

# WHEN HANDLING DIFFICULT LOADS USE THE BEST!

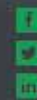
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# FULL SPEED AHEAD!

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## Is it time to go metric?

The following letters were received in response to last month's editorial asking why self-propelled boom lifts and scissors are often referred to by their platform height in feet, even though all of Europe uses the metric system.

### Hi Mark,

One of the other big differences, is that the European manufacturers may be metric, but they also usually refer to Working Height.

We, being the USA side, always prefer to refer to the Platform Height- in feet of course. I do not know too many two metre tall men in the EU, and I believe the EU platform height is two metres below the working height.

More confusion for everyone...

regards

**Alastair Robertson**

Universal Equipment Inc

### Dear Editor,

This is one of those things that seem to make no sense but are steeped in history, OK not ancient history, but tradition. Why do we still talk of computers and television sizes in inches? Look at a machine brochure even from a European manufacturer and while it's all in metric when it comes to mention of an in cab display it's seven inches or something!

You have to think it will change sometime but who is going to be brave enough to make the first move?

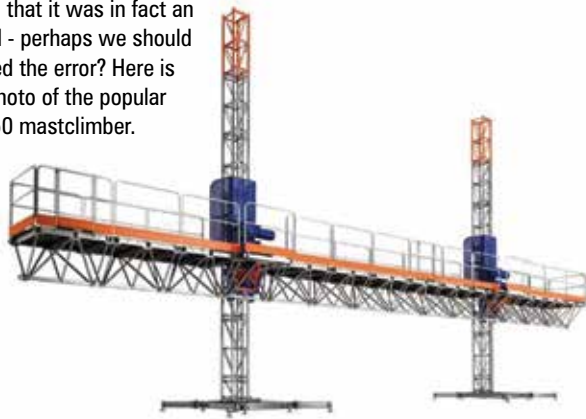
Keep up the good work

**Ton Smit**

## Alimak photo correction

In the last issue we inadvertently used an incorrect photo of Alimak Hek's new MC 450 mastclimber that we had been sent tagged as the MC 450.

We are told that it was in fact an older model - perhaps we should have spotted the error? Here is an actual photo of the popular new MC 450 mastclimber.



### Dear Sir

Just wanted to agree with the letter from Winston Smith in Cranes & Access page 70, whoever he is he was bang on! I could not have put it better myself.

*This letter actually referred to a few points in a bit of a rant regarding IPAF, and we are not sure which one this anonymous emailer was highlighting/supporting. The award of lifetime achievement to Dan Kaplan, or the holding of the Summit in America? Or both? I guess they are not going to be happy that the summit is to be held in Dubai next year?*

## Not 70 its 90!

In the last issue we published the preview to Intermat and for some reason we published the wrong information regarding Bronto's display. We said that the company would have an S70XR on the stand. We were wrong it did in fact show a 90 metre 90 HLA X, the second unit sold to French rental company Locnacelle. Well what can we say? Mistakes do happen and at least we were correct in that a large truck mount would be highlighted. At least the error ensured that we did get it right in the Vertikal Guide to Intermat. We apologise for the error.

Editor



Locnacelle's second 90 metre Bronto the official handover (L-R) Jean-Marie Faust and Eric Dame of Scania, Alain Lescureux, Mme Lescureux, Laurence Tabillon and Mr Tabillon of Locnacelle with Dominique Allemand of Bronto Skylift

## City Boy launch at Vertikal Days

Also in the last issue we published incorrect information about Spierings' new City Boy SK487-AT3 which will have its first public showing at Vertikal Days. We included specification details of the 48 metre SK597-AT3, whereas it should have been the SK487 three axle hybrid mobile tower crane which of course has a lift capacity of seven tonnes at 11.96 metres radius and a 40 metre jib, with a jib tip capacity of 1,700kg. Apologies for the mix up.

## Stolen crane

Dear Leigh

It was nice to read that Hovago's stolen crane was recovered, and hopefully they caught the bastards that tried to get away with stealing it. Having experienced thefts like this myself steam rises from my head when I hear of people doing this. I do not think the police take these crimes seriously enough. When they do catch these criminals, they are hardly given any punishment and just do it again. But you can be sure that if they hurt themselves while on your premises robbing you, they would probably sue you for putting them at risk!

I agree with your plan that the industry needs a common programme, a sort of database to catch these people anytime they try and sell the equipment they stole or to order spare parts etc. I also think we can do more with smart tracking systems that cannot be disabled or reached easily. I think you need to play your role in this by promoting this idea through your magazine or website. Maybe Vertikal should host such a thing.

Over to you

**Stefan Zaleski**

*This letter concerns the theft of a 300 tonne Liebherr LTM1300-6.2 from Hovago's yard in Dordrecht, the Netherlands. It was recovered months later in the Antwerp area of Belgium. You can read the full story in the letters section of the last issue of Cranes & Access or on Vertikal.net.*



**Chris Walters 1949 - 2018**

We have received the sad news in April that UK crane veteran Chris Walters had passed away suddenly on Thursday April 19th. We understand that he died after experiencing a serious heart issue. A well-liked and genuine crane rental professional, he began his crane career when he joined Stanley Davies Crane Hire in 1976, which became part of Hewden Stuart.



He progressed through the organisation to become operations manager he left the company in 1983 but returned in 1993 as operations manager Heavy Cranes Division based in Castleford. He moved again after Finning acquired Hewden and began making changes going to Ainscough Crane Hire for a while. He then re-joined Hewden in 2000 as crane manager at its Corus, Scunthorpe location becoming quality manager for the company in 2003. In 2009 he moved to Baldwins Crane Hire as depot supervisor, followed by a short spell at Mammoet before settling into an operations role at tower crane company HTC as accessories manager for Reco hoists, a job he held until his death.

One ex-colleague said of him: "I knew Chris from my time as depot manager at Hewden's Willenhall depot in Birmingham, and I always found him to be helpful, supportive and he was always willing to lend an ear when required."

**Other comments posted on Vertikal.net include:**

*"So sad to hear this. I can still remember exactly what his voice sounded like, even now. I had the pleasure of working and dealing with Chris when I was a young man learning the business at Hewden Stuart. Such a lovely, lovely guy. My sincere condolences to his family."*

*"Probably not many crane manufacturers around now who knew and appreciated Chris. Sad News. Met him recently ironically at a funeral. We had a good relationship and he was always a pleasure to speak with. He had a great technical knowledge of cranes and transport and always on top of his game. I wish his family strength to get through this sad and difficult time."*

*"I am deeply shocked at the sad passing of one of the industries nice guys."*

*"We always used to deal with Chris, when we had our first 200 ton Demag crane on many a Hewden Tower crane cross-hire. Chris was always a pleasure to talk to on the hire desk. For all at NMT especially the ex-Hewden guys, you will be greatly missed. Thoughts are with your family."*

*His funeral is being held on Tuesday 15th May at 1pm at St Cuthberts Church, Ackworth, WF7 7EJ. Afterwards will be at the Brown Cow Pub next door to the church. Donations are requested in lieu of flowers to the British Heart Foundation*

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