

cranes & access

A large red and black crane is positioned on a construction site. The crane's boom extends diagonally across the frame, reaching towards the top right. The base of the crane is a complex structure with various components, including a red engine housing and black metal frames. In the background, a town with numerous buildings and houses is visible, nestled in a valley. The surrounding landscape is hilly and green, with some trees and fields. The sky is clear and blue. The overall scene is a high-angle view from a hillside, looking down at the town and the crane.

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August/September 2019 Vol.21 issue 6

**Top 30 rental
companies**

**Spider &
mini cranes**

**Hybrid &
electric
platforms**

Point of Rental

Software

EMPOWERING Hire Software Across Industries



Empowering Hire Software

“ Without Point of Rental's support and innovative approach, we would lack the insight required to continually improve our business. We rely on high quality products from excellent suppliers, and **Point of Rental is one of our key partners for growth.** ”

Ben Hirst, Managing Director
Horizon Platforms - Access Hire

On the cover:

A Palfinger PCC 115.002 articulated spider crane was used in place of a helicopter by cable lift contractor Prommegger to remove lift supports of the old Schlossalmbahn lift in the Gastein Valley, Austria. The crane had to climb more than 800 metres with gradients of up to 40%.



C&A contents

31 Spider and mini crawler cranes



41 Electric and hybrid lifts



52 Bravi platforms



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Tadano completes Demag deal, Mateco acquires PanRental of Panama, New Potain flat top, McNally sells Windhoist, AFI acquires Facelift and restructures, First Tadano GTC-600s arrive in Europe, First Euro Grove GRT655L, TVH acquires IPS, First tower crane wind installation in Australia, Steve Filipov to head Manitex, Loxam completes Ramirent acquisition, First 55t XCMG tele crawler, ALE acquisition to proceed, First Platform Basket Spider 43Ts in Europe and financials round-up...

C&A Top 30 rental company guide 17

This year's survey of the top crane, powered access and telehandler rental companies in the UK and Ireland comes at a time when business confidence is shaky amid the continued uncertainty over Brexit and the battle to prevent the UK from crashing out of the EU without a deal. See how the leading companies have fared in this year's Top 30 rental company guide.



Spider and mini crawler cranes 31

Last year saw the emergence of the articulated crawler crane into the mainstream market. This year is more about 'traditional' spider and mini crawler cranes as manufacturers improve and evolve their products.



We review the latest developments and new product releases.

In the next C&A

The next issue of Cranes & Access scheduled for mid-October will feature All Terrain cranes, Truck mounted lifts, Outrigger mats/pads etc and Rental software. If you have any contributions or suggestions to make or are interested in advertising in this issue, please contact our editorial or sales teams.

Electric and hybrid work platforms 41

The realisation that the world has to deal quickly with the causes of climate change has taken a while to sink in but has now become the global 'hot' topic which concerns us all. We round-up how different companies are dealing with the situation and profile Haulotte, its corporate strategy and new products.



Bravi Platforms 52



Pierino Bravi - Mr. Bravi to many of his customers - was one of the earliest pioneers in the low level access sector. We take a brief look at him and his company.



100 years of Tadano 65

It is 100 years since Masuo Tadano went into business as a steel fabricator and welder. We chart its history.

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A common standard

It seems ironic that as the world appears to be polarising and becoming more insular in its politics and beliefs, global trade and communications are pulling us closer together. Key factors in simplifying trade are common standards and regulations. This has been particularly true when it comes to lifting equipment, where the gap between the various national standards has been narrowing since the EU single market came into being in 1992.

While the CE mark has had a revolutionary impact on the manufacture, distribution and rental of cranes, aerial lifts and telehandlers within Europe and its close neighbours, it has been less so between North America and Europe...but that is changing as North America, Australasia, Europe and others move towards global common standards under the ISO banner, making an American market crane or platform very similar to a European or Australian model. Telehandlers are another thing due to local design preferences - although they still have much in common.

If some of the more extreme voices in the UK's Brexit debate have their way, the UK would adopt its own 'softer' standards and regulations. So far the UK government has published details of the UKCA - UK Conformity Assessed - mark that would - at least initially - mirror current CE standards and directives. While the UKCA mark would not be recognised in Europe, manufacturers could simply add an extra sticker alongside the CE one.

All this makes eminent sense. The standards and product related directives have been painstakingly created by committees of industry professionals, including manufacturers, industry associations, safety experts and specialist engineers - rather than the 'faceless unelected bureaucrats' that more extreme politicians and campaigners would have us all believe.

In producing the original EN 280 standard for aerial lifts many hurdles had to be overcome due to historic different regulations or standards, particularly in Germany, the UK, France, Italy and the Netherlands. However since it was adopted the benefits have been enormous, improving manufacturing productivity, simplifying stock holdings for manufacturers, dealers and rental companies alike, while creating a wider market for both new and used equipment as well as simplifying cross border rentals.

The latest standards for cranes and aerial lifts in Europe, North America and Australia are also driving improvements in safety and innovation, with features such as platform overload and outrigger position monitoring with smart overload indicators that calculate - and limit - capacities for a machine's actual configuration for greater safety, while providing benefits for end users.

In a similar vein many have reservations over ECOL - the European Crane Operator Licence - but the potential benefits are substantial. After all, where is the logic that a French operator ought to be more or less qualified than a German, or for that matter an American operator? Enabling operators to move between jurisdictions with the same accreditation benefits everyone and could solve local skills shortages and bring us together as we pool knowledge and ideas.

Only a fool fails to learn from others and the end result of greater harmonisation can go well beyond mere product standards.

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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