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Al Ternán cranes Truck mounted lifts

Rental software

Outrigger mats

... New 150t Liebherr AT... Genie's first articulated Trax boom... Palazzani enters spider crane market.



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Outrigger mats 41

In our 15th annual look at outrigger mats, spreader plates and proper outrigger set up, we focus on the importance of spreading outrigger and wheel point loadings, how serious ground related incidents continue to



occur, and the importance of understanding how loads are spread on harder ground.

Rental Software 49

We sat down with some of the leading rental software providers around the world to investigate underutilised features and solutions built into their systems that companies in our

> industry all too often fail to take advantage of.





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In the next C&A

The next issue of Cranes & Access. scheduled for the end of November, will include features on alternative lifting and transportation, remote control technology and mast climbers and hoists. It will also include a feature on spider lifts within the arborist sector as well as the second instalment of our look at the 100 to 180 tonne All Terrain market. If you have any contributions or suggestions to make, or are interested in advertising in this issue, please contact us today.



Liebherr's new 150 tonner, Palazzani enters spider crane market, Genie Z-62/40 TraX launched, Tadano seeks formal restructuring,

Vertikal Days moves to Peterborough, Cargotec and Konecranes to merge, New Klaas trailer crane, Hyva adds 60t/m cranes, Tadano GTC-1800EX telecrawler launch, New Imer spider lift, LGMG tops electric scissor lift range, 26m Comet/ Morooka platform, New AMCS tower/mobile crane

anti-collision system, New Ascendant platform, plus a roundup of financials and news highlights.

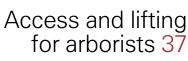
All Terrain cranes 17

In the first of two instalments looking at the 100 to 180 tonne All Terrain crane market, Will North looks at the choices available in the 100 to 120 tonne class and talks to leading manufacturers about the considerations driving their latest developments.

Truck mounted platforms 27

With strong growth at the top end of the big truck mounted lift market, we take a look at the latest models in the 70 to 75 metre range. We also

> speak with UK based rental group Blade Access - which runs the world's largest fleet of platforms over 100 metres - to learn more about its approach to the market, and survey the operators of the three different 90 metre platforms currently available.



Given that the use of powered access and mobile

cranes in the tree care industry has been growing rapidly over the past 10 years, we conducted a survey of those working at the hard end of the market to gather their thoughts and views on the use of powered access and cranes for tree work.



All Terrain cranes



On the cover:

The new 17.9m CMC S18F spider lift unveiled last year is now in production.

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Outrigger mats



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For users & buyers of lifting equipment

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New technology a blessing or a curse?

New technology can be a blessing or a curse. It can revolutionise the way you do something, but it can also result in complete frustration and disrupt the very activity it was meant to streamline.

As an example I have just purchased a new tumble dryer, to replace a state of the art machine with a heat pump, condenser and all manner of sensors, timers and fancy programmes. Unfortunately didn't do what it was supposed to do – dry clothes quickly and efficiently. Even when it did my wife complained that it took too long or - three times longer

than the washing machine or simply decided that the clothes were dry when they weren't – result a bottleneck!

The manual was scrutinised for clues, the sensors and filters were checked, cleaned and rechecked, we spoke to the manufacturer, went on tech forums, but it seems these machines take longer, and the sensors can be fickle. So we shopped around for a new machine, the advice was – if you want a dryer to be fast and reliable you need a conventional machine! Back to the future? The choice of old school vented dryers is limited these days, and they are blissfully cheap. So I held my nose and ordered a brand new machine with a 'C' energy rating! My wife's theory is as it only takes an hour it will be more efficient than the A++ model that takes over three hours. I'm not sure I buy her logic unless Volkswagen is testing tumble dryers these days?

The lifting industry has also been dogged with technology introductions before they were quite ready. Thankfully most have become reliable and have changed the way we do things. The first All Terrain cranes were hideously unreliable, Grove's AT180 – a Gottwald rip off – was among the worst, at a time when the company had no experience of unreliability. Grove CEO Martin Benchoff ordered his engineers to buy a Liebherr LTM1025 to learn the German's secret. The engineers soon reported that the Liebherr was almost as bad as the AT180 in terms of break downs.

Benchoff decided that the technology was not fit for purpose and would never catch on, pulling Grove out of the market – only to be forced to buy back in by acquiring Krupp acquisition after All Terrains had become the cranes of choice. Other technologies that had had their challenges include work platform overload systems, electrohydraulic controls and please don't talk to me about early boom pinning systems!

In our tree worker survey (page 37) several respondents claimed that lift reliability has prevented their wider usage. Rental software has also had its challenges in the past, along with diesel emission technology. However I've yet to hear negative feedback on variable outrigger sensing and load chart/ working envelope calculation, even though it is highly sophisticated technology.

While new technology can be hugely disruptive, it invariably comes of age and transforms our lives. I am pretty sure I'm not 'ahead of the curve' buying a 'C' rated dryer and look forward to replacing it with a reliable A + + + + + model.

Leigh Sparrow

Comment and feedback is most welcome via post, email, fax or phone stating if we may publish them or not: editor@vertikal.net

