

cranes & access

August/September 2018 Vol.20 issue 6

Top 30
rental
companies

Spider cranes

Electric
boom lifts

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EQUIPMENT

On the cover:

A Unic URW-376 from Lift Mini Cranes installing 500kg flume sections on the new £36.7 million water park and leisure centre in Coventry, UK. See page 36 for full story.



C&A contents

31

Spider cranes



41

Electric boom lifts



51

Web presence



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Comment 5 News 6

Fassi acquires ATN, New high capacity flat top Comansa, Loxam/Nationwide acquires UK Platforms, Tadano launches 20t RT for Oceania, New Jekko mini crawler, Hiab acquires Effer, Tadano and Escorts agree JV, European Genie S-65 XC, More UK acquisitions for Boels, Palfinger unveils HD spider cranes, New hybrid truck mounts from Multitel, Palfinger and Ruthmann,



JLG updates LRT scissors, Four new Gehl telehandlers, Hiab acquires Scottish dealer, Link-Belt upgrades the TCC-1100 to the TCC-1200 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 somewhat fragile amid Brexit uncertainties and the ongoing fallout from the failure of major contractor Carillion. See how the leading companies have fared in this year's Top 30 rental company guide.



Spider cranes 31

The 'flavour of the month' when it comes to smaller tracked cranes certainly appears to be the heavy duty articulated models which look set to be a popular addition to the compact lifting sector. We take a look at the latest launches and developments.



In the next C&A

The next issue of Cranes & Access scheduled for mid-October will feature All Terrain cranes, 3.5 tonne truck mounted lifts and Outrigger mats/pads. If you have any contributions or suggestions or are interested in advertising in this issue, please contact our editorial or sales teams.

Electric boom lifts 41

The repercussions of tighter emission regulations are already being felt giving rise to a massive interest and growth in cleaner, quieter machines including full electric, lithium and hybrid platforms. This month we feature a new start-up rental company in the Netherlands - Hoogwerkt - and its totally different business model and look at all-electric booms from Dutch rental companies Rival and Collé Rental & Sales.



Web presence 51

Search Engine Optimisation (SEO) consultant Guy Willett takes a look at reputation management, addressing bad reviews, claiming and optimising your GoogleMyBusiness listing and other problems concerning websites.



regulars

- CPA 55
- Training 57
- IPAF Focus 59
- ALLMI Focus 61
- PASMA Focus 63
- NASC/CISRS 65
- Books and Models 67
- Letters 69
- What's on 73
- Online directory 76

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God is in the detail...

The proverb, 'The devil is in the detail' refers to something that is far more complicated than it first seems. It apparently derives from an earlier phrase 'God is in the detail' from the German proverb - 'Der liebe Gott steckt im detail' - expounding the idea that whatever you do should be done thoroughly i.e. the small details are important.

We like to believe that everyone in the industry is working towards eliminating injuries and deaths related to lifting or working at height. Initiatives over recent years such as wearing harnesses with the correct length lanyard attached, the use of outrigger mats and spreader plates

and more recently secondary guarding, not to mention proper training, have all made a difference.

New initiatives come along all the time, making those involved with this type of work increasingly aware of safety, both for themselves and those around them. One area that still needs addressing is electrocution - accidentally touching live overhead electricity lines when working from aerial work platforms or with a crane/telehandler boom.

But getting back to the devil and his detail... last week a man died and two were injured - one very seriously - on a Melbourne job site in Australia, when a tower crane dropped a full, 1.5 cubic metre/1.5 tonne skip of concrete onto the them as they worked in the pour area below. Although the investigation is ongoing, the cause appears to be down to a missing split pin from a critical locknut - one of the smallest and most insignificant components on the crane.

The absence of this humble item allowed the castellated retaining nut on the hoist cable termination fitting to gradually loosen as the crane carried out its typical cycle work of placing concrete and rebar. Eventually the retaining nut came off the end of the thread, leaving one end of the rope unattached, causing the hook and its load to drop into the work zone below.

The incident provides a valuable warning on how every component no matter how small or insignificant it is, plays its part - critical in this case. It also highlights how important it is to use the utmost care and attention when installing, repairing, servicing or using lifting equipment, even with the most insignificant components.

If we learn one thing from this incident it is that checking and double-checking even the smallest details during an inspection, a repair or an installation could ultimately save a life. And when everyone realises this it will go a long way to further reducing the number of injuries and deaths. It might also increase efficiency and save money!

The devil, or God is in the detail.

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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