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SWISS MADE

Palfinger are launching the new heavy duty PK85002 later this month.



Palfinger to launch new heavy duty crane

Palfinger will unveil its latest heavy duty loader crane, the 80 metre/tonne PK85002 at the European Transport Show in Amsterdam on October 14th.

The PK85002 can be fitted with up to 9 hydraulic boom sections for a maximum outreach of 22.5 metres. If greater heights are required a fly-jib can be added offering up to 36 metres of lift height and 32 metres of outreach.

Palfinger claim that its 7/6 combination, with seven hydraulic boom sections and six jib extensions is the ideal combination for such high and long reach lifting.

The new crane also features 'Powerlink Plus' which allows the knuckle boom to be angled upwards. 360 continuous slew is standard, as is the Active Oscillation Suppression system 'AOS'. Palfinger claims that this actively compensates for jolts and oscillations and as a result loads can be placed much more quickly and accurately.

Full remote controls with an LED display are provided, including those for the outriggers. An option of two base frames is provided, one with a standard truck base frame and the other incorporating an integral base frame.

Haulotte predict 40% growth in 2006

The newly titled Haulotte-group has confirmed its first half sales revenues, marginally better than its preliminary estimate at €188.7 million. The increase on 2004 is 56 percent. Net earnings (after tax) came in at €18.5 million almost 10 percent of revenues.

Haulotte is forecasting net profits of €30 million for the full year 2005 and anticipates a 35 to 40% increase in revenues for 2006. The order book as of June was 65 percent up on last year and, according to the company, continues to grow.

Scottish banks, an apology and correction

We are embarrassed to admit a significant error in the September issue of *Cranes&Access*. The article on page eight refers to Manitowoc's Crane Credit division teaming up with the Bank of Scotland.

In the text of the brief article though we refer to the Royal Bank of Scotland and RBoS. The two banks are clearly not one and the same and we apologise unreservedly to the Bank of Scotland who have indeed partnered with Manitowoc.

The Bank of Scotland is a member of the HBOS group and as such is a competitor of the other Scottish bank that includes Royal in its name.

Mind the edge, mini crane replaces tower crane

A Valla 20e mobile crane is providing increased working efficiency for a specialist glass cladder at the UK's largest ever hospital PFI project. The compact electric powered model was specified by second tier contractor, Scheldebouw as part of its three year contract to clad Manchester's new state of the art 1622-bed Joint Hospital Project. The new crane is being used for the careful manoeuvring and accurate positioning of 2000+ individual 500kg glass panels. The Valla crane is operated by remote control by the contractor's own team from within the building's envelope and eliminates the need to rely on the sites tower cranes.

Mobility was a big reason for specifying the Valla 20e. with a gross weight of under 2,000kg and a narrow, 950mm wide, chassis, the crane is easily hoisted to the relevant level of the hospital by tower crane. Once in situ, it is highly manoeuvrable with tiller steering and a tight turning circle. The crane's three-section boom provides over four metres of height with up to two metres of outreach – ideal to lift panels from a lower deck up into position. The crane is equipped with a hook mounted winch and a full load moment Indicator system.

David Watson, Scheldebouw Site Manager says, "The whole of the exterior at Manchester is being clad, which requires a huge amount of material handling. The Valla 20e is ideal for the job – we see the benefits of manoeuvrability and added safety features with every fit".



The operator benefits from proximity to the lift with remote control mobility at Manchester 'superhospital'. Note the harness and restraint lanyard.

A Genie S85 works on the side hoardings of the giant stage in Chelmsford.



Powered access played a significant role in the build up to this year's V-Festival, celebrating its 10th anniversary.

This year's event was held at two locations, Weston Park in Staffordshire and Hylands Park in Chelmsford over a long weekend in late August. The festival attracted acts such as Oasis, Robert Plant, the Chemical Brothers and Texas to name but a few. Since its inception, Edwin Shirley Staging has provided innovative staging solutions for the festival. This year ESS chose Universal Aerial Platforms for its powered access requirements.

'Choosing the right powered access, on time and at the right price is key for achieving our goals, since it assists in so many parts of the job right from set up to final snagging work' stated Vicki Wiseman, Buyer at ESS. 'With Universal's good previous track record with us, combined with competitive prices, large fleet and in-house logistics, we were confident of a first-rate service' we were also able to select the machines we needed from the spec sheet CD ROM supplied by Universal," added Wiseman.

SGB quits Alloy tower manufacturer

SGB has sold its Youngman business to a four-strong management team. Youngman is one of the top three producers of alloy scaffold towers worldwide, as well as the UK's leading supplier of ladders. The business had revenues last year in the region of £37 million.

The management buy-in /buy-out team is led by Paul Bentley, previously

managing director of Ruberoid Building Products, he assumes the position of Managing director of the new business. He is joined by Chris Owen, formerly Director of Pro-tec Windows UK, the incumbent managing director, John Bungay and financial director Jerry Stapleton. The new venture will trade as the Youngman Group Ltd.



Youngman at APEX not an SGB logo in site.

JLG post record year

JLG has announced fiscal 2005 revenues of \$1.74 billion, a rise of 45 percent on 2004. Aerial lift whole goods sales rose by 56 percent to \$888 million, this is double the sales of 2003. Telehandler revenues grew by 43 percent to \$512 million, while sales of Gradall excavators were up by barely 14 percent to \$61 million.

Geographical breakdowns show that while the US market increased by 42 percent, sales in Europe were up by 48 percent to \$264 million. Revenues from other markets climbed by almost 75 percent to \$160 million.

Harsco buy Hünnebeck

Harsco Corp, the US based parent of SGB and Patent Scaffold, has bought German scaffolding and formwork provider Hünnebeck Group GmbH, in a deal worth €140 million. The deal is subject to the normal regulatory approvals being granted and does not include any of the manufacturing operations.

Harsco chairman, president and CEO Derek Hathaway said: "This complimentary union will further

accelerate our strategic growth in our Access Services sector, bringing it close to \$1 billion in annual revenues and substantially expanding its global footprint."

Hünnebeck is one of Europe's largest providers of formwork and scaffolding, with over 60 locations across 12 countries. It has annual revenues of €143 million, 73% of which is generated in Western Europe, with the balance coming from sales in Eastern Europe and the Middle East.

Crane drops the bath

An 80 tonne Krupp All Terrain crane fell onto a family home in Coniston Avenues Fulwell, Sunderland earlier this month, when, it appears, an outrigger gave way. The HSE was called in to investigate. It seems that the outriggers were set up on excavated ground near a gas main which was fractured in the accident, causing people to be evacuated from the area and delaying the recovery of the crane. The crane was hired under CPA crane-hire terms.

The crane, is owned by Reeds-Bray crane hire of Gateshead and was working with a boom length in the region of 24 metres in order to lift the large tub over the house and in to the rear garden, the load itself was well within the cranes capacity. Fortunately there was no serious injuries.

The 80 Tonne Krupp appears to have been caught out by weak ground conditions.



Companies fined for fall from platform

Three companies have been ordered to pay more than £15,000 in fines and costs at Bradford Magistrates' Court following an accident in which a worker fell 12 metres to the ground and sustained serious permanent injuries, while another managed to escape by clinging on to scaffolding.

David Gardener, 41, and his colleague Tony Nixon were catapulted from a boom lift when one of its wheels dropped into a hole that was covered with a temporary board. Gardener, suffered a fractured skull, sternum and wrists, in the accident on July 20 last year. He also damaged part of his vertebrae, chipped his teeth and bit off part of his tongue.

Nixon, managed to grab hold of some scaffold as he fell and escaped any serious injuries. Neither of the men was wearing a harness, which would have saved them, and neither of them checked the ground conditions before starting work. According to the local reports neither had received any formal training in the safe use of aerial work platforms.

The accident occurred at the Farmers Boy factory in Cemetery Road, Bradford,

the site is owned by Morrison's which had appointed Laing O'Rourke Northern Ltd as the main contractor. Directors of Pitts Electrical, of Bradford; TGL UK, of Leeds and Chubb Fire, of Middlesex, all pleaded guilty to failing to ensure the safety of employees.

Justine Lee, an inspector with the Health and Safety Executive, who prosecuted, said: "The companies failed to carry out a risk assessment and had failed to plan the job properly "Neither of the men had the correct training to enable them to operate the cherry picker and the companies had failed to ask them if they had.

"Work at height needs to be properly planned, adequately supervised and carried out in a safe manner. This case sends a message to other companies that all work at height should follow these guidelines to avoid prosecution."

Contractors Laing O'Rourke Northern Ltd had sub-contracted parts of the work to the three companies. William Morrison's and Laing O'Rourke Northern Ltd were not prosecuted.



*'Lights camera action'
Access all around for an
on location shoot
for Wimbledon.*

Access on Set and location

Nationwide Access supplied a number of aerial lifts for technical support to the making of the Feature Film 'Wimbledon'. The machines were used by construction, design, camera, special effects and the lighting departments.

The film, starring Kirsten Dunst and Paul Bettany, was shot in various locations in the UK including London, Norfolk, Brighton, Shepperton Studios and Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Club.

Along with the film's stars, Nationwide Access was on location throughout the shooting process. Smaller electric scissor lifts were used inside the film stages at Shepperton Studios, while diesel scissor lifts and booms were used at Wimbledon. Some of the scissor lifts were used to support four metre square diffusion frames to soften the lighting, while a Genie boom was of



C&a

news

Low profile hoist tower speeds construction on Beetham Tower

All Material and personnel hoists run up the aluminium UBS tower.

A low profile, high speed hoist system commissioned for the construction of Manchester's 171 metre, 47 storey Beetham Tower, is enabling contractors Carillion to dramatically improve efficiency and speed of elevating materials and personnel to height, with the minimum of disruption to the construction programme.

Four rack and pinion hoists are attached to an aluminium hoist tower developed by Universal Building Supply (UBS). This innovative system allows material and passenger hoists to be available simultaneously without taking up additional site space. As only the tower is tied directly into the building, cladding can be applied to the whole building apart from the 4.5 metre opening it occupies. UBS originally developed the low profile tower to help with construction of the Canary Wharf Tower and the Swiss Re (gherkin) building. The towers can be built up to 300 metres in height.

Carillion's construction manager Jack Headland commented, "The benefit of the UBS tower is that it makes life so much simpler for us. It reduces loading activities to a much smaller area so it improves working efficiency. It has been a massive advantage to

us on a large project like this."

UBS uses high speed, high capacity Alimak rack and pinion hoists which have dramatically reduced time to hoist materials to and from height. Each of the four hoists can lift up to 2,800kg at 90 metres a minute, so they take only 1.9 minutes to travel the 171 metres from ground to level 47 compared to 6.1 minutes for a standard hoist travelling at 28 metres a minute.

Tony Faulkner, managing director of UBS added, "The savings in time that our hoist systems can achieve have long been recognised in the USA where we are regularly commissioned to install them on many of the high profile high rise construction projects.



The use of the tower saves space and simplifies logistics.

particular importance in providing a strong backlight position for Centre Court without needing to drive on the delicate surface.

A 72 metre Bronto was used to replicate the BBC's coverage of the Wimbledon Championships, while a 62m unit was used for camera shots over the practice courts.

On Location numerous scissor lifts booms were used as lighting platforms when shooting scenes of a Jumbo Jet in Norfolk and at a period house near Godalming. Bronto 34 metre cherry-pickers provided high moonlight sources while night filming on the streets of London and Brighton.

The film's lighting gaffer, Alex Scott, explained: "In many cases scaffold towers of up to 30ft are used in the film industry, but they do not provide the same levels of flexibility that can be achieved using scissor lifts and booms." The various machines were selected as they provided safe, high, stable and adjustable working platforms for lighting rigs, cameras and effects equipment. Remote controlled lights are also now being used, with this new technology the lights can be easily controlled from the set.

Gunnebo to launch new chain shortener

Gunnebo Lifting will unveil a new chain shortener designated the MIG 'Midgrab'. The new product makes it possible to shorten a chain leg anywhere along its length, quickly and safely, rather than having to make the adjustment at the top near the crane hook, which entails many time-consuming upward and downward movements of the hook.

The new EN12195 Norm for load-securing and lashing-products entails new, considerably stricter requirements than before. Gunnebo say that this newly developed system exceeds the latest requirements and is more flexible and user-friendly than anything previously on the market.



Liebherr has sold the 1,500th LTM 1030-2.1 to Foslev of France. (L-R) Hans-Georg Frey MD Liebherr Ehingen, Henri Briere owner of Foslev and Jean Claude Dieta Liebherr regional sales manager.

New 5 tonne chain hoist due in the spring

GIS the producer of high performance electric chain hoists is extending its new range of low noise aluminium casing electric hoists from 2,000kgs up to a 5,000kg model for shipment next spring. Key changes include a low-maintenance and low-wear sliding clutch that is integrated in the rotor. The multiple disk brake in the drive train is now located after the sliding clutch for maximum safety. The brake is capable of holding the load, even if the sliding clutch should fail.

Compact electric chain hoists are used for transportation tasks in low overhead environments. So GIS has also eliminated the need for a lower chain guide to minimise the space the hoist itself takes up, thus maximising the available hook height. The company claims that the smaller models of new hoist design have gone so well that it has been obliged to increase production, with extra shifts to cope with demand. The new products will be on display at CEMAT in Hanover.

New Hiab XS model and remote controller fro SAIE

Hiab will be unveiling its latest addition to the XS line at SAIE in Bologna, the new model range will be designated the XS111 offering 10 to 11 tonne/metres of lifting capacity. As with other models in the XS line the 111 has compact dimensions, intelligent electronics and strong close-in performance. Hiab have conceived the unit for tough applications using a range of attachments.

The new XSdrive remote control unit offers up to 24 proportional functions activated by the levers on the unit. It will be available on all XS HiDuo series and will eventually replace the HiDrive 4000. The controller can also be connected by cable as an option



New Hiab XS 111 will be launched at SAIE



Six 12 metre long suspended platforms have replaced 90 tonnes of glass in 11 weeks.

Water ballast used for big Berlin façade job

In 11 weeks 18 workers changed 90 tonnes of glass, 19 km of glass strips and 35 km of seals. During the same period they used 55,000 screws. However, these statistics only cover the 7,500 square metres of the north and west façades of Berlins highest Hotel, the Hotel "Park Inn" located on Alexanderplatz. Gone is the old grey-bluish hotel and in its place a new mirrored building has appeared.

Six suspended work platforms from Geda are at work on the job each of them 12 metres long with a load capacity of 650 kg. Local conditions dictated the design of special roof mounted carriers and given the limited access to the roof, the normal 26 tonnes of ballast weight for each carrier was not practical. So the contractors use water tanks as counterweight. The huge tanks were raised by winch and filled up with water in situ.

With a number of special design features on this job the local Geda dealer worked closely with the rental company providing and installing the platforms, Hebe&Steigtechnikfirma Behnke & Sängner GmbH.

£75,000 fine for Crane accident

Express Reinforcements Ltd of Chertsey, was fined a total of £75,000 and ordered to pay £10,771.55 at Guildford Crown Court, after an employee was crushed by the counterweight of a crawler crane. The incident occurred on 11th March 2004 at the company's premises at Fordwater Trading Estate, Chertsey. Brian Bennett, a 39-year-old lorry driver from Chertsey, was crushed against a metal bench by the crawler cranes counterweight as it slewed. He suffered cuts, grazes, deep lacerations and a broken right arm.

The company pleaded guilty to breaching Sections 2(1) and 3(1) of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. A single breach of the HSW Act carries an unlimited maximum fine. Andrew Christian, HM Inspector of Health and Safety, said: "This incident occurred because the lift was not adequately planned for and the lifting equipment was not positioned to ensure a clear work area. It is vital that all lifting operations are planned and appropriately supervised and carried out safely by a competent person.



John Burton of Bobcat (L) congratulates David Weeks of Barloworld.

Bobcat appoints Barloworld for London, Herts, Kent and Sussex

Barloworld Handling Limited has been appointed as the new dealer for all Bobcat products in London, Hertfordshire, Kent and Sussex. As part of the expansion Barloworld has earmarked substantial investment in new Bobcat equipment and recruited additional sales and service personnel to run the new dealership. It joins the company's existing Bobcat dealership in East Anglia, covering Essex, Suffolk, Norfolk and Cambridgeshire. Barloworld has 650 mobile service engineers 24 customer support centres with 1,500 staff across the UK.

David Weeks, Bobcat Sales Manager at Barloworld, commented: "The enlarged dealership is a tremendous boost for Barloworld as Bobcat provides a highly complementary fit with the other leading brands we represent such as Hyster lift trucks and Tennant cleaning machines. Our regional headquarters and workshop facilities close to the M25 and the Dartford Crossing are ideally situated to serve markets both north and south of the River Thames."

Bowers and AFI part company

Malcolm Bowers, Sales Director, major shareholder and founder of AFI has decided to "hang up his spurs" and look for new challenges."

Bowers founded the AFI business as Aerials For Industry back in 1998 with financial director David Ridge. In May 2002 David Shipman and Geoff Gibson, who had both previously been with the Lavendon group, agreed to buy into the business. Shipman took over the Managing Directors role, while Bowers became Sales director.

Bowers told Cranes&Access that after 34 years in the access business it was time for a fresh challenge, perhaps helping manufacturing companies looking to break into the UK access market on a consulting basis.



Full story on www.vertical.net Sept 30th.

Malcolm Bowers has left AFI.

Jardine donate crane to Myerscough

Crane hirer A Jardine and Sons Ltd has donated a crane to Myerscough College's Crane Academy to help in the training of Apprentice Crane Mechanics.

Myerscough's Crane Academy is a specialist training centre delivering Advanced Apprenticeships in Plant Maintenance, concentrating on crane technology and repair. The Academy concentrates on mobile and crawler cranes, with the hope to incorporate tower cranes in the future.

The course is delivered in block release form while students are employed by a Plant Hire Company and apprentices gain an NVQ II and III in Plant Maintenance. A. Jardine and Sons Ltd, is based in North Lancashire and South Cumbria.

A Jardine & Sons donated this PPM from its fleet to Myerscough college



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Crane Monitor Improves Overload Protection

An improved Crane Safety Monitor (CSM) from Piab of Sweden is aimed at safeguarding crane operations in ports, shipyards, steel works, paper mills and other applications involving heavy duty cycle work. The CSM not only provides warnings when a crane is overloaded or moving outside of its pre set limits, but also monitors the crane's operational conditions, so that it can calculate the safe working period before the next service is required. The operational data can be monitored continuously. Furthermore, the system is self-checking, with any functional faults detected resulting in an overload indication.

The heart of the CSM from Piab



Apart from helping to reduce wear and tear on the crane and wire ropes, the CSM unit can be programmed to read out the actual loads on multiple single hoists as well as the sum of loads when several hoists are being used simultaneously.

Piab is also adding additional measures to provide more accurate overload protection for Portal cranes. The system will be on display at Cemmat in Hanover.

Lifting on board

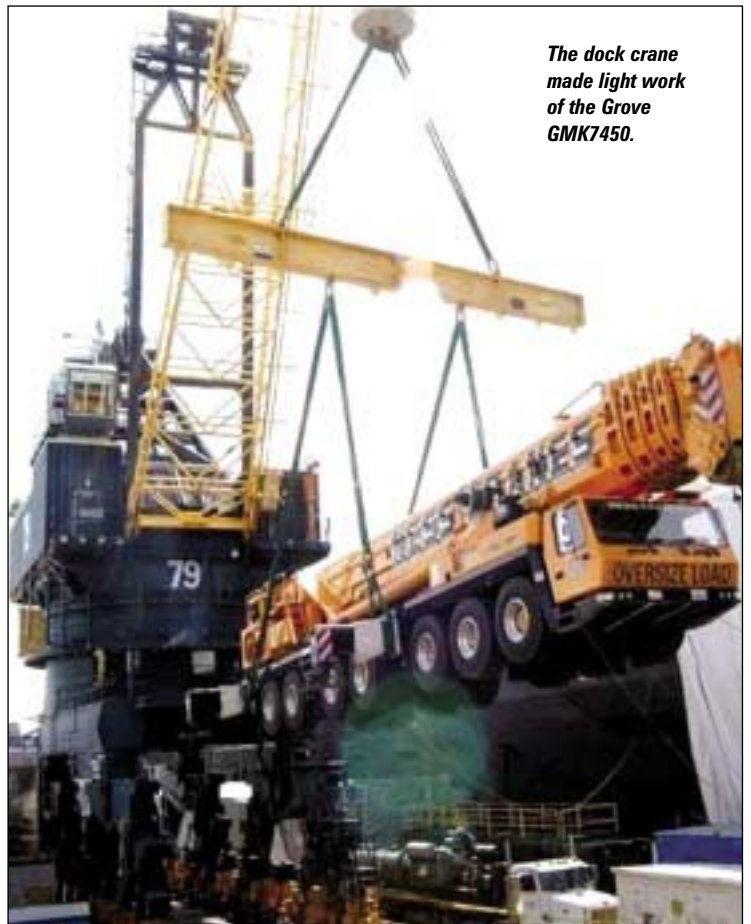
When the US navy needed to replace a mast on board its aircraft carrier USS John C Stennis it need a crane to match the scale of the ship. It hired in a 450 tonne Grove GMK7450 from Ness Cranes of Seattle.

The mast had to be replaced as the mounting of a new antennae would have structurally overloaded the old one. The most complex lift was

placing the crane itself on board, thanks to its weight of over 90 tonnes and its long length.

The first lift on board was the original 32 metre high mast which weighed around 26 tonnes no problem even with 60 metres of boom out. The new mast weighed almost 47 tonnes, and is 35 metres high. The crane was on board for a full month before being removed by the dock crane that dwarfed it.

The dock crane made light work of the Grove GMK7450.



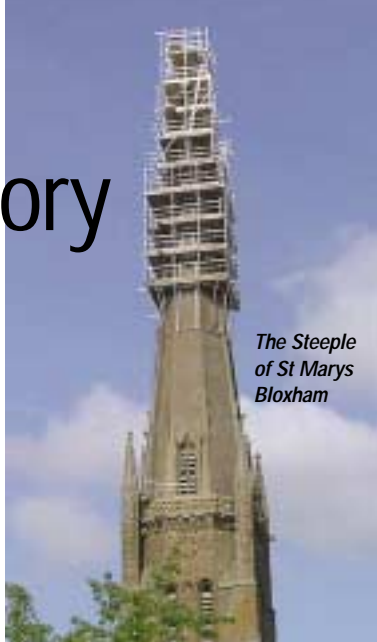
The worst job in history

A new Channel 4 series: "The Worst Jobs in History", hosted by Tony Robinson includes a look at the job of a Victorian Steeplejack.

The episode was filmed at St. Mary's Church in Bloxham, Oxfordshire and highlights the lack of safety and training steeplejacks encountered back then. Robinson was given a hands-on lesson by

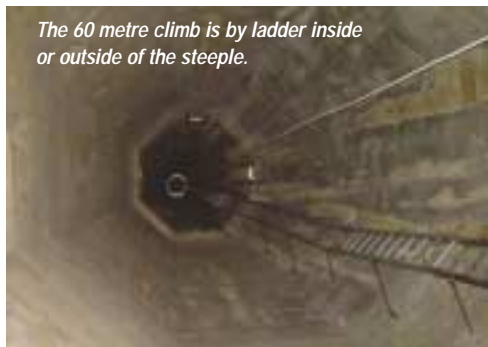
Church Conservation Ltd's managing director, Roger Coonie, on the role of the modern steeplejack and how it has changed since Victorian times.

Climbing almost 66 metres to the top of the Church's steeple, Tony, who unfortunately suffers from vertigo, was able to see for himself the massive changes the steeplejack industry has undergone. Injury and fatalities were part of the job for steeplejacks in the 19th century.



The Steeple of St Marys Bloxham

The 60 metre climb is by ladder inside or outside of the steeple.



These days' steeplejacks are more widely known as Specialist Access Engineers and have their own association, ATLAS (Association of Technical Lightning & Access Specialists) which has helped define the safety standards engineers now use.

Church Conservation Ltd. is currently repairing St. Mary's Steeple using a wide variety of resources including the British Geological Survey in Nottingham. Church Conservation Ltd. will match the existing stone work, helping to protect the history of the 11th century church.

Skyjack SJM3219 bulletins 60 and 77

A number of misleading reports have been circulating regarding a structural failure on a Skyjack SJM3219. The incident which involved a weld failure did occur this summer in the USA and fortunately the two occupants were not seriously injured. The SJM3219 concerned dated from 1996 and was subject to two mandatory service bulletins, one issued in 1998 and the other in 2000 that had not been carried out. The bulletins were very well publicised by Skyjack at the time in addition to its own notifications to all original owners and subsequent follow ups.

In spite of the best efforts of the manufacturer, a number of units remain un-modified and at risk. SkyJack Europe are confident that few, if any, of the units operating in Europe remain unmodified. Grey imports of used machines might be the only exception.

Anyone who is responsible for maintaining aerial lifts should treat such bulletins very seriously, failure to do so could result in a manslaughter charge in the event of an accident. If you have a 3219 of this vintage and it was not officially imported, you should check its serial number with Skyjack. You might also check at the same time that it is properly CE marked!

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Michielsens and Van de Weghe merge crane fleets.

Michielsens and Van de Weghe of Belgium will merge their crane hire businesses into a new crane company trading as Kranen Michielsens. The Van de Weghe family, headed by Roger, will not be operationally involved in the business but will remain as an investor and Roger Van de Weghe will be president of the board of directors.

We understand that 85 of Van De Weghes 115 mobile cranes, will transfer to the new entity. The remaining units will be sold. The new entity has taken on the 150 Van de Weghe employees who were involved with the crane business.

The combined company will run a fleet of 210 cranes, ranging from seven tonnes to 700 tonnes, operating from six depots in Belgium and one in Holland.

The Van de Weghe access, tower crane and forklift rental businesses will remain autonomous and will continue to use the Van de Weghe depots as local bases. These other businesses employ around 200 people.

The new enlarged crane company will be based at a new eight Hectare headquarters in the Antwerp area.

First Telehandler driver award

David Berwick, from Burton on Trent has become the first person to win Miller Homes' Forklift Driver Awards, after being continually assessed during his work at Miller Homes' Thorpe View development in Ashbourne.

Berwick and his colleagues, entered into the contest six months ago, after Miller Homes and UK Forks created the scheme in partnership, to encourage pride in the job and reduce machine repair costs. The scheme is claimed to be the first of its kind in the UK and requires each telehandler driver to be assessed by their site manager every week. The manager scores each driver for the presentation of their machine, personal presentation, machine operation and lack of damage. The weekly results are



David Berwick with his award, in the background L-R, Louise Greenhoff, a buyer at Miller Homes, Malcolm Ceney, Haydn Davies of UK forks and Stuart Scaife a contracts manager with Miller,

collated every six months and the winner presented with a certificate of recognition and £500.

Berwick has been a forklift driver for 17 years and joined Miller just over a year ago. He says of the scheme: "It's a great incentive and helps to bring us into line with the rest of the site teams, who also have their own incentive schemes. Since it began, I feel that all of the drivers have found a greater sense of job satisfaction in their work."



Grove open new RT plant in Italy

The Official opening of the new Grove Niella plant in Italy in late September.

Grove has started building Rough Terrain cranes in Italy at a new plant in Niella next to the existing Potain facility. The Grove RT530E is already coming off of the production lines and plans are already underway to introduce small All Terrain models next year. More on the new plant in our next issue.

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- JC2000 Multi-Axis Compact Contactless Joystick for up to 15 million operations
- All suitable for remote, transportable applications where compact size and functionality are vital
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Remote control chest pack for industrial and building lifting machinery

The universally popular JC range of Penny+Giles joysticks provide industrial system designers the opportunity to develop remote, transportable control solutions for cranes, materials handling and agricultural applications without compromising safety and performance.

The new JC120 is ideal for use in severe environments, and where ergonomics and system integrity are paramount. Compact and low profile, this innovative, fingertip control instrument provides smooth, precise operation in one axis, with only 80% of the width of previous models and comes in a choice of two lever heights.



JC SERIES FINGERTIP CONTROL JOYSTICKS

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- **John Valla**, the son of Valla founder Antonio Valla, has died in the USA. He was a brilliant engineer and played a significant role in building the crane company into the business it is today.
- **Bob Elcome** has resigned from his job at Valla UK. Peter Hird will take over his day to day activities for the foreseeable future.
- **Gil Riley** of **Unic cranes Europe** has given birth to a baby daughter. Olivia Jill was delivered on Monday 5th September.
- **Kevin Bell** has returned to King Trailer after a six monthly sojourn with **Kranlyft** (Kato UK) selling the Maeda mini crane line.
- **Stephen Williams**, has taken over from Kevin Meyers as the Chief inspector of Construction at the **Health and Safety Executive**. Meyers has been promoted to director of hazardous installations Directorate at HSE's Bootle headquarters.
- **United Rentals**, has appointed Martin E. Welch as interim chief financial officer. This follows the dismissal of President and Chief Financial Officer, John Milne last month
- **United Rentals** has reached agreement in principle with its bondholders. It will pay a "consent fee" of \$16.25 per \$1,000 worth of bonds to delay the filing of 2004 accounts to March 2006.
- **The Elevating Work Platform Association of Australia** has formed a telehandler group with the aim of establishing an affiliated association for telehandlers.
- **Loxam**, Frances largest rental company has purchased **Alpina**, the Rouen based specialist access rental company owned by **Patrick Hivet**.
- **BAC Hoogwerkers B.V** has been appointed as the Dutch distributor for **PB Liftechnik GmbH**. The agreement was ratified at APEX. BAC runs a mid sized rental fleet in Holland which includes a number of specialised niche machines, which it also offers for re-rent throughout Europe.
- **Apex/RentX boasts 6,000 attendees**
The combined APEX/RentX shows attracted 6,000 attendees this year, a modest increase on the show three years ago. However the number of attendees staying for more than one day rose significantly.
- **Dawson-Wam** of Northern Ireland has taken delivery of a 50 tonne **IHI CCH500-3** hydraulic crawler crane for a sewage treatment contract at Pomeroy, Co Tyrone. The crane was supplied by AGD the UK Dealer for **IHI**.

- **Holland Lift** has set up a direct sales and service outlet in France to market its range of specialist self propelled scissor lift platforms. The operation is based at a facility located near Reims in the north east and will be managed by **Mark R.Tracy**.



Mark Tracy

- **Terex** is now offering certain models from its Italian built **Bendini RT** crane range in North America. The models include the 44 tonne RC45 and 60tonne A600 models.
- **The Association of Lorry Loader Manufacturers and Importers, ALLMI** has launched a 10 day Course for instructors. Developed by ALLMI's training standards Committee, the course contains full tuition in Instructional Techniques as well as the additional skills needed for delivering lorry loader training. The course is for candidates with a minimum of two years experience with lorry loaders and who hold a recognised operator's licence.
- **VP** the owner of Telehandler rental company **UK Forks**, and general rental Company, Hire Station, has said that its first half results for the period to September 30th, are satisfactory and in line with expectations.
- **Haulotte** has announced a name change to the **Haulotte Group** and introduced a new modern logo.
- **Ritchie Brothers**, the equipment auctioneers will hold an equipment auction at the Herts county showground near Luton on October 29th, the sale already includes a quantity of JCB telescopic handlers.
- **Ford** has sold **Hertz Equipment Rental** along with the rest of Hertz corp, to a consortium of private equity firms, including Clayton Dubilier & Rice, The Carlyle Group and Merrill Lynch Global Private Equity.
- **First fines for WAHR:** The **Health and Safety Executive (HSE)** has successfully prosecuted a company for breaching the new Work at Height Regulations (WAHR) 2005, after an inspector caught a company working on a roof with ladders in a dangerous manner without having carried out any form of risk

assessment. Michael Mills, trading as **MB Mills General Contractors**, of Cambridge, was fined a total of £3,000 plus costs of £3,517, at Bedford Magistrates Court, in September.

- **Last chance to claim 2004/2005 CITB Grant**
The UK's CITB has issued a final call for claiming a CITB Grant for training in 2004/2005. The final deadline is 31st October. Registered employers are eligible to claim the CITB Grant even if they pay no levy.
- Marine crane company **TTS Marine ASA** of Bergen, has signed an agreement to acquire Germany's **Kocks GmbH**, Bremen effective October 1st.
- **LEEA, The Lifting Equipment Engineers Association** has moved to new head quarters in Huntingdon. The new premises also include a training centre which will hold courses on the inspection and thorough examination of lifting equipment.
- **IPS** has issued a new parts sourcing catalogue, with a full colour photograph for each of the 2,000 items along with the manufacturers details, it is an invaluable source.



- **Svelt**, the leading Italian producer of ladders, Light Alloy and small tube steel scaffold towers, has placed a consignment stock of products for next day and small quantity UK deliveries with **Alan Drew Ltd**.
- The **Effer Group** owner of Effer loader cranes and **Bizzochi** truck mounted lifts, currently in administration, is strongly rumoured to have been purchased by **CTE** the Italian truck mounted lift producer and Genie dealer for Italy.
- The **SC&RA Crane & Rigging** workshop that was cancelled in September, due to Hurricane Rita, has been rescheduled for November 10-12.

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