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2006 seemed to flash by even quicker than normal - probably because it was such a busy and eventful year. Here we look back at some of the industry highlights together with news that made the headlines around the world.

A look 20

January

RK and Cramo two of Scandinavia's largest rental companies merge, with Pon of Holland becoming largest shareholder. The merged group became Cramo Plc later in the year.

UpRight closes its Mexican production facility barely a year after the new facility was opened.

Dutch based Riwal employs Jacques Catinot and establishes a new rental business in France.



A whale stranded in the Thames is lifted with an **Effer marine crane** onto a barge and taken out to sea. It did not survive the voyage.



Pop-Up at hire show

Samuel Walker the crane and access service company for Grove and PAT/Ascocel distributor appoints an administrator and very quickly appoints a liquidator.

New Pop-Up push around scissor lift launched at the London hire show.

Charles Kennedy hands over leadership of the Liberal party to Menzies Campbell.

February

David Symon and Roger Taylor get back into business with Nigg Plant selling used cranes and aerial lifts.

Sennebogen launches a 360 degree telehandler called the Multicrane.

Oil&Steel establish direct sell operation, appointing Martin Davies as sales director.

JLG sells Gradall excavator business



Lavendon buys Panther Platform Rentals establishing it as a separate UK business to its Nationwide operation. Barely two weeks later Lavendon snaps up Kestrel hire in Bristol.



Nifty launches an RT version of its long standing HR12, the HR12 4X4.

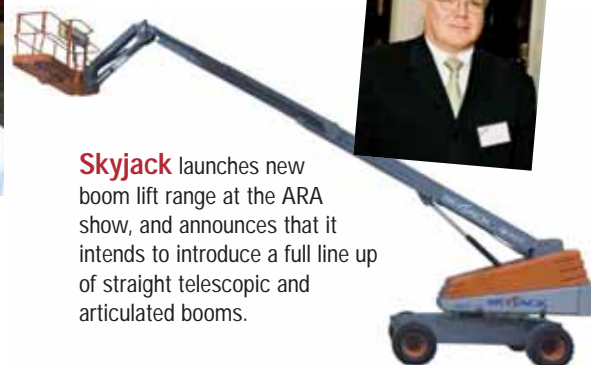
Independent Parts and Service establishes a new operation in France.

Peter Hird wins the 3B6 distributorship for the UK and Ireland and sets up 3B6-UK.

Dino appoints Erkki Hokkinen as managing director



Skyjack launches new boom lift range at the ARA show, and announces that it intends to introduce a full line up of straight telescopic and articulated booms.



David Slack and family buy out Crane Services from partner Bob Dickey.



back at

06

March



Geoffrey Marsh appointed to chair the CPA Crane Interest group.

The new Russon Access, owned by Alan Russon opens its doors as the new Mani-Access and Holland Lift distributor for the UK.

Axle and transmission producer Dana files for chapter 11 as part of a restructuring programme.

Butler Capital Partners buys out Access Industries in France.



Bob Francis buys first Manitowoc branded Kobelco crawler crane in Europe.

Nationwide re-brands Skylift as Nationwide Skylift.

Peter Hird and Locatelli part company.

Wolesey buys Brandon Hire merging it with its Hire Centre chain rebranding them all as Brandon.



Hiab tops out the XS range with the 377.

The Platform Company enters the telehandler market and places order for 70 JCB Loadalls.

Drug trial goes wrong seriously injuring participants.

Raimondi merges with S.I.M.E., after many years of co-operation rental company S.I.M.E. acquired control of the tower crane manufacturer.

Omme launches mini 12 telescopic trailer lift.



April Tower crane veteran Paul Phillips joins **Arcomet** to sell and promote all of its products in the UK.

Palfinger upgrades its long boom PK16000L and 19000 ranges

AFI buys Alan Drew and absorbs the fleet and locations into AFI.

Squadron Battery, the Trojan battery distributor for the UK, re-brands as Energy Batteries Ltd.

Weldex places £3.6 million order with Liebherr for four, 160 tonne LR1160's and two, 200 tonne LR1200 crawler cranes.

Tanfield, the owner of Aerial Access buys UpRight powered access. The company then re-brands all of its access activities under the UpRight name.

Haulotte buys design rights to the Holland Lift EL12, 14 and 16.5 narrow aisle electric scissor lifts.



Major scaffold collapse in Milton Keynes miraculously only injures three, one of whom died later. After extensive delays the scaffold is replaced with mastclimbers.

Terex acquires a 50 percent interest in truck crane maker Sichuan Changjiang Engineering Crane Co, based in Luzhou, Sichuan Province, China

Grove unveils new All Terrain crane carrier cab.



Manitou launches new concept telescopic scissor lift, the 150TP at Intermat.



McCormick enters the telehandler market.





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Above all



May

Fork Rent places record order for 1,000 telehandlers with JCB then adds 25 Manitou boom lifts.

SkyKing agrees to distribute aerial lifts from Belgium based SkyHigh in the UK

Jost agrees to build the Jost series JT 112.8 tower crane in Holland with Kranenbouw under an OEM licence agreement.

Lloyds British Testing, acquired the goodwill and assets of Rota Handling of Dudley, from managing director Ian Payne.

Liebherr introduces the 35 tonne, TF 1035-3.1 and 45 tonne LTF 1045-4.1 truck mounted cranes.

Loxam buys Dutch access rental company Spreeuwenberg.

City Lifting adds mini cranes to its fleet.

Crane hirer, **Quigley United Kingdom** appointed an administrator, who promptly sold the business to the directors, the two Quigley brothers and their new company Quigley UK. Finance companies repossessed the fleet leaving the new company to rely on re-hire.

Kramer launches new telehandlers at SED.

Mantis unveils trailed self erecting tower crane at SED.

John Deere quits the telehandler market after having carried out a detailed market study. The last units rolled off its German production lines in October.



June

Telescopic handler production begins at **Liebherr's plant** in Telfs, Austria although official launch is still planned for Bauma 2007.

The Platform Company places £30 million, three year order with Genie

Liebherr opens new maritime cargo crane plant in Rostock Germany,



IMAI launches a new range of mini cranes under the Jekko name, the first unit being the SDP265C.

Aichi announces major expansion strategy outside of Japan, targeting both Europe and North America for Scissors and Booms.

Lavendon buys A.M.P and adds it to its growing network of regional rental companies run independently of its Nationwide business.

Demag Cranes' Initial Public Offering disappoints raising less than half what it had hoped.

EGI the French based insulated aerial lift producer is acquired by Gimalex, the owner of Echelles-Riffaud.

Liebherr announces a new five axle 130 tonne All Terrain crane with a 60 metre main boom, the LTM1300-5.1 at a big open day in Ehingen.

Allan Access mounts the first 20 metre lift on a Ford Transit 350, a Sogage Apache DA20.



C&a 2006 review



July

Wolffkran launches a new flat top crane the 4517 City, its first all new product under its new ownership.

Universal Access

Platforms, the London based access rental company calls in the administrators. The business was eventually wound up with Facelift taking on two of its depots and some of its staff, keeping the name alive as a trading name.

Tanfield appoints IPS as its master distributor in the UK while retaining the right to sell direct to major rental companies.

Hewden changes crane strategy, focusing on cranes of under 100 tonnes capacity available from its overall depot network but managed from three regional offices.

Ashtead bids for Nations Rent, making it the second largest rental company in the USA once completed.

Mel Gibson arrested



Grove adds 60 metre boom option to its GMK4100, creating the GMK4100L.

Loader crane company, IMT - Iowa Mold Tooling - is acquired by Oshkosh Truck.

Terex-Demag announces new nine axle AC1000/9 All Terrain crane which will be available from early 2008.

Roger Federer beats Rafael Nadal to win his fourth Wimbledon

Isreal bombs Lebanon in retaliation for cross border attacks by Hezbollah.

August

Italy wins the World cup in Germany

Paus appoints GGR-Unic as its UK distributor

Ainscough opens in Cambridge, its first new depot in years

A-Plant announces £32 million spend on its access fleet



Kesla exits powered access, selling its designs to Nostolift Oy.

Ainscough celebrates 30 years in business.

Genie announces Dubai sales and service operation.

Panther achieves IPAF Rental + quality standard.



Ormig launches new 16 tonne pick & carry crane

Favelle Favco floats on the Malaysian stock exchange

The Platform Company opens its first location in Scotland.

The first 100 metre **Bronto** truck mounted lift is completed.

HSS drops CEO Paul Nolan, in favour of new man Chris Davies.

Alleged plot to blow up aircraft by making a bomb on board with liquids causes chaos at UK airports.



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September

SafeWorks, the parent company of Power Climber is acquired by Wynnchurch Capital Partners, a Chicago-based private equity firm.

AFI merges with UpLift to create AFI-UpLift to create the second largest powered access rental company in the UK.



October

Terex sells Czech truck maker Tatra to Blue River for approximately \$58 million.

Tadano Faun expands its All Terrain crane plant in Lauf Germany by over 6,000 square metres.

Terex has appointed Tim Ford as president of its Aerial Work Platform business - largely Genie aerials and telehandlers.



Teupen of Germany establishes a Joint Venture company with its distributor in China, Wuhan Fachman.

Kranlyft and Maeda unveil the MC405CRM, its largest pedestrian type mini crane to date with a maximum lift capacity of just under four tonnes, and announces a new UK rental venture 'Hire Maeda'.



JCB completes its 100,000th telescopic handler a Loadall 530-140 and announces that it is doubling its telehandler production capacity.

Yongmao one of China's largest tower crane producers moves into the European tower crane market through Jin Long of Brussels. It appoints Sean O'Sullivan to head up its sales, marketing and distribution efforts.



Grove introduces the RT535E - an all-new, 35 ton capacity rough-terrain crane.

A 50 metre high tower crane collapses in Battersea south west London killing the driver along with a man working on his car in the street.

Tony Blair announces that he will step down from his post as Prime Minister within the next 9 months.

Finning sells the material handling division of Finning (UK) to Briggs Equipment UK.

Mark Butler and Andy Ainsworth

form Mammoth, a new truck mounted rental company purchasing a number of Bronto Skylifts including a new 90 metre model.



Oshkosh Truck acquires JLG for \$3.2 billion.

The HSE issues a tower crane safety alert following the Battersea accident

Jonathan Hull is appointed as UK sales manager for Genie



Schumaker wins the Grand Prix

Tanfield issues new shares to raise £20 million for further expansion of its UpRight and SEV businesses.

JLG builds its 100,000th American boom lift.



Jewson orders 400 new Atlas loader cranes

SHV raises its stake in Mammoet to 75 percent.

City Lifting acquires the Vanson crane tower crane rental fleet.

North Korea tests Nuclear bomb

Retiring in 2006

Paul Rosevere from Kranlyft (Kato UK)
Jorma Nysolla from Rami rent
Boyd Hamilton from NRC

George Burnett from Ashted
Bill Lasky from JLG.



Bill Lasky

November

Omme expands its production plant by over 70 percent in order to keep up with demand.

Bus kills aerial lift operator after hitting his boom lift ejecting him from the platform and then running over him.

BT Fleet orders top 1,000 100kg loader cranes from Penny Hydraulics, the cranes are mounted to the rear of its vans.

Lavendon acquires Gardemann, increasing its leadership in the German powered access market.

Liebherr confirms that it will exceed €6 billion in 2006.

Snorkel opens an additional scissor lift plant in Elwood Kansas.

December

Facelift takes over Universal operation in Basildon and moves into its facility in Birmingham.

On the day **Oshkosh takes over at JLG**, Bill Lasky, Bob Woodward and Tom Singer are let go.

Hull-based Peter Hird joins the Access Link

Five prostitutes are murdered in Ipswich



Australia win the Ashes

The Terex Group appoints Thomas J. Riordan (50) to the new position of president and chief operating officer.

A 60 metre tower crane collapses in Seattle causing massive devastation and killing the resident of an apartment. The driver survives.

UpRight International, the alloy scaffold tower producer based in Park West Dublin appoints John Nevin as its general manager.



IPAF appoints Romina Vanzi as its first representative for Spain and Portugal
Zoomlion and XCMC ship their first mobile cranes to Europe.

Odewald & Compagnie of Berlin acquires a majority stake in Mateco Germany's second largest powered access rental company.

UK powered access companies meet to agree rapid action on the wearing of harnesses in boom lifts. Clunk Click campaign launched.



Malcolm Bowers and son Ben, establish a new access rental company - Lifterz Ltd with premises in Ossett, West Yorkshire.

Kalmar acquires CVS the Italian reach-stacker manufacturer.

Sadam Hussein hanged

Departures in 2006

- Andrée Braud** matriarch of Manitou 96
- Steve Brown** of SE10 crane editor 39
- Danya Ahern** daughter of Don 20
- Don Dymond** of Kohering and P&H
- Peter Oram** exceptional HSE crane man 69
- Cob Stenham** chairman of Ashted group 74
- Alfons Moog** inventor underbridge platform genius 54
- Ken Scott** of Energy cranes and Sparrow Offshore 55
- Danielle Ribiere** / Fabry 70's FD Stime manutention
- Joe Collinson**, service engineer with APS and Nationwide 55
- Steve Irwin** 'crocodile hunter' 44
- Charles Haughey** Irish PM 80
- Glenn Ford** - Actor 90
- Sir Freddie Laker** low cost airline originator 83
- Gene Pitney** singer 65
- P.W Botha South** African PM 90
- Shelly Winters** Actress 85
- Desert Orchid** equine champion 27
- JK Galbraith** author thinker 97
- Elizabeth Schwarzkopf** soprano 90
- Augusto Pinochet** Chilean dictator 91
- John Profumo** disgraced politician 91
- Caspar Weinberger** US defence chief 88
- Freddie Garrity** of Freddie and the Dreamers 69
- Corretta Scott King** civil rights campaigner 78
- Diana Copland** actress 74
- Ferenc Puskas** Hungarian footballer 79
- Desmond Dekker** reggae star 64
- Gerald Ford** 38th president of the USA 93
- Moira Shearer** actress 80
- Alan Freeman** of Top of the Pops 79
- Alexander Litvinenko** former Russian spy 44



Peter Oram



Alfons Moog



Steve Irwin



Augusto Pinochet