

Customized self-propelled scissor lifts support growing demand for innovative Dutch-built greenhouses

Working from a standard frame, A. van der Burg Machines & Constructie customizes platform size and design to local needs and regulations.

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sing commercial greenhouses, even in the coldest, rainiest regions can build a healthy, sustainable agricultural sector. The Netherlands may be leading the way with over 9,000 hectares (22,240 acres) of greenhouses growing more than €7.2 billion worth of products. Countries such as Canada are making major investments, too. Coming from the Dutch heartland, A. van der Burg Machines & Constructie (van der Burg) knows the special needs facing the companies building these massive, innovative structures.

Recently, van der Burg in Berkel en Roderijs adapted two self-propelled scissor lifts to Canadian specifications — including John Deere Final Tier 4/Stage IV engines — for Voorwinden Group. This Dutch greenhouse construction company is a major player in the sector: In 2016 alone, it erected greenhouses covering an area the equivalent of 250 soccer fields worldwide. The new scissor lifts will help Voorwinden keep up with ever-growing global demand.

Setting the bar high

"Investment in sustainable growing methods is increasing," says Arjan van der Burg, co-owner of van der Burg. "Some projects are huge, involving very tall greenhouses spreading over hectares of land. Scissor lifts are crucial to help builders meet deadlines and keep crew safe. They are used to lift bulky components and provide an aerial work platform for installing glass plates, windows, and vents."

"With such ambitious projects, greenhouse manufacturers need design flexibility for local conditions and regulations."

— Arjan van der Burg

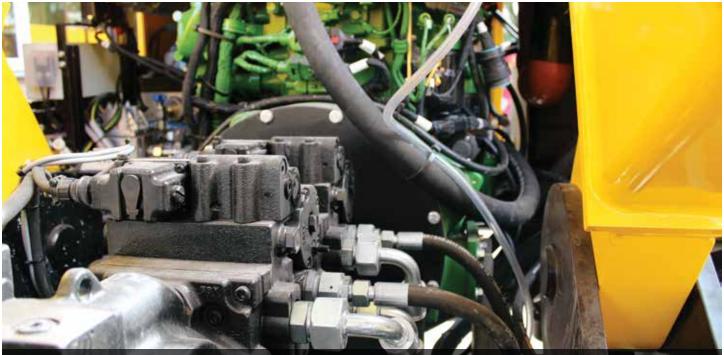
Van der Burg starts with a standard frame then customizes the platform size and design to the customer. "With such ambitious projects, greenhouse manufacturers need design flexibility for local conditions and regulations." The self-propelled scissor lifts for Voorwinden Group have an 8-meter (26-foot) reach and a 6 by 2.60-meter (19.6 by 8.5-foot) platform that can be extended to 4.5 meters (14.8 feet) wide. Steel tracks and a hydraulic self-leveling frame keep the platform steady in uneven terrain. To meet Canadian regulations, van der Burg adjusted the bar spacing in the interlocked gates and reduced the overall width of the unit to below 2.60 meters (8.5 feet). The machine, and the platform, can be guided via radio remote control.

Ready to run

Canada also has stringent emissions standards, so a Final Tier 4/Stage IV engine was a must.

John Deere engine distributor for Benelux NPS Diesel B.V. supplied a complete, ready-to-install power pack, including a PowerTech[™] PWL 4.5L engine equipped with an Integrated Emissions Control system configured with selective catalytic reduction (SCR), a diesel oxidation catalyst (DOC), and cooled exhaust gas recirculation (EGR). "The greenhouse construction industry here has been slow for almost a decade. Now that it is picking up we are pleased to have a partner like NPS. Their customized power solution and integration support enable us to use the latest emissions technologies without trial and error."

Distributor: NPS Diesel B.V. in Ravenstein, the Netherlands; www.npsdiesel.com



A. van der Burg Machines & Constructie have used John Deere engines since 2003. "They are extremely reliable and easy to service," says Arjan van der Burg.