



# The bes



**ALMOST** 20,000 visitors passed through SED's gates this year for three days of glorious sunshine and some of the very latest lifting equipment from around the world.



**FRANKLIN** McIlroy (*second from right*) of RTU pre-mix mortar company of Belfast, Northern Ireland, stepped-up on day one of the Hiab/Vertikal Challenge to claim his trophy from SED's Jackie Hanford (*second from left*) and £100 cash prize from the Vertikal Press publisher Leigh Sparrow (*right*). Also joining the podium ceremony was Hiab's Ismo Leppanen. Amazingly the event was Mr McIlroy's first experience using a knuckle-boom crane.

**THIS** modular-design SCX900-2 hydraulic crawler crane born from the recent merger between Hitachi and Sumitomo earned NRC Plant first prize in the SED Awards for Excellence in the Cranes and Access category. The 90-tonne capacity machine wields a maximum boom length of 60 metres.



**SEAN** Hagell of Travis Perkins in Kent braved the Hiab/Vertikal Challenge but finished more than two minutes off the pace. Maybe next year Sean!



**A RIDE** in Nationwide's 50-metre Bronto T50B truck-mounted platform ensured the best view in the house. "Just don't look down," said John Tominay, UK sales manager of Nationwide's Skylift Division and Bronto operator.



**PANTHER** Platforms once again showcased the UK's first 44-metre working height Oil & Steel Eagle 4430 truck-mounted platform on the latter firm's stand following the official hand-over at bauma 2004.



**THIS** JCB 540-170 side engine telehandler from JCB's Loadall range was kitted-out with one of the company's new remotely controlled access platform attachments. The traditional joystick controls on the platform have been replaced by an electric-over-hydraulic servo control valve, which enables the remote operation of the device. The platform range is available for JCB's 535-125, 535-140, 540-140 and 540-170 (*pictured*) machines.



**A GATHERING** comprising of Hiab regional sales director Northern Europe, Hakan Danielsson (*left in pic*), Gatwick Group director, Bob Toon (*second right*), Mrs Toon and regional Hiab sales engineer Brian Attfield (*right*) marked Gatwick Plant's latest order with Hiab for an 80 tonne capacity flagship Hiab XS 600 and a 60-tonne XS 800, both with 165 model jibs. The £185,000 order takes Gatwick Plant's Hiab fleet up to 8 models, including the Hiab 700 with 165 jib (*pictured*).



**EH HASSELL** & Sons hosted the world premiere of Sennebogen's brand-new 50-tonne capacity 640 HD lattice-boom duty cycle crawler crane (*pictured*). The UK and Ireland dealer for the German producer Sennebogen also displayed the first 40-tonne capacity 640HMC mobile harbour crane for the first time in the UK by permission of its new owner Galway Harbour in Ireland.

**Wumag WT350**



**GETTING** off to a flying start was SkyKing, which within the first hour of the show announced the sale of four Wumag truck-mounted aerial platforms to EPL Access. The order comprised one, 35-metre working height WT350, a 45-metre WT450 and two, 35.5-metre WT355s and takes EPL's Wumag fleet to six units, following the purchase of two WT355s late last year. Said SkyKing general sales manager Jim Longstaff: "We couldn't have hoped for a better first day. The units will be directly replacing older similar-sized Bronto Skylift truck-mounts in EPL's fleet."

"Skyking has invested heavily in its after-sales service capabilities, which played a big part in winning over EPL. Our level of service is something that is not offered with the Bronto product. Customers who are spending over £200,000 per machine need this service."

The company also disclosed the sale of ten, 12.5-metre working height 125 van-mounted units to Loxam Access, while on display for the first time at SED was a joint venture between SkyKing and its suppliers GSR. The new 14-metre working height, 7.3-metre outreach Mast Reverse Articulated (MRA) van-mount features a telescopic vertical mast section, which means the unit can reach over parked cars, a characteristic that Longstaff says has only ever been offered by one previous manufacturer. A 15- and 15.5-metre version is also available.



# t of British

**A warming mix of sunshine and an upbeat mood among this year's SED contingent helped produce yet another record-breaking attendance year at the UK's number one construction equipment show. C&A rounds-up the highlights.**



**MUCH** interest was generated at SED by Syltone UK's all-new 13.5-metre working height TDA13.5 van-mounted platform for mounting on vehicles with a GVW down to 3.5 tonnes. According to the firm, the unit is one of the first van-mounts to be designed entirely in accordance with EN280. Said Richard

ale, sales manager access platforms at Syltone UK, at the close of the show: "We just need to complete the CE process then we can start selling them."



**VERSALIFT** sales administration and marketing manager Stephen Kellet claims that Versalift is the only manufacturer to offer a drive-from-the-platform capability incorporated into a van-mounted platform as demonstrated by its ADS (Access Drive System) concept machine. The unit, at a premium of around £20,000, comprises a Mercedes Sprinter chassis cab that is fully driveable from an ET36NF boom with 300 platform rotation in drive mode and full extension and 3600 with outriggers extended.

Also seen for the first time at the show was the latest addition to its NE XS reduced weight vehicle range in the new 10.72-metre working height ET32NF XS telescopic boom mounted on a 1.2-tonne Ford Ranger. The unit shares the same boom as used with the current two NE XS platforms but also features a 1100-fly-boom.



**ON** the third and final day of the Hiab/Vertikal Challenge it was Nick Knight (centre) from Horley and also of Gatwick Plant who sealed the competition and impressed upon the Vertikal Challenge Hall of Fame.

**AMONG** the wares on display on Mantiou Site Lift's stand was this 10-metre lift height, 3-tonne capacity MT 1030 S Maniscopic with optional roof truss jib recently sold to and decked in the colours of Hampshire-based Marsh Plant Holdings.



**FINNISH** platform producer Dino Lift presented the world debut of its new 13.5-metre 135T trailer mount, while its 24-metre self-propelled 240RXT rough-terrain boom (pictured) launched at bauma was introduced to the UK crowds for the first time. Dino's recently appointed dealer for the UK, Promax Access, exhibited both machines alongside the UK launch of the 15-metre working height RQG 150 tracked aerial platform from Basket, which is also in Promax's portfolio.



**TAKING** the rough-terrain access concept to new 'uneven' levels is the result of a collaboration between Loglogic and Versalift. The end product is this 14-metre working height Versalift VST240 MHI platform mounted on an 11.5-tonne GVW Loglogic Big Trak crawler carrier that provides 3.5 PSI in all weather conditions. According to Loglogic's Marcus Frankpitt, "The Bigtrak/Versalift combination is available at a cost of around £120,000, £50,000 less than a similar platform mounted on a Unimog carrier."



**TAKING** up its traditional post at SED, City Lifting boosted its usual mobile folding mobile tower crane display with one of its latest acquisitions, this six-axle, 10 tonne capacity Spierings Mighty Tiny SK1265 AT6.

**NATIONWIDE** Access proudly claimed this year's SED Newcomer Award for Excellence for its efforts in creating a unique combined product stand come live IPAF-accredited operator training arena. Present to receive the award was marketing team leader at Nationwide Access, Su James (pictured).



**GGR-UNIC** employed the aesthetic abilities of Canada-born and world-renowned trapeze artist, Genevieve Monastesse, to support the UK launch of the first Unic tri-fuel 295CR mini crawler crane and the new KS Teleafifter. The latter unit is a 1.65-metre wide trailer-mounted crane that can lift to a height of 19 metres and lift 0.8 tonnes on a 1.5 metre jib.



**GATWICK** Plant employee Kevin Findley from Crawley, Surrey receives his trophy and cheque from Jackie Hanford and Leigh Sparrow on day two of the Hiab/Vertikal Challenge. Mr Findley was the first of two Gatwick Plant members that would eventually lay claim to masters of the Hiab.



**BOBCAT** showcased its new 7.12-metre T3571 telehandler, which replaces the T3071 version with an extra 0.5-tonne lift capacity and extra lift height of 0.07 metres. Outreach has also been increased to 4.06 metres, where the maximum lift capacity has been boosted from 1.2- to 1.35-tonnes. As well as fully proportional joystick control, hydrostatic transmission and the choice of 20- or 24-inch tyres, the T31571 features an inching drive system for soft approaches when carrying loads.

According to Patrice Caulier, business manager telescopics at Bobcat, the UK remains the strongest market for the company's nine-strong telehandler range produced at its Pont-Chateaux facility in France, where this year, around 2000 units are expected to roll off of the production line. Bobcat recently sold two of its 17-metre machines to Charles Wilson engineers of London.

