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# READERS LETTERS

## PHOTO ERROR

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!!! Just a quick amendment for the page 59 of C&A Nov/Dec 23, vol 25 issue 7. The pictures from one article with a platform plunge got mixed up in other article with a stage. I usually research in detail some of the articles, this was of special interest for me because the accident affected two of my fellow countrymen, specifically Eastern European - Romanians. I have been a mini crane operator since 2014 and I also work on aerial work platforms, cradles and mastclimbers usually as a subcontractor for the envelopes of the buildings (façade works) and occasionally some steel erection. That just to explain my interests in C&A, which I very much enjoy. Waiting for the next edition,

Best regards

Cristian Petroschi

*Mr Petroschi is absolutely correct. The two pictures shown within the article 'Fatal Fall Costs £16k' should have been in the adjacent story - '£250k for 'Suspended Platform Plunge'. We have already thanked him for pointing this out and will amend the digital versions of the magazine.*



## CHRISTINE LELL RETIRES

**Christine Lell retired in December after more than 12 years working with IPAF - the International Powered Access Association. Based in Basel, Switzerland, she was the IPAF representative for Switzerland, French speaking countries and some Eastern European markets. She worked in the transport and timber transport industry, moving to the International Handball Federation before joining IPAF in 2011.**



She wrote the following letter to the many people that sent messages and wishes of a long and happy retirement.

### Thank you

*I want to thank all the people who congratulated me on my birthday - yes I know it's old but what do you want with my old age we forget... I would also like to thank all the people who sent me messages for my retirement, I am sincerely touched by your expressions of sympathy.*

*But where have these 42 years of work gone? I remember like it was yesterday, my first day working at a large trucking company. I was much younger, taller (yes) and thinner (30 kg lighter). Armed with university degrees in economics, law and foreign languages, I wanted to conquer the world. But first I had to convince the 65 truck drivers who worked under me, and.... it was not an easy task, I can say that I learned life there. In 1982, I was one of the 10 women truck charterers in France, but fortunately, times have changed.*

### What have I learned in these 42 years?

*I know I don't know everything yet. I also know that life is not a smooth ride and that it is not what you imagine at 20 years old. I've had a lot of lows, but also some fantastic moments.*

*I wish you a happy holiday season and all the best for your future life.*

## A MINE OF INFORMATION

Dear Leigh

I read the article in the latest edition of Cranes & Access which arrived here yesterday, just in time for the weekend. I want to congratulate you and the team on putting out a great publication that is informative and a damn good read. But what spurred this message was the item on the Thrill of the auction which gelled with so many things I believe in...but what I really enjoyed, sadly perhaps, was the charts on used equipment prices just an eye opening mine of information and really interesting.

That's all I wanted to say

Salutations for the new year,

Bengt Distander

**THE THRILL OF THE AUCTION**

Equipment auctions are a great way to acquire new and used equipment at a discount. In this article, we explore the benefits of buying at an auction and provide tips on how to make the most of your experience. From bidding strategies to understanding the terms and conditions, we cover everything you need to know to succeed at an auction.

**Equipment Prices - October 2023**

Equipment Type	Price Range
Excavators	£10,000 - £150,000
Loaders	£5,000 - £80,000
Trucks	£15,000 - £100,000
Generators	£2,000 - £50,000
Compactors	£3,000 - £40,000
Telehandlers	£4,000 - £60,000
Scissors Lifts	£1,000 - £30,000
Articulated Booms	£2,000 - £50,000
Tracked Loaders	£10,000 - £100,000
Skid Steer Loaders	£3,000 - £40,000
Backhoes	£4,000 - £60,000
Graders	£15,000 - £150,000
Motor Graders	£20,000 - £200,000
Dozers	£30,000 - £300,000
Excavators (Hydraulic)	£10,000 - £150,000
Excavators (Electric)	£15,000 - £150,000
Excavators (Gasoline)	£5,000 - £50,000
Excavators (Diesel)	£10,000 - £100,000
Excavators (Hybrid)	£20,000 - £200,000
Excavators (Solar)	£5,000 - £50,000
Excavators (Wind)	£10,000 - £100,000
Excavators (Geothermal)	£15,000 - £150,000
Excavators (Nuclear)	£20,000 - £200,000
Excavators (Fusion)	£25,000 - £250,000
Excavators (Antimatter)	£30,000 - £300,000
Excavators (Dark Matter)	£35,000 - £350,000
Excavators (Exotic Matter)	£40,000 - £400,000
Excavators (Strange Matter)	£45,000 - £450,000
Excavators (Bosonic Matter)	£50,000 - £500,000
Excavators (Fermionic Matter)	£55,000 - £550,000
Excavators (Composite Matter)	£60,000 - £600,000
Excavators (Elementary Matter)	£65,000 - £650,000
Excavators (Fundamental Matter)	£70,000 - £700,000
Excavators (Subatomic Matter)	£75,000 - £750,000
Excavators (Particle Matter)	£80,000 - £800,000
Excavators (Atomic Matter)	£85,000 - £850,000
Excavators (Molecular Matter)	£90,000 - £900,000
Excavators (Macroscopic Matter)	£95,000 - £950,000
Excavators (Cosmic Matter)	£100,000 - £1,000,000
Excavators (Universal Matter)	£105,000 - £1,050,000
Excavators (Multiversal Matter)	£110,000 - £1,100,000
Excavators (Superuniversal Matter)	£115,000 - £1,150,000
Excavators (Hyperuniversal Matter)	£120,000 - £1,200,000
Excavators (Ultimate Matter)	£125,000 - £1,250,000
Excavators (Absolute Matter)	£130,000 - £1,300,000
Excavators (Infinite Matter)	£135,000 - £1,350,000
Excavators (Eternal Matter)	£140,000 - £1,400,000
Excavators (Immortal Matter)	£145,000 - £1,450,000
Excavators (Everlasting Matter)	£150,000 - £1,500,000
Excavators (Indestructible Matter)	£155,000 - £1,550,000
Excavators (Invulnerable Matter)	£160,000 - £1,600,000
Excavators (Impenetrable Matter)	£165,000 - £1,650,000
Excavators (Invincible Matter)	£170,000 - £1,700,000
Excavators (Invulnerable Matter)	£175,000 - £1,750,000
Excavators (Invulnerable Matter)	£180,000 - £1,800,000
Excavators (Invulnerable Matter)	£185,000 - £1,850,000
Excavators (Invulnerable Matter)	£190,000 - £1,900,000
Excavators (Invulnerable Matter)	£195,000 - £1,950,000
Excavators (Invulnerable Matter)	£200,000 - £2,000,000

**ANTI-DUMPING INVESTIGATION**

**We carried this news in the last issue and online. here is some of the feedback received.**

I read with interest this news. Interesting response, JLG and Genie did the same thing for the US market, not a single complaint? And profit margins in the industry have been in constant decline for 15 years, it's a very tough industry, has been for a long time. Easy to see in all the European manufacturers who have folded over the last few years. It's normal that all players get to share a fair market. That's all that they are asking to be checked. No favouritism, just fair business practice.

You cannot blame contractors for negotiating the best deal they can. The problem is the hire companies don't hold their nerve and hang in for a better price. It is interesting that we often hear the market is over saturated, and yet hire companies keep buying more and more machines, which have been getting more and more expensive.

If we are comparing apples with apples then established manufacturers selling at a fair price have a right to challenge. The pricing levels are crazy, not to mention the extended payment terms of six months plus.

Who is to say that the established manufacturers are selling at a fair price? Since the early 2000's, the price of new equipment has increased 25% for most machines, but rental rates have dropped 40%. Furthermore, established manufacturers outsource the fabrication of many components to cheaper economies in order to reduce costs, but now have an issue that some hire companies choose to buy equipment from cheaper economies to reduce their own costs.

**A TRUE HERO**

**Comments have continued to come in over a story we carried in last month's letters and online regarding the rooftop rescue of a man from a high rise fire in Reading, UK.**

Good Evening Editor,

May I take this opportunity to nominate Tower Crane Operator Glen Edwards for a Kings Award in 2024 for his heroic act in utilising his Tower Crane and Man Basket to Rescue a Man from the roof of a Burning Building at the Station Hill development site in Reading on Thursday 23rd Nov 2023, as this outstanding act of Heroism deserves public recognition via the Kings Award.

Kind Regards, Mike Ponsonby



**JOE SPENCER FOOT**

**I was so sorry to read the very sad news about Joe Foot.**

I first met him when I worked for Upright Scaffolds in Canada, and we met at company functions at various locations in the USA. Joe was larger than life and brightened up any room he was in and had some really good times with him and now treasured memory's. We got along great and had a common interest in music, Joe played the drums, and I sang and played guitar in a band also, I still do to this day.

We kind of lost touch when I moved back to the UK and was sorry to read he had been injured in a car crash and been confined to a wheelchair for the last five years. For all we haven't chatted in a long time it still came as a shock to read because no matter how long we hadn't seen each other we could have just picked up just where we left off.

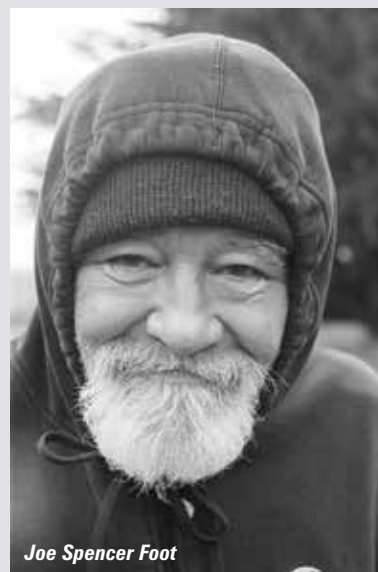
Joe, Rest in Peace, you will be missed by all who knew you. Sincerest condolences to his family  
Kevin Fox

*Dear Sir,*

*I worked with Joe for many years at Upright and Horizon High Reach. His dedication and sales ability were second to none, like many of the great early Upright sales people, Joe's dad had also worked at Upright, and his legacy lived on through Joe.*

*Rest in peace brother! You are missed!*

*Stu Cohen*



*Joe Spencer Foot*