

Grove emerging from Chapter 11

Plans for Grove Worldwide to emerge from Chapter 11 at the beginning of October were given a major boost when the Bankruptcy Court confirmed the Company's Amended Joint Plan of Reorganization as submitted.

Grove had not yet emerged from Chapter 11 as *Cranes & Access* went to press, but should do so very shortly: "I anticipate that we will be out of this very, very shortly" said John Bittner, director of mar-

keting, in an interview with *Cranes & Access*.

"Under the terms of the plan, Grove Worldwide's debt will be reduced from \$584 million to \$205 million and annual interest expense will be reduced from \$63 million to \$17 million, thus providing the Company with additional resources to compete more effectively in the marketplace, along with added financial flexibility to invest in the Company's

future," said Jeffrey D. Bust, Grove's chairman and chief executive officer.

The next stage is for a Board of Directors to be appointed. This will then take the company through the final stages.

"The decision by the Court represents very good news because it paves the way for a stronger and more financially secure Grove to compete in the global marketplace," said Bust.

Haulotte's new booms



Two new models were launched by Haulotte at the recent Matexpo exhibition in Belgium. The H 14 TX and H 16 TPX offer working heights of 46 feet and 51 feet respectively.

Four wheel drive is standard on both models as is a hydraulic differential locking system and a ground clearance of 14 inches. Maximum outreach is 35 feet and 40 feet 4 inches respectively.

3rd Gold Medal

For the third consecutive year Palmers Ltd has been awarded a Gold Medal by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA). The Medal is for outstanding commitment to health and safety practice.

Every year in the UK 350 people are killed at work, 10,000 people die prematurely due to past exposure to hazardous agents and nearly 29 million working days are lost due to accident and ill health.

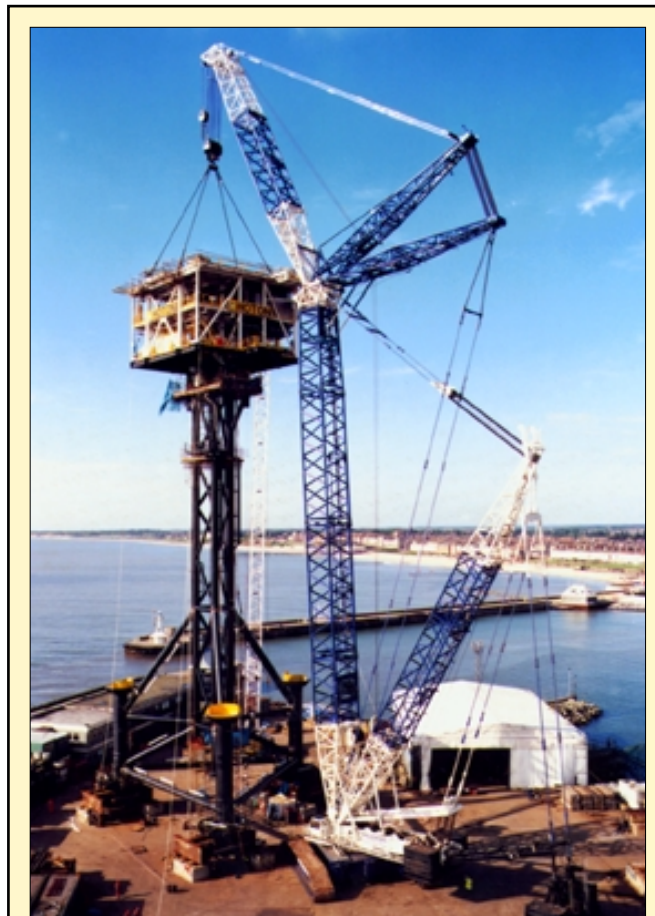
Palmers is one of the founder members of the National Access and Scaffolding Confederation. It said that it employs over 1200 operatives across the construction, petrochemical, power generation, offshore fabrication and nuclear industries.

Warning

New lorry loader cranes must be fitted with an interlocking system (or equivalent engineering solution) to prevent the crane operating without stabilisers being deployed, said the Health & Safety Executive. The HSE said that this is now necessary to comply with the Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 1992.

"Lorry loader cranes rely on the lorry chassis for support and are often powered from the lorry engine. The cranes have stabilisers that need to be deployed to deal with the risks from overturning when lifting heavy loads, particularly at the limits of the crane's reach. Interlocking systems or equivalent engineering solutions will prevent the cranes from being used, unless the stabilisers are deployed or reduce the cranes lifting capacity if the stabilisers are down, but not extended" said the HSE.

The Association of Lorry Loader Manufacturers and Importers (ALLMI) has expressed concern over the sudden implementation of the new requirement.



Baldwins' 1200 tonne capacity Liebherr LR 1800 crawler crane was recently used to install the 350 tonne Topsides Module on the BR Hoton Offshore jacket structure being constructed by SLP Engineering at Lowestoft. The crane was rigged in derrick configuration with 56 metres of main boom and a 35 metre luffing fly jib. Baldwins provided the crane, lifting tackle, supervision and labour to carry out the operations on a Contract Lift basis.

Non-explosive access



Nationwide has just spent £260,000 on four new rough terrain truck mounted platforms for its Skylift operation. The units are a King GSR 159TL boom fitted to a special Unimog chassis cab. Maximum working height is 15.2 metres, while maximum outreach is 7.5 metres.

What's On

VERTIKAL.NET/EN/EVENTS

SAIE

Italy's premier construction exhibition – lot's of access, loader cranes and tower cranes.

October 17-21, 2001

Bologna, Italy

Tel: +39 051 282 111

Fax: +39 051 282 3322

SAMOTER 2002

25th International Earthmoving and Building Machinery Exhibition

February 13-17, 2002

Verona, Italy

Tel: +39 045 8298 111

Fax: +39 045 8298 288

CONEXPO-CON/AGG

The leading US construction show.

March 19-23, 2002

Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

Tel: +1 414-298-4133

CEMAT

Messe für Materialflusstechnik, Automation, Transportsysteme und Logistik

April 15-20, 2002

Hannover, Deutschland

Tel: +49 511 89 0

Fax: +49 511 89 32626

SC&RA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Conference organised by the Specialized Carriers & Rigging Association.

April 25-29, 2002

Tucson, Arizona, USA

Tel: +1 703 698 0291

Fax: +1 703 698 0297

SED

Site Equipment Demonstration. Featuring the Cranes & Access village held in association with "Cranes & Access" magazine.

May 14-16, 2002

Near Milton Keynes, UK

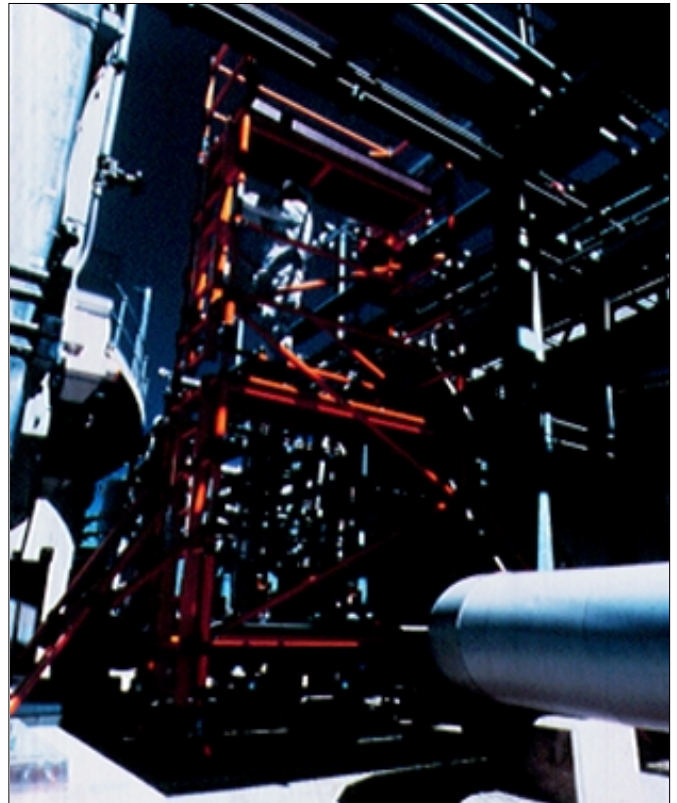
Tel: +44 (0)20 8562 4810

Fax: +44 (0)20 8562 4804

Working in explosive atmospheres calls for specialist equipment, including access towers. SGB's Rental & Sale division has for some offered an access tower suitable for use in Zone One areas and has now added a narrow width version.

The new narrow width version of the Boss Zone 1 GRP access tower is 850 millimetres wide. To conform with Zone One requirements the tower is non-conductive, non-sparking, non-corrosive and non-oxidising. Zone One areas are defined as those in which an explosive atmosphere is likely to occur in normal operation.

The non-corrosive nature of the tower means it can be used safely in a wide range of industrial applications where it is exposed to substances such as salt water, caustic chemicals, gasoline, oils, lacquers and solvents. As a non-conductive material GRP is safe to use for electrical installations said SGB.



Baldwins buys Grove

Twenty-two new Grove All-Terrain cranes will shortly join Baldwins' UK crane fleet. The deal includes: ten 80 tonne GMK4075s, ten 100 tonne GMK5100s and two 300 tonne GMK6300s.

The six-axle GMK6300 is the current flagship of the Grove range. It has a 60 metre main boom and a 61 metre luffing jib extension to give a maximum possible lift height of 108 metres.

"This addition to our fleet is in line with our company policy to buy 'leading brands' with particular emphasis on reliability rather than capacity and not to 'buy up old fleets'" said Richard Baldwin, chairman of Baldwins Industrial Services.



A Spierings SK477-AT4 truck mounted tower crane was recently used by West Country Crane Hire to help refit a wing sail on the Walker Wing Sail boat in Plymouth.

cranes & access

I am delighted to announce that Rosie Gordon has now joined us as Editor of *Cranes & Access*.

Along with the recent arrival of Sophie Morton as Advertising executive, we have a completely



Rosie Gordon

new team, fresh to the cranes and access industries.

The team is keen to receive your news, and your views on the content of the magazine.

Please do not hesitate to contact them, or me, about any aspect of the magazine or if you have information that would interest our readers.

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Hindu tower



A Raivan LR 120 tower crane from Vanson cranes is being used in the construction of the Shri Sanatan Hindu madir, one of the biggest and most significant Hindu complexes to be built outside of India. The towering mass of delicately carved load-bearing stonework is being constructed observing religious principles and following traditional Indian craft practices on a site in Wembley.

As a joint Indian/British project, all of the stonework is being hewed and sculptured in India by 500 people using traditional craft skills. This is then transported in containers to the UK where it is assem-

bled on site.

No steelwork or metal reinforced concrete has been used within the temple construction in order to satisfy religious requirements. Instead, the 54 metre x 35 metre building is fully supported by interlocking stonework and 270 columns. It is built on a complex sub-structure involving a massive, two metres thick raft foundation and 600 PFE re-inforced concrete piles.

“The delicate crafted stone required very careful handling in order to prevent it being damaged during lifting and positioning” said Vanson Cranes. Shrico, the construction company responsible for the project, specified a Vanson LR120 luffing city tower crane. This is able to lift 6 tonnes at 30 metres.

“As the LR 120 features an inverter drive system on the slew, luffing and hoist, it is able to avoid the jerky movements that so often cause a crane’s structure to oscillate when the operating speed is changed” said Trevor Vanson, managing director of Vanson Cranes.

“Consequently the crane operator has much greater control over the placement of the stonework so that it can be positioned very precisely, allowing the patterns on the carvings to be accurately matched”



Demag Mobile Cranes says that crawler cranes are making a comeback. More than 30 of the current CC 1800-1, CC 2500 and CC 2800 models have been ordered in the past few months, with many going to the USA.

Rope Access guidance

A new contract research report offering guidance to industry on the characteristics, behaviour and limitations of items of personal protective equipment used in industrial rope access, has been published by the Health and Safety Executive.

“Industrial rope access – Investigation into items of personal protective equipment, is the result of a study of protective equipment used in work at height that has been prepared by Lyon Equipment Limited.

Several high profile projects have involved the use of industrial rope access techniques – including the construction of the Millennium Dome, the London Eye and the recent cleaning of the Big Ben clock face. “It is important that anyone working at height has full confidence in their equipment and what it is

capable of, which is the aim of this study” said the HSE.

The study was compiled during a period of rapid development in both techniques and equipment for work at height. It is described as “one of the most comprehensive guides of its kind” and includes information on knots, anchor forces, rope protectors, back-up devices, ascenders, descenders, attachment lanyards, fall arrest lanyards and prusik knots.

The report contains recommendations on the selection and use of back-up devices and the potential shortfalls in their operation, as well as technical information about the performance of rope adjustment devices.

● Copies of the report (ISBN 07176 20913) are available at £20.00 each.

Tel: 01787 881165.

News highlights

- **Ainscough** has de-merged its Engineering Services Division in to a new company called Ainscough Engineering Services.
- **Millennium Lifting** of Seabrook, Kent, has ordered two 40 tonne Liebherr LTM 1030/2.
- **Baldwins Global Distribution** is a new company specialising in the supply of lifting and related products from the Far East. It will sell LiftinGear general lifting products, TeleCrane radio controlled systems and RadioHoist radio controlled chain and scaffold systems.