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A look back at 2019

Recent years have seen a combination of natural disasters, extreme weather and political chaos and 2019 has been more of the same!

More than 1,000 people lost their lives when cyclones hit Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi. A dam collapse at the Córrego do Feijão iron ore mine in Brazil killed 237 with 33 missing, while horrendous rainfall in Europe left dozens of people losing their lives across Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary and Slovakia, Spain, France and Italy. Northern England experienced the second or third 'Once in a hundred year' flooding in little more than 10 years.

Terrorism was largely confined to the Middle East and parts of Africa, but in New Zealand 50 people died and 50 were wounded when a gunman opened fire at the Al Noor Mosque and Linwood Islamic Centre in Christchurch. Not long after, a series of bomb blasts at churches, hotels and a housing complex in and around Colombo killed more than 250 people and wounded hundreds. In the USA mass shootings almost became routine, occurring a couple of times a month, with 10 killed in Daytona, Florida, 22 in El Paso, Texas and 13 in Virginia beach. Police departments began labelling them as 'Domestic Terrorism'.

More than a million people in Hong Kong marched repeatedly in protest over proposed legislation allowing the extradition of individuals to mainland China. The demonstrations turned increasingly violent as protesters upped their demands to include a more democratic and free political system.

Airlines featured prominently in the news for environmental reasons, while Nairobi bound Ethiopian

Airlines Flight 302 crashed with 157 people onboard. Five years after Malaysia Airlines Flight 17 was shot down over Ukraine killing 298, three Russians and a Ukrainian have been charged.

President Trump continued to be a disruptive force on the world stage, using tariffs as a diplomatic weapon, raising them against products of almost every trade partner, from steel to Scotch Whisky, as he escalated his trade war with China and the EU. He also pulled the US out of the long standing Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty, withdrawing support for Kurdish allies, and stating that Israel's occupation of Palestine's West Bank was legal.

In the UK the Brexit fiasco continued, with Theresa May resigning as prime minister to be replaced by Boris Johnson who then engineered a general election while stating he did not want one. In the Ukraine comedian Volodymyr Zelensky scored a landslide victory to become president, while an uprising against Venezuelan president Nicolás Maduro with opposition leader Juan Guaidó declaring himself interim president, failed.

In Japan, Emperor Akihito became the first Japanese monarch to abdicate in 200 years marking the end of the Heisei era. And in a surprise ceremony in Thailand King Maha Vajiralongkorn married the deputy head of his personal security unit - General Suthida Vajiralongkorn Na Ayudhya - who became Queen Suthida. In the UK Archie Harrison Mountbatten-Windsor was born to



Cyclone hits Mozambique

Prince Harry and Meghan, Duke and Duchess of Sussex.

The crane, access and telehandler markets generally remained busy although the continued economic and political uncertainty began to choke some capital investment leading to shrinking order books as the year end approached.

The following is a reminder of some of the key stories we carried in the magazine this year.



New Zealand Al Noor Mosque shooting



Hong Kong demonstrations



Theresa May resigns



President Trump and prime minister Trudeau



Floods in northern England



Emperor Akihito abdicates



Mass shootings in the USA



Dam failure in Brazil



XCMG unveils the new 186ft **GTBZ58S** self-propelled telescopic boom lift using a similar 'swing out leg' chassis design to the Genie SX180 and JLG 1850SJ.

Custom Equipment produces its 10,000th Hy-brid scissor lift - a 14ft HB-1430 purchased by rental company Lift Works.

Genie unveils a new ultra-compact, direct electric drive micro scissor lift, the 13ft **GS-1330M** at Bauma China.



Potain launches the 550 tonne/metre **MCT 565** - its largest flat top crane to date.



Niftylift starts shipping updated MK II versions of its popular 33ft **HR12N**.

Ramirent sells its Danish rental business to equipment rental company **G.S.V Materieludlejning** in a deal worth around €33 million.

Multitel Pagliero announces a new 25 metre truck mounted articulated platform - the MZ 250.

Liebherr and **Teufelberger** develop a high tensile fibre rope weighing 80 percent less than a steel rope and lasting four times longer.



Riwal acquires Danish rental company **AH-Lift**, owned and managed by Finn Aaberg.

Blue Water Shipping takes delivery of a 152 tonne Nielsen reachstacker - the largest in the world.



Turkish aerial lift manufacturer **ELS** enters the telehandler market with a six metre model built in cooperation with **MST**.



Genie reveals details of two XC extra capacity telescopic boom lifts - the 45ft S-45 XC and the 65ft S-65 TraX crawler.



Grove launches an updated, longer boomed version of the three axle, 60 tonne **GMK3060L**.

Teupen launches the new **Leo35T** spider lift featuring 17 metres of outreach and 400kg platform capacity.

Xtreme Manufacturing unveils three new telehandlers - the three tonne/13 metre Xtreme XR742, the four tonne/13 metre XR944 and the compact 2.7 tonne/5.8 metre XR619.

JLG announces three new lithium ion battery powered electric articulated boom lifts based on the 34ft 340AJ, 45ft 450AJ and 52ft 520AJ articulated booms.

Skyjack unveils two larger Rough Terrain scissor lifts - the 53ft SJ9253RT and the 63ft SJ9263RT.

Easy Lift launches the new 30 metre RA31 articulated tracked spider.

Mateco acquires German regional aerial lift rental company **Pradel Arbeitsbühnen**, and Spanish sales and rental company **Ciaman**.

ALE opens a subsidiary in the USA, with offices in Houston.

Snorkel launches two new telehandlers - the 4,200kg/13.5 metre SR9244 and the 4,535kg/16.4 metre SR1054 - built by **Faresin**.

An **ALE AL.SK350** crane lifts a 2,885 tonne MTU module in Texas - one of the heaviest lifts to have been carried out in the Americas.



Hawk Plant Hire goes into administration due in part to the failure of contractor Carillion in 2018.

Genie launches its new **Genie Lift Connect** telematics programme.

Power Towers launches the European version of its **Power Tower Duo** rated for two people.



Tadano announces it is to acquire the **Demag** mobile crane business from Terex for \$215 million.

Kato releases details on two new cranes, the 25 tonne CR250R-V City and a four axle, 100 tonne All Terrain designed initially for the Asian market.



Ainscough chief executive **Janet Entwistle** resigns.



Lingong Group/LGMG sets up a new US subsidiary, **LGMG North America**.

JLG files a \$2 million legal complaint against **LGMG** over trade mark violation of its orange and cream colour scheme.

Fraco acquires Spanish mastclimber and hoist manufacturer **Saltec/Torgar**.

Loader crane manufacturer **Hyva** offers a range of truck mounted lifts up to 29 metres manufactured by **CTE**.

Custom Equipment revamps its Hybrid scissor lift range and launches its highest to date the new 16ft ZT1630.

The posthumous **IPAF** Lifetime Achievement Award goes to Grove pioneer and **JLG** founder **John L Grove**.

Sammons owned **Briggs Equipment** - acquires Northern Ireland rental company **Balloo Hire**.

Multitel Pagliero opens a direct sales and service operation in the UK.



MEC unveils two compact battery/diesel Rough Terrain scissors - the 33ft 3369 RT and 40ft 4069RT - and two straight telescopic boom lifts with articulated jibs - the 45ft 45-J and 65ft 65-J.

JCB files a complaint against **Manitou** claiming that its overload system infringes one of its patents.

BrandSafway acquires Texas hoist sales and rental company **Century Elevators**.

Skyjack's **Brad Boehler** takes over as IPAF president from AF's **Nick Selley**.



Link-Belt unveils details of a new 110 tonne 120 RT two axle Rough Terrain crane.



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Unic unveils the URW7035C4 'Cube Crane' with a nine metre three section vertical telescopic mast topped by a five section telescopic top boom.



Haulotte starts shipping its new 3.2 tonne/seven metre **HTL 3207** telehandler, its most compact unit to date.



ALE launches the 10,000 tonne capacity SK10,000 - and claims it is the world's largest land crane.

Terex sells its US truck crane assets to **Load King**, part of the Utility One group.

Faresin unveils the new battery powered six metre/2,600kg 626 Full Electric telehandler.

Manitowoc agrees a consent decree with **Sany** to settle its misappropriation of trade secrets action relating to Manitowoc's Variable Position Counterweight (VPC) technology.

Vertikal.net launches an all news portal, website and database.

C&a look back 2019

Arcomet and French tower crane rental company **Matebat** merge under the new name **Uperio**.

Speedy acquires **Lifterz** from the **Bowers** family in a deal valuing the company at £21.5 million.

Mateco acquires Spanish aerial lift and crane sales and rental company **Afron**.

Maeda

launches its largest mini crawler crane to date - the 8.1 tonne **CC1908S-1**.



LGMG and **PB Liftechnik** form a new cooperation agreement for the European market.

Kranlyft acquires **Vänermaskin**, the **Magni** dealer for Sweden.

Snorkel unveils the S3019E ultra low 19ft slab electric scissor lift with scissor stack stowed entirely within the chassis.

UK-based builder of **Ascendant** vehicle mounted aerial work platforms - **Redwood Engineering** - is wound up.

Grove launches the 127 tonne **GHC140** telescopic crawler crane built by **Sennebogen**.



PB Liftechnik launches the 124ft S370-24 ES, slab electric 4x4 scissor lift with a working height of 37.5 metres.



Mammoet unveils details of a new 10,000 tonne crane - the MSG1000 - scalable to a maximum capacity of 18,000 tonnes.

Loxam launches a bid to acquire **Ramirent** creating a business with revenues in excess of €2.2 billion.

Manitou launches two new more basic telehandlers designed for the Asian, African, Middle Eastern and Eastern European markets.

Dutch crane rental company **Van Schaften Leasing** orders three 1,000 tonne Liebherr LR 11000 lattice boom crawler cranes.

New Zealand crane manufacturer **TRT** (Tidd Ross Todd) launches a new 28 tonne Tidd PC28 articulated pick & carry crane.

The UK's **Vertikal Days** event returns to Donington Park.

Deutz forms a JV with **Sany** and takes over its engine manufacturing business.

JCB unveils its first 360 degree telehandler - the 5.5 tonne/20.5 metre Hydralload 555-210R.



Versalift

adds the 17 metre **VTM-170-F** on a seven tonne **GVW Iveco Daily 70C** chassis to its van mounted range.



Elebia launches the 50 tonne capacity **NEO50**

automatic hook with remote controlled engage and release system.



Mammoet launches talks to acquire UK-based heavy lift specialist **ALE**.

MEC Aerial Work Platforms extends its Micro scissor lift range with the 9.5 metre Micro 26.

Platform Basket delivers its first two 43 metre Spider 43T spider lifts

in Europe to **ATM Levage** in France and **MP Magione Piattaforme** in Italy.



Instant UpRight

launches five small scissor lifts under the UpRight brand.

Mammoet, Van Oord and Verton

develop a new remote rotating device to speed up the installation of wind turbines.

Manitex launches the 54 tonne TC 600 boom truck/crane, the latest model in the company's 'next generation' TC-series.



Raimondi Cranes unveils a new high capacity luffing tower crane - the 370 tonne/metre **LR372**.



Jekko starts shipping its 3.2 tonne **SPX532** spider crane unveiled at Bauma.

Liebherr Ehingen delivers its 10,000th used crane - a 350 tonne **LTM 1350-6.1** All Terrain to Australian rental company **MCG Cranes**.

Platform Basket appoints China's leading aerial work platform manufacturer **Dingli** as its exclusive distributor for China.

Kalmar begins trials of its first all electric lithium-ion reachstacker with a capacity of 45 tonnes.

Jaso sells its first 64 tonne **J780PA.64** luffing jib tower crane to the UK's **Falcon Tower Crane Services**.

Hyva adds 14 new models to its **Edge** articulated loader crane range.

IPAF chief executive **Tim Whiteman** resigns and past president **Andy Studdert** takes over on an interim basis.

Sinoboom opens a new wholly owned subsidiary Sinoboom France.

UK rental company **Ardent** orders 1,100 **JCB** telehandlers in a deal worth £75 million.



Hiab launches the **K-505 HiPro** specialist drywall crane for the US and Canadian markets.



Potain unveils the 12/16 tonne capacity **MCT 325** flat top tower crane at its facility in Zhangjiagang, China.

Mateco acquires Panama's **Pan Rental** from owners Meifus Holding and Latam Rental.

Irish crane and wind turbine installation group **Windhoist** is acquired by **Star Capital Partnership**.



UK sales and rental company **Delden Cranes** takes delivery of four 60 tonne **Tadano GTC-600** telescopic crawler cranes, the first in Europe.

UK-based **AFI** acquires aerial lift rental company **Facelift**.



Sarens delivers its new 5,000 tonne **SGC-250** heavy lift crane to the **Hinkley Point C** Nuclear Power Plant site in Somerset, UK.



The first European built 55 tonne **Grove GRT655L** and **GRT655 Rough Terrain** cranes are shipped from the plant in Niella Tanaro, Italy.

TVH acquires UK-based replacement parts business **IPS** along with its **Outrigger Pads** division.

ALE installs the first wind turbine generators to be erected in Australia with a tower crane.

US rental company **Maxim Crane Works** acquires Alabama based **Solley Equipment & Rigging**.

Tadano completes the acquisition of **Demag Mobile Cranes**.

Following the acquisition **Steve Filipov** moves to **Manitex** as its chief executive.

Mammoet and **ALE** reach an agreement over the proposed acquisition deal.

Mediaco acquires the crane division of **Altéad**, which runs the third largest fleet in France.

Tadano celebrates its 100th anniversary of its foundation by Masuo Tadano in 1919.

XCMG delivers the first 55 tonne **XCG55TE** telescopic crawler crane in Europe.



Mammoet releases details of its **Focus** crane concept that has a maximum theoretical capacity of 24,000 tonnes.

Terex unveils new tower cranes including its first hydraulic luffer, a new generation of self-erecting tower cranes and a new eight tonne flat top.



Brad Boehler leaves **Skyjack** and steps down as **IPAF** president.

Norty Turner of US-based United Rentals is appointed **IPAF** president, **Karin Nars** of Dinolift becomes deputy president and **Karel Huijser** of JLG vice president.

Versalift unveils the 16.6 metre **VDTL-165-F** claiming it is the highest van lift mounted on a 3.5 tonne chassis.

Genie launches its new 'global' **GS** slab scissors and unveils new 'High Float' and **TraX** boom lifts.

Tadano opens its new greenfield **Kozai Plant** in Takamatsu, Japan.

JMG unveils a new battery powered, wheeled articulated crane, the **MC 50000RE** using a 50 tonne/metre **Cormach E7F134ASC** on a special **JMG** chassis.



Sinoboom unveils the 153ft **GTZZ46J** articulated boom lift, the largest articulated boom lift on the market.

Custom Equipment launches a modified version of its 4.9 metre **PA-1030** push around lift for textile mills.

The first 27.2 tonne **National Crane NBT30H-2 TM** tractor mounted boom truck is delivered to **Western Pacific Crane and Equipment**.

Airo launches the 54ft **A18JRTD Xtreme** articulated boom lift with a maximum outreach of 9.9 metres.



Those no longer with us

Industry deaths 2019

Celebrity deaths 2019

Ronald 'Ronnie' G Stuart - b1934 - UK crane hire veteran, owner and senior manager of Hewden Stuart.
Gilles Marchand - French crane veteran ex Grove France and Manitowoc.
Patrick Joseph 'Sean' Meade - b1941 - Irish crane and heavy haulage industry pioneer.
Colin Parks - b1953 - veteran crane operator.



Paul Hunwick - b1962 - owner of UK rental company RKP Access Platforms.
Ron Jackson - b1951 - JLG access industry veteran.



James F. Lomma - b1945 - owner of New York Crane and J.F. Lomma Inc.
Roger Wickens - b1957 - group technical manager of Loxam's powered access division - formerly Lavendon.



Stan Thompson - b1929 - UK crane veteran with BET, J.D White and Hewden Stuart.



Arthur 'Art' Deshon Moore - b1924 - co-founder of crane and boom truck manufacturer Pitman and Snorkel.

Jan Westerhof - b1941 - Dutch access industry veteran.
Raymond Ellsworth Smith Jnr - b1924 - aerial lift pioneer.



Avice Amelia Hunt - b1921 - director of UK access specialist John Rusling.
Eddie Brown - b1926 - senior crane, equipment and lifting operations manager with Tarmac Construction.



Chandrakant P. Sanghvi - b1954 - chief executive of Indian heavy lifting company Sanghvi Movers.



Martin Haak - b1943 - founder of Holland Lift.
Charles Banks - b1940 - managing director of UK-based Mobile Telescopic Cranes.



David 'Dave' Arthur Lillquist - b1961 - Skyjack national account manager.
Chris Taylor - b1971 - Redline Competency Services and president of the Telehandler Association of Australia.



Ron Eickhoff - b1958 - senior field inspector with Rouse Asset Services and crane industry veteran.



Bill Turnbull - b1939 - former service and technical manager for Coles Cranes and Grove Europe



Alastair Hope Robertson - b1949 - access industry veteran and owner of Universal Equipment near Chicago.
Ruth Adorian - b1932 - wife of Paul Adorian the founding managing director of IPAF



Jaap Schalekamp - b1956 - ex-Rival manager and part owner
Craig Anderson - b1949 - crane and aerial lift sales manager



Franco Fassi - b1930 - founder of the Fassi loader crane company.
Bob Youngman - b1928 - New Zealand entrepreneur



Jay Shiffler - b1952 - US crane industry veteran

Niki Lauda - legendary F1 driver - 70
Dick Miller - actor Gremlins, Terminator - 90
Gary Rhodes - celebrity chef - 59
Windsor Davies - British actor - 88
Carol Channing - Broadway star - 97
Andre Previn - conductor composer - 89
Andy Anderson - drummer The Cure - 68
Peter Tork - band member The Monkeys - 77
Karl Lagerfeld - fashion designer - 85
Gordon Banks - England goalkeeper - 81
Albert Finney - British movie legend - 82
Jeremy Hardy - British comedian - 57
Scott Walker - of the Walker Brothers - 76
Luke Perry - American actor - 52
Keith Flint - frontman of The Prodigy - 49
Peter Mayhew - actor playing Chewbacca in Star Wars - 74
Doris Day - Hollywood legend - 97
Rowland 'Boon' Gould - Level 42 - 64
John Singleton - Oscar nominated director - 51
Ken Kercheval - Cliff Barnes in Dallas - 83
Bradley Welsh - Actor T2 Trainspotting - 48
Tommy Smith - Liverpool FC legend - 74
Judith Kerr - author 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea' - 95
Rutger Hauer - actor Bladerunner - 75
Peggy Lipton - American actress Twin Peaks - 72
Brian Walden - British broadcaster and former Labour MP - 86
Freddie Starr - British comedian - 76
William Simons - TV actor Heatbeat - 79
Peter Fonda - actor Easy Rider - 79
Philippe 'Zdar' Cerboneschi - French producer and DJ - 50
Robert Freeman - photographer for The Beatles album covers - 82
Jose Antonio Reyes - ex-Arsenal striker - 35
Ginger Baker - rock/jazz drummer with Cream
Harold 'Hal' Prince - Producer and director - 91
Brendan Grace - Father Fintan Stack in Father Ted - 68
Rip Torn - film and theatre actor - 88
Chester Williams - black South African rugby legend - 49
Valerie Harper - Emmy-winning actress The Mary Tyler Moore Show - 80
Jacques Chirac - former French president - 86
Toni Morrison - first black woman to win Nobel Prize for literature in 1993 - 88
Gloria Vanderbilt - US fashion icon/author/actress - 95
Robert Mugabe - Ex president of Zimbabwe - 95
Eddie Money - US singer songwriter - 70
John McCririck - racing broadcaster - 79
Peter Lindbergh - German fashion photographer - 74
Peter Sissons - journalist and TV news reader - 77
John Witherspoon - US actor and comedian - 77
Terry O'Neill - photographer in swinging 60's - 81
Michel Legrand - Oscar winning composer - 86
Jonathan Miller - British theatre director and presenter - 85
Katherine Helmond - actress - 89
Jan Michael Vincent - American actor - 73
Clive Swift - British actor played Richard Bucket in Keeping Up Appearances - 82
Clive James - Witty TV critic and broadcaster - 80
David Bellamy - English naturalist - 86
Diahann Carroll - Actress/singer - 84
Gay Byrne - Irish Late Late show host - 85



The world's largest crawler crane - **Sinopec Engineering's** 4,000 tonne **XCMG 88000** - completes its first lift outside of China, lifting and placing a 1,926 tonne vessel in Saudi Arabia.



Snorkel and Ahern company **SKL Holdings** file a legal suit against **Tanfield** over the value of its 49 percent stake in Snorkel.

Liebherr updates the capacity of its nine axle LTM 1750-9.1 to 800 tonnes.

Movex launches a new 16.4 metre telescopic truck mounted lift, the TLR16H+H mounted on a 3.5 tonne chassis.



Boels makes a cash offer of €13.25 per share for **Cramo**, valuing the business at around €592 million.

Jekko launches the eight tonne SPX1280 telescopic spider crane with hydraulic luffing jib, replacing the 7.5 tonne SPX1275.



Hematec launches the electric **Helix MH 35120** mast boom fall arrest crane.

UK-based **King Vehicle Engineering** closes its **Skyking** aerial work platform operation and exits the aerial lift market.

The **US Army** orders a fleet of 53 tonne **Grove GMK4060HC** All Terrain cranes, in a contract worth \$28.2 million.



Peter Douglas is appointed as **IPAF's** new chief executive.

Terex Cranes appoints **Crowland Cranes** as Rough Terrain distributor for the UK and Ireland.

Snorkel starts production of the lithium battery powered **Speed Level**.

Manitex separates its **PM** and **Oil&Steel** operations.

Scottish rental company **Bernard Hunter Mobile Cranes** orders the first **Spierings SK487-AT3** electric mobile tower crane.

Manitou acquires a majority stake in its Northamptonshire, UK dealer **Mawsley Machinery**.



Manitou launches ANSI/CSA versions of its 65, 80 and 85ft straight telescopic boom lifts for the North American market.