still took three years' development, primarily to develop and test the all-new electronics and systems package, to ensure the centre of gravity always remains between the axles whatever the inclination of the machine.

The articulated boom lift employs the twin telescopic boom concept, with four lower riser sections and a three section top boom with short articulating jib. Weighing 17.6 tonnes the Puma has a travel

speed of 10kph and can wade through 1.2 metres depth of water. Overall dimensions are 9.2 metres long, 2.48 metres wide and three metres high. The Puma - developed in partnership with four potential buyers all of whom signed non-disclosure agreements - can also be used with a reduced working height of 29.7 metres as a fully self-propelled boom lift. In this configuration the chassis is levelled with all four wheels operating at the same level.

The boom pivot point is located onto a patented adapter that connects to the standard excavator pivot and raises the boom clear of the machine and its moving legs. This allows a high degree of articulation so the unit can travel, walk and climb over all manner of terrain. The centre of gravity moves freely between the four wheels to ensure ideal balance and safety. The superstructure features an air conditioned operator's cab for driving and operating the machine from lower controls, and includes 360 degrees continuous slew. Full controls are also located in the platform of course. All electronics and systems are Teupen designed and assembled and fully integrated. The technology includes automatic



The Teupen Puma P42GTX



The Teupen 31T is one of three new larger spiders

boom stowing and return along with full diagnostics on a large in-cab screen.

The Puma 42GTX will cost in the region of €460,000 - about twice that of a normal Teupen Leo 40 spider - and is aimed at a wide variety of specialist applications from remote pylon replacement and repair, to tree maintenance along railway lines and cuttings, work on steep slopes, cliffs or in ports - anything on rough and/or hard to reach terrain. The current chassis will allow for further models up to 54 metres. Teupen says it has already sold six units, including three in Germany and possibly a two or three in the UK and has good interest from many other areas including Saudi Arabia

for working on power lines in the desert and Norway for some of the more mountainous areas. Teupen anticipates annual worldwide volumes of around 15 to 20 units. Tobias Ritzenhöfer, Teupen director of development said: "We have combined all the positives from our tracked spider platform and the unique and phenomenal capabilities of the Menzi Muck walking excavator to create a new class of lift. The Puma has capabilities no other platform on the market can provide. We are filling a gap in rough terrain aerial working for all situations."

Other new Teupens

More recently Teupen has been designing its spider models using



Böckers tracked spider crane can be transformed into a fully integrated aerial work platform with 29 metres working height

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Holland Lift presents its new smart models: HL-160 and HL-190. The concept is designed for tailored efficiency. A modular system with various options: 16 or 19m high, electric, diesel or hybrid; the base of the machine always remains the same. These scissor lifts have attractive exploitation costs and a high return on investment. And whatever configuration you choose, Holland Lift quality, safety and durability are as always part of the deal.

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JLG has expanded its Compact Crawler range with the launch of the 15.4 metre X15J Plus.

a modular concept and new boom technology. Its latest generation of Leo machines - replacements for the Leo21GT and Leo24GT and the lightweight boomed Leo19T - have been developed using high-strength steel, together with modern bending and welding processes, resulting in higher load capacities - now 250kg standard - together with more outreach. Other features include internal cylinders, cables and hoses. The company has retained its 980mm wide chassis from the Leo21 and 24GT as a basis for the Leo19T and the Leo23T which can level on ground up to 1.2 metres out of level. The new Leo23T has a working height of 23.2 metres and with 250kg in the platform it has an outreach of 12.5 metres or 15.6 metres with 80kg.

The three new larger models - the 27 metre Leo27T, 31 metre Leo31T and 35 metre Leo35T use a 1.58 metre wide chassis with overall heights of under two metres. The largest has 14.7 metres unrestricted outreach or 17.7 metres with one man. Overall length is 7.5 metres and the unit weighs six tonnes. The latest control technology includes the 'home function which automatically returns it to the transport position, a 'memory function' where any point in the working diagram can be saved for

any time in the future, and remote control of all functions. All new models have a 450 degree slew range and 180 degrees platform rotation.

Tracked Böcker platform

Another interesting and unexpected launch came from German crane and lift manufacturer Böcker, with its tracked spider crane, which can be transformed into a fully integrated aerial work platform thanks to its quick-change Easy Lock system. The RK 36/2400 has a standard lift height of 34 metres - 36 metres with additional equipment - as a crane but this is reduced to a working height of 29 metres with the platform. This is a useful addition to the crawler spider crane, increasing its versatility.

JLG X15J Plus

JLG expanded its Compact Crawler range - spider lifts to you and me - with the launch of the 15.4 metre X15J Plus - the smallest in its four model Plus range - which will be available globally from next month. The new lift has a platform capacity of 230kg, a substantial increase over the X14J, and is narrower with an overall width of just 750mm. The new design has forklift pockets and lifting hooks to make moving and transportation easier. Features include non-marking



The FS320C has several new features including an all-new 310mm height-adjustable crawler chassis.



The 35.4 metre Easy Lift R360 Hybrid.

tracks and auto-levelling outriggers. Gradeability is 40 percent, while a combination of electric and petrol/diesel engines area available for indoor and outdoor use.

Updated 32m Falcon spider

TCA Lift has delivered the first unit of its updated 32 metre Falcon spider lift to Danish rental company Ringsted Lift. The FS320C has an all-new height-adjustable tracked chassis, which increases ground clearance by just over 300mm for improved rough terrain travel and better levelling on slopes. The new design includes easily removable side covers and has an overall height when stowed of under two metres. Maximum outreach is 15 metres with a reduced 100kg platform capacity and overall weight is about 5,550kg depending on options.

The new basket, which will be offered on all Falcon models, has dual entry gates, and fixing points for safe, easy lifting of materials. Other new features include a new remote control system and electric power with double battery package. "These modifications may seem small to us as the manufacturer, but

for the operators these are major improvements and lead to more safety and user friendliness," said TCA Lift's Brian Falck Schmidt. "The new Falcon service tool - standard now on all machines - ensures fast online service in case of breakdown, with the possibility to log all movements while working."

Two from Easy Lift

Italian spider and van mounted manufacturer Easy Lift has launched two new spider lifts - the RA 15 and the RA 26 - along with a hybrid version of its 36 metre model, which is available both on tracks and wheels. The articulated range now runs from 13 metres up to the new 26 metre RA 26 while telescopic platforms on wheels and track run from 26 to 42 metres.

Details are still sketchy on the RA 26 but it has dual telescopic booms and 140 degree articulating jib. Maximum outreach is 8.1 metres with a platform capacity of 230kg or 14.5 metres with 120kg. Up and over height is 11 metres, while overall width extends from 890mm to 1.29 metres. Overall length is 6.75 metres and weight is 3,600kg with power either diesel, electric or battery.

Its smaller brother - the 15 metre RA 15 - has a dual sigma type riser and telescopic boom providing an unrestricted outreach of 6.8 metres. Weighing two tonnes the 780mm wide machine has an overall length of 4.5 metres with basket in place, 3.8 metres without. Up and over reach is 6.4 metres and the extended outrigger footprint three metres square. Other features include extending tracks, 180 degrees platform rotation and multiple power options, including petrol, diesel or lithium battery.

The first new 35.4 metre R360 Hybrid was sold in its wheeled



Omme Lift has introduced a completely new boom system for its 37 metre spider lift creating the new 3710 RBDJ.

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format to South Korean food company CJ Cheiljedang. It will be used for maintenance and cleaning duties at the company's new Research and Development centre in Seoul, designed by the Yazdani Studio of Cannon Design. The R360WBA boasts a five section main boom and two section telescopic jib, providing an outreach of 13 metres with the maximum platform capacity of 200kg or 16.5 metres with 80kg. Platform rotation is 180 degrees while the total machine weight is 6,500kg. With an overall width of 1.25 metres, the electric machine is powered by a 48V - 465AH full traction battery pack, with AC power option.

New boom for 37m Omme

Danish lift manufacturer Omme Lift has introduced a completely new boom system for its 37 metre spider lift, creating the new 3710 RBDJ, which replaces the 3700RBDJ launched in 2010. The new seven section boom has a six-sided formed profile to improve strength and rigidity and is topped by a jib with 130 degrees of articulation and an improved 250kg platform capacity. Maximum outreach is 14.2 metres. Boom elevation and telescope can be operated simultaneously without interference to help speed the time taken to reach full height. Overall length is eight metres or 7.4 metres with the basket removed, while overall width is 1.1 metres for transport extending to 1.5 metres for additional stability. Power comes from a diesel/battery drive train for indoor and outdoor working, the 400Ah battery pack is automatically recharged whenever the diesel engine is deployed and eliminates the voltage drop issues that often arise with AC mains powered machines. Two speed drive



The CTE Traccess spider lift range now includes a new 23 metre lithium model, the Traccess 230E

provides faster speeds between working areas. Total weight is 5,500kg and as with other Omme spiders the machine can level on slopes of up to 30 percent.

15 metre Hinowa

Hinowa's latest spider lift is the 15.4 metre Lightlift 15.70 Performance IIS - the fourth model in the company's Lightlift Performance IIS series, which now includes 17, 20 and 26 metre models. The main features of the new model which replaces the Goldlift 14:70, is its short overall length of 3.4 metres with quick release platform removed - just over four metres when fitted - its highly accurate overload system, and the narrower overall width of 750mm, which combined with the lower - 1.99 metres - overall height makes it easier to take through standard domestic doorways. The fully equipped weight is just under two tonnes, making it ideal for standard equipment trailers. The working envelope is also significantly better, with an unrestricted outreach of 6.6 metres with 230kg platform

capacity. It can lift perfectly parallel to a wall at to a height of 10 metres at full outreach. Power comes from either a Hatz diesel or Honda petrol engine, with a lithium-ion battery pack option. The first units ship in July.

At the same time the company will give its Lightlift 17.75 Performance IIS and Lightlift 20.10 Performance IIS upgrades to create Mark 2 versions. Changes include a new basket design, single key starting system, LED lights on the outriggers, a new remote controller box and the option of an anti-entrapment system, most likely the JLG SkyGuard system - with last function back up.

CTE lithium

The CTE Traccess spider lift range now includes a new 23 metre lithium model, the Traccess 230E. Features are identical to the existing diesel model with 12 metres outreach, unrestricted 200kg capacity, remote control automatic levelling outriggers, with four different positions, up to 31 percent gradeability, 2.1 metre jib and overall dimensions of 780mm wide, 5.3 metres long but sadly a little high as 2.1 metres. Power is supplied by a 300 Ah lithium ion battery that provides a working time of up to five hours.

Palazzani

Palazzani launched a new 22.3 metre Ragno TSJ 23.1 at Bauma.



Hinowa's latest spider lift is the 15.4 metre Lightlift 15.70 Performance IIS



Palazzani TSJ23.1

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Cela DT30 Spyder

Weighing 3,100kg the machine has an overall length of 5.8 metres, is under two metres high and is a metre wide with the tracks extending to 1,300mm. Maximum outreach is 10.3 metres reducing to nine metres with its maximum capacity of 250kg. The lift is powered either by a water-cooled diesel, 220 volt electric motor or hybrid power pack.

30 metre Cela

Italian truck and spider lift manufacturer Cela launched the 30 metre DT30 Spyder - late last year with a similar dual telescopic boom configuration to its truck mounted lifts, with a four section lower boom, three section top boom and an articulating jib that can raise to 90 degrees above the horizontal boom. A full 180 degrees of platform rotation is standard as is 360 degree slew. Maximum outreach is 15.5 metres with 120kg platform capacity at an up and over height of almost 16 metres, while maximum platform capacity of 225kg is limited to 12 metres. The unit can also reach a full seven metres below ground level. The new machine weighs just over five tonnes, has multiple position auto-level outriggers and an overall stowed width of 1.2 metres - with the 1.8 metre wide basket removed of course. Overall length is 5.9 metres, and overall height just over two metres. The DT30 can also be used as a light duty crane with a capacity of 250kg - ideal for roof trusses etc.

ATN Mygale

One more manufacturer to enter the fray is ATN with its previously announced 23 metre Mygale 23. The French-built lift has 230kg platform capacity and an outreach of 11 metres. It is 6.68 metres long, 1.93 metres high and 1.19 metres wide. Features include slinging rings and on-board colour LCD diagnostic controls, easy to operator controls with good accessibility to all major components.

CMC

Italian CMC continues to add to its spider lift range, unveiling the 25 metre lithium battery version of its 25S earlier this year. The new power pack will operate at the same speeds as the diesel model and run under these conditions for around eight hours before needing a recharge. A warning then sounds telling the operator to either recharge or start up the Kubota diesel, which will also top up the batteries.

The twin telescopic boomed machine - with two section telescopic riser and three section top boom offers almost 14 metres of outreach with 230kg platform capacity and a clear up and over reach of around 10 metres at which it still offers 10 metres of outreach. Additionally the unit can reach around six metres below ground level. Overall width is under 900mm, and overall length 5.8 metres. total weight is 3,900kg.

Goman Lift

Chinese company Goman Lift - or Hubei Goman Heavy Industry Technology, to give it its full title also exhibited at Bauma. While it did not have any new products, the company - which manufactures trailer, truck, scissor and boom lifts has both telescopic and articulated machines ranging from the 15 metre X15 to the massive 53.3 metre T53 which has a 350kg platform capacity and 16.5 metres of outreach. Weighing 13.6 tonnes it is 8.71 metres long by 1.51 metres wide. While this unit is unlikely to have much appeal in the west, pricing might make it attractive in the developing world.

Multitel

Last but not definitely not least is Pagliero Multitel and its new 30 metre SMX 300 HD aimed at the heavy duty, go anywhere market. The company says that rather than employing a special 4x4 vehicle which may not have the working

height or outreach, the SMX 300 has a 300kg platform capacity and almost 15 metres outreach. Powered by a Kubota V1505 T diesel it can climb a 40 percent slope and travel at 3.2 kph. A 1.6 metre wide basket, with 180 degrees platform rotation completes the specification. The company also questions why manufacturers increasingly promote unrestricted platform capacities - maximum capacity at maximum outreach. It points out that in order to achieve this, machines must be heavier, have a bigger outrigger spread or a combination of both. It maintains that a heavier machine is not an advantage in many situations, incurring higher transport costs and in many cases eliminating transport options such as a trailers towed by a 4x4. While a larger working footprint means the platform can be used in fewer restricted areas.

Multitel is hedging its bets, offering both options - the 17 metre SMX 170 has an unrestricted working envelope, while the 25 metre SMX 250 has a variable outreach, dependant on the load in the platform. With one person it has an outreach of 11.65 metres. With 200kg you get 8.6 metres and between these figures you get proportional increase/decrease. The benefit is that the SMX 250



ATN Mygale 23

has an overall weight of 2,700kg making transport by a standard equipment trailer possible. The unit has a compact footprint of 3.4 by 3.56 metres. Of course there are jobs that are better suited to one than the other, but Melvyn Else of Multitel's UK distributor Access Industries Multitel asks: "do you always need two men in the basket? Is there always plenty of room to set up? Is the method of transport an important consideration? Some manufacturers are moving away from variable outreach platforms but the advantages are not obvious to see for general hire. Indeed in many cases the variable outreach option can be more versatile. You just need to be sure the customer understands which type of platform he is hiring."



The 25 metre SMX 250 has a variable outreach dependant on the load in the platform



Multitel's new 30 metre SMX 300 HD is aimed at the heavy duty, go anywhere market

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