



Grasping opportunities from the Internet

When visitors arrive at the Cranes' web site, many are potential customers looking for members to advise them on projects and perhaps, hire them.

One of the best ways of letting them reach you while their interest is aroused is to make it as easy as possible for them to contact you. It sounds simple but many web sites have outdated contact information, sometimes years old.

Don't miss out on this nationwide opportunity by letting details of your contacts and expertise become dated. We recently sent out the contact and equipment details of members that the web site displays to visitors with a request for corrections and updates. The response has been good and we hope this continues. The potential for marketing your services on the Internet is almost limitless so keep the office informed of changes as the website can be altered very quickly. See below for the numbers of people your Web site attracts.



cranes.org.nz - You're being watched

Type	Pages viewed	
Commercial	5,221	During February 2007, 9,925 pages on cranes.org.nz were viewed by visitors. The most popular activity was to search on the member listings and about a third of all visitors used the search to find out more about you, the members.
New Zealand	2,575	
Unknown	796	
Netherlands	365	
Australia	141	
Singapore	133	

Statistics of who dropped by in February to view cranes.org.nz

About a third of web site visitors are hunting for details and contacts of Crane Association members

We asked - you entered, Crane Project of the Year interest grows

It's great to see the strong response to our pleas for member companies to enter this year's Crane Project of the Year Award.

We've received many expressions of interest and we think this year's award may be the biggest yet. Enthusiasm for this type of award shows an industry in good heart with justifiable pride in the projects its members undertake. There is still time to enter if your company has completed a project worthy of consideration.



From the President

Once a year we get together as an industry to discuss our problems and toast our successes. If we can't heap praise on one another, who else will?

It's happening again this year and I want to encourage as many members as possible to be there. In the next week all members should receive the details of this 2007 conference, to be held at Rydges Hotel, Christchurch on 12th & 13th July.

The programme's varied, as always, and there are some changes from past conferences. For example, there's no industry regulators' panel but there'll be interesting workshops. We believe we've organised something for everyone and anticipate seeing you in Christchurch.

Don't be late booking as we only have 100 hotel rooms booked - and some of these are already allocated for councillors - they're never slow at booking because they know the value of this annual crane gathering!

Newsletter of the

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Technical bulletin - Unic crane and safety issue

This is a technical bulletin, one with a safety warning, issued to keep members aware of lessons learned the hard way.

There was a recent incident, just prior to Christmas 2006, in which an operator was using a Unic crane (mini crawler) remote control. The crane was working from a slab above the remote control operator which effectively meant that the operator couldn't see the crane. He was working blind.

On the operator's command the wire rope paid out of the drum, extended fully and then started to wind back onto the drum in the reverse direction.

This reversal caused the wire

rope anchor to fail and the wire rope detached from the crane. All operators are reminded that there should always be three turns left on the drum and therefore the operator MUST be in sight of the drum or the crane MUST be positioned so that the wire rope cannot be fully extended.

Drum protection kits are available from the cranes' agents and these can be retro fitted. It's also understood that all machines now imported will have the protection kits fitted as standard. It's recommended that all owners of these cranes take appropriate steps to prevent this type of incident happening.

Endorsement programme

Members of the Crane Association will have an endorsement programme, even if few have contributed towards its make-up. The Council will develop the programme based on its own ideas of what it should contain. Don't worry however, if you were about to contribute ideas, we do live in a democracy, and once the draft is available it will be circulated to all members for comments.

The programme is something that needs the enthusiastic support of members to succeed so please contribute your ideas and criticisms once the draft has been released.

New Rules

We are required to file a new set of Association rules with the companies office as part of the final process of the name change.

You have all had the first draft and the solicitors are preparing a final version taking into account comments received. The revised draft will be sent to members and will be debated at the annual general meeting on 13 July. Once agreement is reached the rules will be filed with the companies office.

This will wrap up the rebranding and renaming we've undertaken and it's full steam ahead.

Code of Practice for Cranes

Already I can hear the groans and yes, you would be correct if you thought – "I bet this still hasn't gone to the Minister".

As we pointed out in the February newsletter, the Department of Labour has heard the views of a number of interested parties (including 26 of our members who invested a lot of time and very well-reasoned argument). Departmental officials now propose that the Code will be sent to the Minister for approval – after a final draft is circulated for comment by industry.

This will go with a proviso that officials and representatives of interested parties will form a working group to look at the question of what could best be described as "major" and "minor" inspections.

We'll keep the membership informed of progress (if any)! Our goal is clarification of two important sections of the regulations: the design life of cranes and clarification of rules governing the importation of used trucks with truck loader cranes fitted from Japan.



Members' NoticeBoard

The article in the February newsletter obviously appealed to all members as there has not been 1 single item placed on it during the month!

We intend using this notice-board section, accessible only to Crane Association members, more frequently from now on. We'll be publishing 'teasers' in the newsletter giving just the barest amount of information and then the word 'more' which, when clicked on, will take readers to the NoticeBoard

login on the web site.

The council's has knowledge of many industry events which it feels are to be shared only with members because the information offers leads and a heads-up on events likely to affect your businesses.

The web site notice board and its accompanying news is one of the many benefits you receive as a paid-up member. It's not information that should be made available to any of your competitors who stands apart.

Road User Charges

It's dear to everyone's heart and we make no promises on the outcome but we've arranged a meeting for later this month with officials from the Economic Compliance Unit of Land Transport New Zealand. All we can do is set out our case and request that officials look into it.

Contribute news

We are on the look-out for interesting stories and snippets about your industry to keep members informed.

We'll publish news of triumphs and events and perhaps tales of caution.

We're also on the look-out for photographs of interesting and spectacular crane jobs undertaken by members. Even the routine can look great if it's photographed imaginatively. Send your contributions to national office.

