

As it approaches its sixth birthday Vertikal.net is evolving from a pure news and information source into a fully interactive resource for the lifting industry.

New features for 2007 include a discussion forum, polls on issues of the day and video hosting. Ever since Vertikal.net was launched at Bauma 2000 it has aimed to be the source of information covering cranes, hoists, aerial work platforms, non powered access and telescopic handlers. We have worked hard to improve the flow of news to the English and German speaking lifting world and has now reached a point where an average of five news stories are posted in our news columns every working day. Our aim is to be the first with the news. In January of this year almost 60,000 visits were made to Vertikal.net and over 430,000 pages viewed. In a typical day between 2,000 and 2,700 visits are recorded.

Get it off your chest see what others think, ask for advice, opinions or help.

The new discussion forum is growing steadily with over 100

articles posted in the first 10 days. However so far, most visitors have chosen to watch rather than participate. If you register it becomes far more rewarding, you can post your opinions on issues of the day, debate them with like-minded lifting people from around the world as well as seeking advice or feedback on just about anything.

We hope that once the forum gains a critical mass in terms of active participants it will quickly grow into a hugely valuable resource for the industries we cover. If you have not already registered then do so today, it will literally take no longer than 60 seconds.

Poll 1 - Harnesses

We kicked off our on-line polling service in December with a two week poll on the wearing of harnesses and short lanyards in boom lifts. In the two week period from 15th December, 621 votes were cast, the results are:

Question: Should the wearing of harnesses with short lanyards be a legal requirement in boom lifts?

Votes cast: 621

Yes 479

No 142

Poll 2 - Mini cranes

The following poll asked people to define a mini crane from the following three statements: any crane under 10 tonnes, any crane under 5 tonnes and a small spider crane with tracks.

As we go to press it has run for just over four weeks, the vote was surprisingly high for the crane industry, with 968 votes cast. We think that a body of users who favour a definition of under 10 tonnes might have organised a distortion of the result with mass multiple voting. The results shifted over the first weekend from roughly a 30-20-30% split that had remained fairly constant during the first 12 days to as high as 60-15-25% split. The results as of Feb 1 are as follows:

Question: As operator training courses are developed for compact/mini cranes, what best defines such a crane?

Votes cast 968 (as of Feb 1)

Any crane under 10 tonnes 51%

Any crane under 5 tonnes 19%

A small spider crane with tracks 30%



ALLMI accredited Lorry Loader Operator Training Providers

Nationwide

T H WHITE

Contact: David Ottaway 01380 722381

Email: cranes@thwhite.co.uk

www.thwhite.co.uk

Nursted Road Devizes

Wilts SN10 3EA



Ireland



Church Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly, Ireland

Tel: 086 2500 825 Mobile: 086 1042 787

Nationwide



Wharfedale Road, Euro Way Ind. Est. Bradford. BD4 6SL

Tel: 0870 017 0606

Web: www.atlascranes.co.uk

Nationwide



Hiab Ltd

Cargotec Industrial Park, Ellesmere, Shropshire, SY12 9JW

Tel: 01691 626427 Fax: 01691 626472

e-mail: training.uk@hiab.com • Web: www.hiab.co.uk

Are your Lorry Loader Operators properly trained? Call a certified ALLMI training provider and Insist on the ALLMI card.

The training accreditation service of Lorry Loader Manufacturers and Importers

ALLMI Second Floor Suite, 9 Avon Reach, Monkton Hill, Chippenham, Wiltshire. SN15 1EE

TEL: 01249 659150 email: enquiries@allmi.com web: www.allmi.com