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More Than Lifting

# Conexpo sets new records



This year's Conexpo show in Las Vegas attracted almost 130,000 visitors - the second highest attendance in its history - setting new records for exhibitor space and the number of exhibitors - around 2,000. The show also attracted 31,000 overseas visitors, up nine percent on 2011 mostly from South America, China, Canada and Europe.

The improving economy in North America meant that there was an optimistic mood with many exhibitors having a very good show with regard to enquiries and equipment orders. For many exhibitors Bauma still remains the premier show and so numerous exhibits - while new to North America - had already debuted last year in Munich.

There were however several major surprise launches including two Manitowoc crawler cranes with Variable Position Counterweights (VPC), a 185ft boom lift from JLG, two 160 tonne single engine All Terrains from Terex and Liebherr, a new luffing jib tower crane from Potain, two new telescopic crawler cranes - the 100 tonne Sany and 50 tonne Link-Belt - and the largest RT crane to date the new 145 tonne three axle Tadano GR 1600XL-2 RT. There were also new products

from JCB, JLG, Manitex, Broderson, Skyjack, Xtreme, Manitou, Genie, MEC, Jekko, Zoomlion, JMG, Elliot, Altec, Custom Equipment and a huge telehandler and a small scissor from Xtreme. Here are a few of the major new product introductions and a photo round up of the show.

## Manitowoc VPC crawlers

The most innovative stand at the show was Manitowoc with its new VPC crawler cranes and a new synthetic rope. The 300 tonne MLC300 and the 650 tonne MLC650 - both seen for the first time - use a variation of the moveable counterweight first seen on the 2,300 tonne Manitowoc 31000. The new smaller crawlers use a rack and pinion arrangement to move the counterweight backwards and forward along a track shifting weight to suit the load and boom angle. The company says the design which requires no carbody counterweights



The 650 tonne Manitowoc MLC650 VPC moveable counterweight



Manitowoc 300 tonne MLC300 VPC

is the most significant crawler crane development in more than 20 years. By shifting the machine's balance to keep the weight centred over tracks, the new counterweight can reduce the amount of ground preparation required, lowers ground bearing pressures and requires less counterweight without sacrificing lift capacity. The two cranes also use common 10 tonne counterweight slabs, keeping things simple for fleet owners.

The MLC300 features a 96 metre boom and has the option of a 30 metre fixed jib attachment, while a 96 metre luffing jib extend the system length to 144 metres. The larger MLC650 has a 104 metre main boom and 30 metre fixed jib or a 101 metre luffing jib for a maximum system length of 157 metres.

A VPC-MAX attachment increases counterweight effect and therefore lifting capacity for heavier lifts that would usually require a suspended superlift device. The attachment which does not need to be lowered to the ground, also allows longer boom and jib combinations as it retracts instead. The VPC-MAX attachment gives the MLC300 an additional 24 metres of boom and the MLC650 a further 36 metres for a maximum boom and luffing jib

combination of 205 metres while increasing maximum capacity to 700 tonnes. The company says that the new system makes the cranes more suitable for working from barges, while the MLC650 can install 120 metre plus turbines for the wind industry.

Both the MLC300 and MLC650 are designed for easy transport and set up, with jib sections stowing within main boom sections, jacking systems and a live mast. Additionally, the MLC300 has an automatic track tensioning system.



Welcome to the Zoomlion stand



*The 185ft Ultra Boom JLG 1850SJ*



*JLG 1850SJ chassis*

**World's largest boom**

JLG confirmed the rumours with the launch of its new 185ft (58.5 metre working height) 1850SJ Ultra Boom, topping the Genie SX-180 by 1.7 metres. The unit uses a five section boom and a two section 6.1 metre telescopic articulating jib. Maximum platform capacity is 454kg with 21 metres of outreach, while 24.4 metres is possible with 227kg. The all-new X-type chassis - similar in appearance to the Genie SX-180 - has an overall stowed width of 2.49 metres which extends in around a minute to its five metre wide working mode. Time to full height is quick at less than five minutes from ground to full height, while an LCD screen at the platform controls shows the machine status, the platform position within the working envelope as well as engine status, fuel levels and fault diagnostics. The unit does not require an oversize permit but at 27.4 tonnes may need a weight permit. Overall stowed length is 14.57 metres.

JLG also launched its first hybrid boom lift, the 34ft 340AJ with direct electric drive motors, a battery operated electric power unit and a small Kubota diesel, which keeps the batteries topped up, provides power for the drive motors or combines with the electric motor for maximum power. The new boom is available in 4x2 or 4x4 versions and is said to be competitively priced with the regular diesel version.

**160 tonne ATs**

The single engine concept for larger capacity cranes moved forward with two new products from Terex and Liebherr. More details on these two and the concept can be seen in the mid-size AT feature which starts on page 17. Liebherr - which launched the 300 tonne single engine LTM 1300 at Bauma - has expanded the concept to the new 160 tonne LTM 1160-5.2 the successor to the LTM 1160-5.1. The new crane has increased capacities of between 20 and 25 percent and retains the same 62 metre boom. Overall width has been reduced from three to 2.75 metres, making it easier to move on public roads and congested sites. It uses the same mechanical shaft method of powering the superstructure as the larger LTM 1300 and Liebherr says benefits include a reduction in maintenance and a reduction in weight which can be used to increase the crane's capacity.



*Terex Explorer 5600 cab*



*Terex Explorer 5600 - a single engine 160 tonne AT*



*Liebherr LTM 1160-5.2 160 tonne single engine*

Terex expanded its Explorer AT range, adding the '160 tonne class' Explorer 5600 to the '220 tonne class' Explorer 5800 launched at Bauma. The five axle Explorer 5600 has a short 1.4 metre front overhang, while offering an optional boom-off solution or dolly to help meet the most stringent road regulations. It comes with a 68 metre main boom and 95 metre maximum system length, while an automatic counterweight rigging system cuts set-up times. The Explorer 5600 crane has a compact 12.6 metre long carrier and an overall length of 14.39 metres. All-axle and crab steer makes it a highly manoeuvrable machine.

A single Euromot IV/Tier 4 final diesel engine is equipped with a power management system to tweak the settings for maximum efficiency depending on power demand. Maintenance points are positioned in a central area to reduce service time. Other features include a new electrical braking system which is said to reduce brake pad wear and a dynamic launch control for easier hill starts. Its 8.14 x 7.5 metre outrigger footprint is the largest in its class

**New Potain luffing jib tower**

Potain unveiled its MR 418, the first in an updated line of luffing jib cranes each with full frequency-control mechanisms. The MR 418

also features the optional 270 LVF 120 hoist that was introduced in 2013. The crane can be used with either one or two-fall reeving and is ideal for power plants or high rise buildings, including structures that exceed 200 metres thanks to its 830 metres of rope storage capacity so that in two-fall configuration a drop of 415 metres is possible while the winch can reach speeds of up to 254 metres a minute. Maximum capacity is 24 tonnes and the maximum jib length is 60 metres. Luffing from the horizontal to almost vertical takes 1 minute 15 seconds, well under the two minutes that most luffing jib cranes of this size require. A new auto-levelling function allows the crane to move loads horizontally by using only the luffing motion, rather than the luffing motion combined with the hoist.

A new power control function adapts to varying power inputs, including lower power supplies on site. Automatic switching from a 50 to 60 herz also makes the crane easier to move between countries. The luffing mechanism and hoist are mounted inside the counter-jib and there is a large service platform behind the cab from which to access all the major service points. Manitowoc says it will launch further luffing jib cranes later this year. The first two units were ordered by Jimmy Lomma of Lomma cranes New York.



*Potain MR 418 luffer*



Sany SCC8100TB



Link Belt TCC500

tip height to more than 50 metres. Standard counterweight is 11.4 tonnes and the TCC-500 transports in one load weighing 45.4 tonnes. Height is just over three metres and width 3.49 metres. On site the tracks extend to an intermediate width of 4.12 metres or are fully extended at 4.63 metres.

### Game changing rope

A surprisingly popular exhibit was a new synthetic rope on the Manitowoc stand. A joint development with Samson it is 80 percent lighter than a wire rope, cleaner, much easier to reeve and is said to last far longer than a wire rope, due to the fact that it will not 'birdcage' and is more resistant



Samson's new K100 synthetic rope was an extremely popular exhibit

to damage. It is available as a replacement for 16 to 22mm wire rope. We will cover this amazing new rope in the next issue.

### Skyjack RT Electric

Skyjack used the show to unveil its new SJ6832 RTE battery electric compact Rough Terrain scissor lift, with a neat removable generator pack that can be set to automatic or controlled from the platform. More in our scissor lift feature on page 27.



Skyjack SJ6832 RTE

### Sany unveils tele crawler

Sany's major launch was a new telescopic boom crawler crane - the 100 tonne SCC8100TBXL - which features a five-section 47.5 metre boom, with a shorter four section version as an option. A 10.7 to 18 metre offsetable swingaway extension takes the maximum tip height to 68 metres and maximum counterweight is 37 tonnes. The crane uses a lightweight synthetic rope, which it says allows a lighter boom design. Overall width is 3.96 metres when retracted and 6.4 metres in full working mode.

Overall height is 3.63 metres and length is just under six metres. Power is supplied by a Cummins Tier 4 Interim certified engine and the crane features a new cab - the Porsche designed UltraCab 2.

### Another Link-Belt telescopic crawler

Link-Belt extended its telescopic crawler crane range with the launch of the 50 tonne TCC-500, with a 33.8 metre four section main boom. Extensions include an 8.7 to 15.6 metre two piece bi-fold swingaway, which offsets at two, 20 and 40 degrees and takes the maximum



30  
ANNIVERSARY



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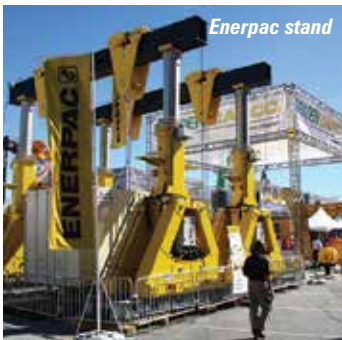
Altec's double opening cab on its new 45 ton crane



Broderson's new cab and controls



Elliot showed off a new truck and crawler unit



Enerpac stand



HookCam camera on the hook



Jekko SPD 209



JMG WSC 1000 push around lifting trolley has a 1,000lb capacity



Haulotte HT67RTJ



Bobcat V417 compact telehandler



WELCOME TO CONEXPO-CON/AGG & IFPE  
歓迎 Bem-vindo Willkommen



Kobelco CK2750G



JLG G5-18A



Winlet glass manipulators on the Reachmaster stand



Lift demonstration on the IPAF stand



JCB dancing diggers show



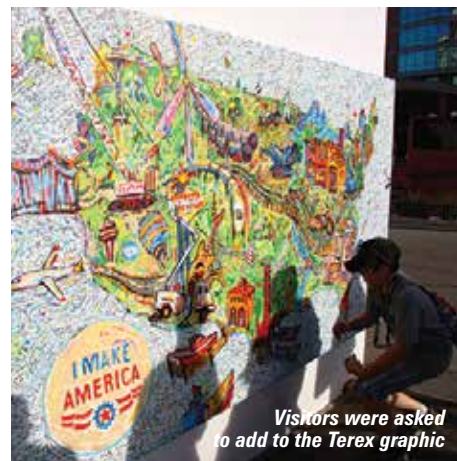
Liebherr LR 11000



Fassi on its distributor Fascan stand



The undercarriage of the raised Grove GMK 6400



Visitors were asked to add to the Terex graphic



Manitowoc MLC650 variable counterweight



Gianpiero Marti of Bluelift on the Reachmaster stand



Xtreme XS3212



Maeda MK1033C



Link-Belt RTC 80150 three axle RT



Pettibone 1157 telehandler



Liebherr LTM 1750



Joe Bamford



TRAM solution for working at height on cranes



Liebherr Mr torque challenge



Don Ahern of Xtreme



Bluelift spider and PB scissor on the Reachmaster stand



Cormidi multi-purpose spider crane/platform showing off its jib capabilities



Genie GS-4069BE bi-energy hybrid



Zoomlion RT lineup



XCMG XCT90U

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The Trerex evening party featured ZZ Top



Liebherr components and engines



Genie telehandlers



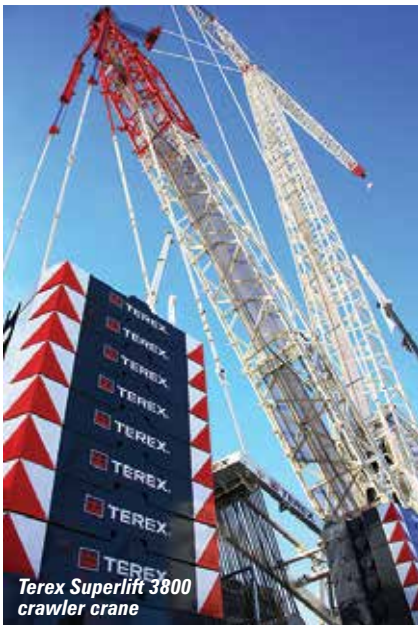
Custom's Justin Kissinger with the new Hy-Brid HB-1230



Teupen camouflaged spider



Palfinger's huge PK200002 loader crane



Terex Superlift 3800 crawler crane



The Lift Safety Zone demonstration on the IPAF stand



Essential reading - The Vertical Guide to the show



Lift systems Inc walk behind crane



The impressive Sany Transformer Bot



Revolution 84RM



Manitex M150



Sany SCC8500



EZ scaffold