

The Hague, Netherlands

Wagenborg Nedlift won the award for telescopic cranes less than 120t, after completing a lifting project in the Hague, Netherlands that involved raising air treatment equipment onto the roof of a building within severe space restrictions.

The Resident Building of the Dutch Ministry of Public Health and Social Security is located in the centre of the city, with no space outside the building for a large crane to be set up. Around the building are several narrow roads and canals, and the courtyard of the building is accessible only through a 2.75m-wide gateway.

Wagenborg manoeuvred a 15m-long, 120t-capacity Liebherr LTM1120 into the courtyard to perform the lift. This involved navigating 13m-wide roads with a detailed transport-turning plan, taking into account street furniture and a bridge with a weight limit.

To access the entrance gate, the brickwork around the gateway was removed followed a consultation with a civil contractor, widening the space to 3.1m. External rear mirrors and signal lights were temporarily removed from the crane to allow it to fit through the narrow gap.



Noordostpolder, the Netherlands

The lattice boom crane award was won by Sarens for a wind turbine erection project completed at the Netherlands' largest wind turbine project, at Noordostpolder.

Sarens oversaw the erection of three wind turbines at the Enercon project, which altogether supplies energy to more than 400,000 households.

The Belgian company used a CC 8800-1 crane fitted with Boom Booster technology, which increases the lifting capacity of the standard crane by 60% at short radii and long boom lengths, by reducing lateral deflection of the boom.

The Boom Booster consists of five inserts and two adapters, and is 72m long in total, 10m wide, 3.2m high and weighs 197t.

The 7.5MW-capacity wind turbines had a



tower height of 135m, and are the largest of their type in the world.

ESTA Awards 2015

ESTA is the European association representing national mobile crane and special transport associations. It works with local trade associations to represent industry interests to local and European regulators, and to manufacturers and clients.

Currently, ESTA is developing a new European Crane Operators' Licence. It is also working with manufacturers, represented through the FEM, to push for sensible emissions standards, as discussed in last month's comment. A guidance document on work at height, developed with the FEM, is expected later this summer.

Every year, ESTA marks some of the best special transport and lifting jobs with a series of awards. We present the winners in the crane categories here. The awards were handed out this year at a gala dinner in Paris, alongside Intermat.



Cervo, Italy

Vernazza Autogru took the award for telescopic cranes over 120t. After a passenger train was derailed by a landslide, the company used five cranes and four boats to move the vehicle from its resting position on a cliff, supported by the train tracks and a short wall.

The Italian National Railways Company appointed Vernazza to complete the project by working from the sea, ahead of alternative proposed solutions such as using telescopic cranes from the ground or using helicopters, due to the fast execution and reduced safety risk and damage to the train.

A special barge fitted with telescopic cranes was designed. On board was an 800t Demag AC800, a 450t Grove GMK7450, a 120t Demag AC210-1, a 100t Terex-Demag AC100-4L, and a 25t Bendini Delta.

The AC800, GMK7450 and AC100-4L were used to hoist the train, with Vernazza's team securing hoisting slings using baskets hooked by the crane. After the lift was completed the barge, which had a reinforced deck and was balanced with ballast under the deck, sailed back to Genoa port.

