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bigger and better—in 12 months.”

Littlewood concluded: “The feedback so far from last week’s event has been very positive. There was a buzz on the show floor and plenty of great content and learning opportunities. Activity ahead of next year has been excellent with 48 companies already signed up as exhibitors, key sponsorships sold and lots of interest in outstanding commercial packages.”

## Rope and Sling Completes Key Load Tests for Tottenham’s New Stadium

Rope and Sling Specialists Ltd. (RSS) has completed load tests on three lifting frames for mechanical handling specialist SCX Group, which has been selected to provide a retractable pitch for Premier League football team Tottenham Hotspur’s new stadium on White Hart Lane, London. One of the aforementioned frames will be used there during installation of pitch trays.

The new stadium (the Northumberland Development Project), scheduled for completion later this year in time for the 2018-2019 season, will boast nearly 62,000 seats and includes nine floors. Spurs have agreed a 10-year partnership that will see NFL International Series (American football) matches played at the new stadium.

Integral to the multi-purpose design is a retractable grass field with

an artificial surface underneath that will be used for NFL games. SCX Special Projects’ concept features rails for the retractable pitch, hidden safely beneath its surface. The real turf pitch will roll into the stadium in three sections; each weighs over 3,000t and is driven by 68 powerful electric motors that will roll it along rails on 168 wheels. These wheels were tested in-house by RSS in 10t increments up to 85t, employing the company’s 120t Enerpac hydraulic press, complete with gauge.

The whole pitch, which is split lengthways, can be rolled out in just 25 minutes. Once parked alongside the central section, the side sections will move inwards. When the sections are in position, hydraulic actuators open flaps so the touchline can be raised up to pitch level. Then, tunnel ramps are raised before the flaps are closed and the stadium is ready for action.

RSS, a lifting and rigging equipment supplier, was presented with a scope of work by SCX to test three frames, one of which (pictured, yellow) was to be used for installation of pitch trays at the White Hart Lane construction project and needed to be uprated from 27t to 35t working load limit (WLL).

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Trays and moving assemblies were used as weights so the frame was used as intended onsite to create a uniformly distributed load. The total weight to be lifted the second time, including the 6t frame, was 52t.