



LTM

LTM
 LIFT | TURN | MOVE | LTD

Technical Newsletter

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WHICH LODESTAR SHOULD I BUY?

LTM offer two options on Lodestar; the standard unit (LV) with controls and limit switches or alternatively, the Direct Control unit (DC).

The Standard (LV) Lodestar has control equipment and has been available for years; this hoist has limit switches which stop the travel in both directions. This we feel is a really good safety feature as the hook will never contact the hoist body.

Because of the limit switches, we also fit 110V low voltage controls and have two cables; power (using a 400V, 16A, red, 4 pin Cee plug) and control (using a 110V, 16A, yellow, 4 pin Cee socket). The 4 pin control connector is essential in the EC.

The Direct Control (DC) Lodestar does not have limit switches or control equipment and only needs a power connector (as above). This hoist is less expensive than a standard Lodestar (and uses fewer parts with simpler wiring).

The DC hoist has a travel limit function; this is provided by the hook or a stop on the chain end contacting the hoist body allowing the clutch to spin and therefore no damage is caused. This is similar to standard hoists from other manufacturers.

Most UK production clients, when we explain the advantages and disadvantages, decide to select the Lodestar with limit switches and controls (LV); this is basically because most production companies use this type of Lodestar. It is easier to sub rent LV Lodestars if extra hoists are required.

The DC hoists are less expensive and are used in many countries throughout the World and often for installations. The electrical design is much simpler, although the controllers used to operate multiple hoists have more components and usually cost more.

The main disadvantage for DC hoists is when a hoist is fitted in a roof void and the hook needs to stop below the ceiling; in this case, the LV Lodestar with the limits is the hoist to use.

One other point to raise is that if you check our prices and find that you cannot afford to buy Lodestars as quoted, you will probably end up with DC hoists from another manufacturer; you could buy DC Lodestars for a similar cost. With Lodestars there is an upgrade route later to low voltage control with limit switches.

DC Lodestars cost from 17% less than the LV type.

Lodestar with controls and limit switches - 2 cables



Lodestar, Direct control - 1 cable

LTM AT PLASA

LTM will once again be exhibiting at Plasa in London between September 9th-12th. As many of you will know, there has been a major revamp to the show, with expansion into the second exhibition hall at Earls Court.

LTM have moved position and we have a larger stand on the left hand side of Earls Court 1. We will have space to store coats and bags etc, as well as the usual LTM hospitality.

Please plan to come and see us - we have tickets available if required; we are on stand C41 - we have some new things to show you!



LTM- STAFF CHANGES

Following a very busy 2006 with growth of over 30%, LTM made moves to strengthen their team to ensure their high service standards continue.

Dean Ward joined us as Warehouse Manager in October 2006. David King reports "due to the exceptionally busy year we had a few issues through the summer and made immediate moves to strengthen the work staff by appointing Dean. We now feel that we are in the second stage of growth. Procedures and responsibilities are in place and things have settled down now that Dean is sorting out the Warehouse.

James Porter was recruited to join the Sales Office Team in January 2007. James worked at Chester Chain where he was part of the installation, repair and testing team. "We needed to recruit for the sales team and went for someone from a technical background which is benefiting both clients and fellow staff alike. James has done well since starting with us, he brings problem solving and lifting experience to us, which is helping all of us."

Allison Jones joined us in October 2006 to assist with marketing, accounts, and admin. She is helping us keep up to date and has done some great press releases and sorted out lots of the credit control.

Last but not least **Geoff Cromwell** joined LTM in a workshop role. Many of the LTM team and clients knew Geoff from their days at Pfaff-silberblau. "Geoff brings lots to us at LTM, he is multi skilled and will tackle anything, we always say at LTM if the attitude is right you can teach the skills, with Geoff we get the attitude and the skills and he has already been involved in building controllers, installing the steelwork for a new hoist repair bay, installing lights for a new Mezzanine floor

- | | |
|---------|------------|
| 1 Don | 7 David |
| 2 Phil | 8 Jenny |
| 3 Dean | 9 Dan |
| 4 Geoff | 10 Aiyasha |
| 5 James | 11 Ali |
| 6 John | 12 Dawn |

Not shown: Dave Ward, Lee Culf

and helping out with the recent Motor School as well as some on site troubleshooting. We are really pleased that Geoff has joined us"

Recruitment of these four people really strengthens the LTM team. Dean, Ali, James and Geoff all bring skills that will help us to grow.

As well as these changes Dawn Gerrard left us to emigrate to New Zealand with her family. Dawn decided to join us with 2 days notice when we left the previous company. John explained that she did not even have a written job offer and I remember her comments that it didn't matter she was coming anyway.

Her final day was Wednesday 8th August and we celebrated with a final drink to wish them all well.

Dawn stayed a while before rushing off to pack another box. She is now living in New Zealand after an exciting 26 hour flight with her 2 young boys and Ged. We all wish them well!!!!

The photo shows most of the team at LTM, including the new staff.

WWW.WINCHSHOP.CO.UK

LTM have set up a new website for their complete winch range which incorporate lots more units than shown on the LTM site.

A specialised catalogue is also available either as a PDF from the site or by post.

The winch catalogue is available on request from
John.Jones@liftturnmove.co.uk.

LTM JOINS LEEA

We were recently able to join the Lifting Equipment Engineers Association, initially as Provisional Members.

We decided that LEEA membership, with the training courses that they run, would allow us to add to the competency that we already have. An application to join was made and we have been accepted as provisional members.

Following the first appraisal visit, we have a concentrated period of extra training for all of our staff which will add to their qualifications and levels of competence.

Further information on LEEA is available on request from
John.Jones@liftturnmove.co.uk

SOFT STEELS

We started receiving orders for soft steels recently. These are similar to round slings with a black fabric cover but with a steel wire rope load bearing interior.

The advantage of these over round slings is that they are fire resistant and yet still reduce damage to truss etc.

Available in circumference of up to 6 metres.

Suitable for temperatures of -40 to +250 degrees celcius.

Ask for competitive price.



EQUIPMENT FOR SALE - SPECIAL OFFER

The following equipment is available at special prices; please advise if you are interested and we can send further details.

- Black Steels - 1.0t capacity in the following lengths: 0.5m, 1.0m, 1.5m, 3.0m, 6.0m, 10.0m.
- If you have an application for hoists with short lifting chains, please advise us as we may be able to offer special prices. We regularly have short off cuts for both 1/4 and 5/16 inch chains.
- One of our clients has 10 x Verlinde Li 10 Stagemakers; installed in a permanent venue with new 25m chains, Direct Control, complete with full inspection and Test Certificates.

Complete with 5 x double flight cases.

Price to be agreed: please consult us.

- 5 Spectralite Flight Cases in thermoplastic resin material.

These combi cases are 610 x 1220 x 610 mm / 24 x 48 x 24 inches in size.

Used by LTM for exhibitions only: £190.00 each nett, ex-works, plus VAT.



- We have 8 Handy 250Kg Ratchet Lever Hoists with 1.5m lifting chains at £33.00 each nett, ex-works, plus VAT.



DO ANY OF US KNOW WHAT WE ARE DOING?

We subscribe to a UK based magazine which circulates all over the World entitled Hoist.

There was an interesting article in the June 2007 issued "Rigging Advice – Guru Highlights Trade Show Safety Flaws".

Not wishing to cause a controversy, I wondered whether anybody would be interested in contacting Judy Mellott on judy.mellott@teluspramet.net with a copy to Richard Howes on rhowes@wilmington.co.uk

Perhaps some of our readers could put the guru straight!

MOTOR SCHOOLS



CM Lodestar Training at LTM March 2007.

CM Lodestar Motor Schools have been presented since LTM started in September 2004, with David Ward and John Jones as presenters.

They are busy throughout the summer, presenting schools at clients' premises, both in the U.K. and overseas.

The next school is planned for 2nd and 3rd October 2007 at the LTM office; if you have people who are interested in attending, please contact Alison Jones on training@liftturnmove.co.uk

Ali will send you full information and a booking form.

Rigging advice

Guru highlights trade show safety flaws

"We want to bring awareness to the industry for the need to have standards that are applicable worldwide," says KOLO Hoisting and Rigging Handbook co-author and industry guru Judy Mellott.

In the third installment of this column, fellow co-author Lisa Olver launches a scathing attack on international and domestic trade shows - and poses a series of loaded questions...

“ I recently attended a large trade show and was amazed by the amount of rigging that was used to suspend advertising and displays from the roof trusses.

Some were very elaborate, made of steel structures, which held lights and moving displays, others were giant signs sometimes six or more inches thick, made of wood covered with fabric, suspended with manual chain hoists and slings.

I asked myself some questions:

Were there safety lines on these displays to prevent someone from getting hurt if the display rigging failed?

What is the chain hoist rated at, if the top hook and the bottom hook are not in alignment and there are twists in the chain?

Why didn't they use softeners for all the slings that went around the steel girders, why only a few?

If you invert an electric chain hoist does the gearbox get enough oil and does the manufacturer recommend this practice?

How much weight is suspended from the ceiling trusses and how much can each girder hold?

Under a wet heavy snow load and with the weight suspended from the trusses can the roof take the load?

Hoist manufacturers state in their manuals, for example: Warning - improper chain hoist use could result in death or serious injury. To avoid these hazards:

- Never hoist loads over or near people
- Never work under or near suspended loads

Are there any proper documented standards that are unique to trade show applications?

If not, are there recognised industry practices that are common to this application?

Should it be a requirement that these installations are provided by rigging personnel who are properly trained or certified to perform these tasks?

Industry needs to recognise standard practices, equipment uses and limitations, liabilities and responsibilities with using rigging equipment and hardware. The statistics tell us that most failed lifts are due to improper rigging and a lack of experience. Education on products available for making proper rigging selection is essential, since a variety of materials can be lifted a variety of ways. ”