Global construction equipment to grow

Off-Highway Research estimates that 2016 will represent low in equipment sales after five years of falling demand

The global construction equipment market is expected to grow 5% next year to 690,506 units, according to the latest forecast from Off-Highway Research, which said 2016 would represent the cyclical low in global equipment sales following five years of falling demand.

The forecast in the research company’s latest Global Volume & Value Service report is for a gradual recovery in worldwide markets, from expected unit sales of 654,751 in 2016 to 795,150 machines in 2020.

In value terms, this would see the market rise from US$72.2 billion (€66.4 billion) in 2016 to US$89.3 billion (€80.9 billion) in 2020.

In terms of percentage growth, India is expected to be the most buoyant major market in the near term, with 21% growth forecast this year, and further improvements in the future.

Another positive is the expected growth in the Chinese construction equipment market in 2017. Sales are expected to grow by 10% to 104,840 machines, the lowest since 2002 and a quarter of the record high of 435,070 units sold in 2011. However, the recovery is expected to be a gradual one, with 10% growth forecast for 2017, to take the market to 115,450 units.

Growth is also expected next year in European, Japanese and North American construction equipment markets, following flat or falling sales in 2015. Rest of the world markets are also expected to see growth, with sales forecast to rise 5%.

Companies line up for Samoter

The Samoter show in Verona, Italy, next year has reported that a number of leading construction machinery manufacturers have signed up to exhibit. Case, Hyundai, Kobelco and Komatsu are among the first companies to confirm that they will be at the 38th Samoter.

Held every three years, the event will be at Verona from 22 to 25 February 2017.

Komatsu, Case and Hyundai will return to Samoter, while 2017 will mark the debut of Japanese construction machinery manufacturer Kobelco at the show.

The show will focus on the management and prevention of environmental emergencies, and will be held in conjunction with Asphaltica, the exhibition dedicated to technologies and solutions for road paving, safety and transport infrastructures, and Transpotec Logitec, the transport and logistics event.

Giovanni Mantovani, CEO and director general of Veronafiere, said, “Confirmations were received from these four manufacturers in recent weeks, and are a very important signal for two reasons. It means that large international companies are ready to invest in an event they feel is strategic for the Italian construction machinery market, as it finally picks up after the collapse in recent years.”

He added, “It also means that Samoter’s new format and the various initiatives implemented by Veronafiere are working in the right direction — building a trade show that is increasingly tailored to the real business and training needs of exhibitors and sector operators.”

The next Samoter is in February 2017.