

Business tools

Murray Pollok reports on a selection of recently launched products that might appeal to rental companies, from JCB's new 'ultimate' backhoe to professional vacuums, pumps and crusher attachments.

JCB's 'ultimate' backhoe gets Europe-wide launch

JCB is giving a wider European launch to the forestry version of its backhoe loader that was previously only available in Nordic markets. The 4CN, which JCB describes as the 'ultimate' backhoe loader, features a 'knuckle' boom that brings greater efficiency and operational flexibility.

Based on JCB's 4CX Super machine, the 4CN adds an articulating joint in the boom that gives a further 30° boom articulation on either side, increasing the total working area from 180° to 240° and thereby reducing the need for re-positioning.

The boom also adds versatility by allowing the operator to dig alongside the machine when trenching and around objects such as telegraph poles and trees. JCB says the 4CN is aimed at utility and highway maintenance companies along with forestry, building and agricultural contractors in key European markets such as Spain, France, Russia and the UK.

David Bell, managing director of JCB Sales, says: "Until now, the JCB 4CN was only offered in Scandinavia - to meet the specialist demands of the forestry industry, where the ability to excavate around trees and stumps has long been recognised as a major productivity benefit.

"The economic downturn in Europe has focused contractors' minds on finding new ways to improve the efficiency of their operations. This has prompted an increased demand from our customers for plant which can improve productivity on day-to-day applications. As such we have recognised the



opportunity to promote the benefits of the high specification JCB 4CN - which can reduce project completion times on a potentially wide range of jobs - to a wider market."

The 4CN uses a 74.2 kW Turbo JCB Dieselmex engine that gives a maximum travel speed of 40 kph and bucket tearout force of 6929 kgf with a maximum dig depth of 4.85 m.

IRN

Makita adds two submersibles

One of the biggest names in power tools, Makita, continues to expand its range of outdoor power equipment with the latest additions being two new submersible pumps.

The Makita PF4000 and PF4001 submersible water pumps - which complement the 2 in centrifugal and 1 in high-pressure pumps already in the range - are both powered by 400 watt motors and can be used at a depth of 5 m.

The semi-trash PF4000 model has a lift head of 6 m and will deliver 160 l/min, while the PF4001 will lift to 7 m and pump 180 l/min. The pumps weigh 5.8 kg and have useful triple size outlet hose connection unions (35 mm, 30 mm and 25 mm) with non-return valves.

The PF4000 semi-trash pump has a 25 mm maximum solids capacity and requires 40 mm depth of water in which to operate. It has a stainless steel motor case and shaft.



Vacuums that will run and run

If Makita can launch pumps, then why not vacuum cleaners from Fein, another world leader in power tools? In fact, the company has been producing vacuums for some years, and the two latest professional vacuums include one replacement of an existing unit and another at a new size for Fein.

The Dustex 25 is the successor to the Dustex II, and

the Dustex 40 is the first of Fein's vacuums to have a volume of 35 l. Both units have electronic speed control with an LED display, soft start function and bypass cooling.

The cleaners can be used as stand-alone vacuums or as dust suction accessories for power tools. The automatic start/stop switches the appliance on and off along with the connected tool, and Fein says this makes them ideal for use with the MultiMaster, construction cutter, the WPO 14 rotary polisher and eccentric sanders. An adapter is supplied for tools from other manufacturers.

The vacuums are designed for continuous use in industry and manual trades. "They have a high suction power that remains constant even in continuous use and in applications that produce a lot of dust, thanks to the unusually large filter", says Fein.

Accessories include a 5 m suction hose and 6 m connection cable, giving both the Dustex 25 and Dustex 40 an unusually large working radius. The Dustex 25 weighs 7 kg, has a 24 l container and a power consumption of 1300 W, while the Dustex 40 has a volume of 35 l and 1500 W electric motor. IRN



Italian bucket crusher specialist MB SpA has launched a new version of its BF 90.3 unit, which was the company's first crusher. The bucket is for use with excavators typically in the 20 to 28 t weight range. It has a greater capacity (0.8 m³ instead of 0.75 m³) and larger inlet dimensions (900 mm wide by 550 mm high, giving an extra 100 mm height) but manages to do that with a more compact package, with length falling from 2.45 m to 2.15 m. As with its predecessor, the new model will size material in the range from 20 mm up to 120 mm.

