

Remote control dumpers aim to improve safety on work sites

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British entrepreneurs Stuart Selway and Ryan Symes have created a remote control dumper that could change the way dumpers are used in construction, with the aim of improving safety for site workers. Their mini, hi-tip dumper is named the Shannon Solo and is operated completely by remote control.

There are naturally a high number of health and safety risks inherent in the construction industry, and is now the biggest concern for those using plant hire equipment, including dumpers, because of strict regulation. The Shannon Solo will be the first of the company's products, and they have plans to develop and manufacture more remote control vehicles besides dumpers. Shannon's remote control dumper truck has an operational range of up to 100 metres, which Shannon believes will reduce the risk to any workers that are using it. On sites with gradients that endanger workers, and other conditions such as deep water and nearby falling debris.

Selway is confident the Shannon Solo will be an asset to construction companies that want to reduce risk to their employees. "Because the Shannon Solo is operated by a remote control, it is safe to be used in hazardous areas, considerably reducing the number of times a person is exposed to the danger."

He added: "It can be used in quarries or demolition sites where there is a threat of falling debris, near deep water where people would normally be at risk, or in other dangerous areas like airports, power stations and railway sites."

The Solo can lift a maximum of 500 kilos, uses a scissor lift action and can load a standard skip. Future Shannon products will include a remote sprayer, post rammer, mower and dozer, which are expected to launch in spring 2011.

Consumers can see the Shannon Solo launched at the Executive Hire Show running from the 9th to the 10th of February in the Ricoh Arena, Coventry, where it will also be on sale.

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