

WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR ESTA'S MOST COMPETITIVE AWARDS EVER



HTA member ALE - the UK-headquartered international heavy transport and lifting contractor - has won two prestigious ESTA Awards at this year's ceremony held in Paris in April.

ALE beat stiff competition from more than 70 entries across 11 categories to win the Transportation Job of the Year (trailer and load over 120t GCW) and Innovation (End User) awards.

The company won the over 120t transport category for a transformer move from Stafford to Ellesmere Port in the UK, along a 70 mile route through residential areas, town centres and sensitive rural locations, a job which also showcased ALE's Trojan truck for the first time.

ALE also won the innovation category for its Mega Jack 800, a jacking system with 800t jacking capacity per tower.

The system was designed to bridge the gap in the capacities between the conventional

60-500t capacity climbing jack systems and ALE's original Mega Jack system, that has a capacity of 5,200t per tower.

Another HTA member, Collett & Sons Ltd, was also a finalist in the Innovation (End User) category.

Collett had approached Scheuerle to design and construct the largest girder bridge in Europe to add to their fleet. Collett took ownership of the 550t capacity girder bridge in July 2014, making headlines throughout the industry. The project involved a number of innovations, specifically the load distributors which feature longitudinal beams suitable for using in 2-file, 3-file and 4-file platform trailer combinations.

The awards are given annually by ESTA, the European association for abnormal load transport and heavy lifting operations.

This year ESTA received a record number of entries. "We were absolutely delighted with both the quantity and quality of this year's

entries," said Wim Richie, ESTA transport vice president and the ESTA Awards jury co-ordinator.

"The response we have had shows both the high quality and innovative work being carried out by ESTA's members, often in very difficult circumstances - while at the same time ensuring that safety is the top priority."

The 2016 ESTA Awards will take place in Munich on April 14, during the Bauma exhibition.

The full list of the 2015 winners and finalists is as follows:



CRANES TELESCOPIC LIFTING CAPACITY ≤ 120 T

WINNER
Wagenborg

In The Hague, Netherlands, Wagenborg Nedlift successfully carried out a challenging project lifting air conditioning equipment onto the roof of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Security, overcoming the tricky challenge of getting the crane into the courtyard from where the lift had to take place.

FINALIST
Koninklijke Saan

COMBINED TECHNIQUES

WINNER
Sarens [Netherlands]

During the renovation of the second busiest bridge over the busiest waterway in the Netherlands, Sarens used a combination of water transport, SPMTs, telescopic cranes, strandjacks, jacking/skidding systems and gantries to install 4 combined steel beams of 1,650 tons next to and underneath the bridge. Most challenging was the passing of the existing supports underneath the bridge and the upside down strandjacking of the middle beam with a clearance of 2 centimeters.

FINALISTS
Fagioli
Mammoet Europe
Sarens [Belgium]

CRANES TELESCOPIC LIFTING CAPACITY > 120 T

WINNER
Vernazza Autogru

RFI, the Italian national railways company, gave Vernazza Autogru the difficult job of removing the locomotive and first passenger carriage of an intercity passenger train that had been derailed by a landslip. Thankfully, no-one was killed but the train was precariously balanced on a cliff overlooking the sea and was blocking the mainline between the Italian Riviera and France.

FINALISTS
Koninklijke Saan
Mediaco Cote D'Azur
Wagenborg

SAFETY

WINNER
Mammoet Europe

The COGAS Auxiliary Hoist is a system that constantly adjusts the position of the hook to the center of gravity during a lift. Essentially a 50-tonne wire rope hoist with wireless remote control and a load display on the operator's remote control unit, it is rigged between the crane hook and the load, and acts as a lifting sling with an adjustable length. It is used together with a fixed-length sling. The unit aims to make complex lifts much easier and safer, while being straightforward to operate.

FINALISTS
BMS
Peinemann
Wagenborg

CRANES LATTICE BOOM

WINNER
Sarens [Belgium]

Sarens erected 3 wind turbines, each with a tower height of 135 metres and a capacity of 7.5 MW, for the Enercon Wind Park in the Netherlands, using a CC 8800-1, equipped with the new Boom Booster, a boom structure increasing the crane's lifting capacity.

FINALISTS
Hareket
Mammoet Europe
Wagenborg

INNOVATION - END USER

WINNER
ALE

With a growing number of projects requiring increased jacking heights and weights, ALE developed the Mega Jack 800. It has a 800t jacking capacity per tower and has been designed to bridge the gap in the capacities between the conventional 60-500t capacity climbing jack systems and ALE's original Mega Jack system, that has a capacity of 5,200t per tower. The Mega Jack 800 successfully completed its first project in June 2014, the replacement of the Loenerslootse Bridge in Breda, the Netherlands.

FINALISTS
Collett & Sons
Fagioli
Sarens [Belgium]

TRANSPORT - TRAILER AND LOAD UNDER 120T GCW [GROSS WEIGHT]

WINNER
Ville Silvasti Transport

Silvasti transported two 800 cubic metre water tanks over 300km using adapter trailers designed for wind power turbine tower sections, enabling the customer to complete the building of the tanks at the factory, deliver them as a complete unit and keep costs to a minimum by reducing the amount of work needed along the route.

FINALISTS
Emil Egger
Fagioli
Mammoet Europe

INNOVATION - MANUFACTURER

WINNER
Liebherr-Werk Ebingen

Liebherr's innovative new crane, the LTM 1300-6.2, incorporates a completely new concept for the superstructure drive unit. Instead of the usual twin-engine arrangement, the 300-tonner is powered by a single carrier engine with a mechanical drive train to the superstructure. Among the benefits are reduced maintenance and increased load capacity, as the lower weight can be used for load-bearing components.

FINALISTS
Nicolas Industrie
Palfinger
Terex Cranes

TRANSPORT - TRAILER AND LOAD OVER 120T GCW [GROSS WEIGHT]

WINNER
ALE

ALE was commissioned to engineer and execute the transportation of a transformer from the manufacturer in Stafford, UK, to under the crane hook at Ellesmere Port, where it would be shipped to India. The complex 70 mile route involved travelling through residential areas and congested town centres and showcased ALE's Trojan truck for the first time.

FINALISTS
Friderici Special
Mammoet Europe
Kahl & Jansen

SPMT

WINNER
Mammoet Europe

Two decks for a new bridge over the Botlek waterway in Rotterdam - each weighing 5,000 tons and 90 meters long - were assembled at the Mammoet Heavy Lift terminal at Schiedam. The company used its SPMTs to load the deck onto barges for transport to the installation site, where it also used the SPMTs to adjust the height of the deck. The new Botlekbrug will be one of the largest movable bridges in the world.

FINALISTS
Hareket
Sarens [Belgium]
Wagenborg