



HANIX GAINS SOME WEIGHT

Nick Drew reports on an early example of the next generation of Hanix compact excavators

Following the restructuring of the Hanix business in 2013 (see panel) a plan was put into place to develop new Japanese-built mini- and midi-excavators. The last new model, the 2.7-tonne H27DR mini, was launched back in 2011. However, for the past few years, it has been something of an open secret that a replacement for its top-of-the-range 7.5-tonne H75C midi was in development. I recently had the opportunity to provide Hanix with feedback as a result of operating a pre-production prototype of the new midi-excavator, organised by Devon-based dealer Machine Serve.

In the interests of full transparency, I confess that I have always had something of a soft spot for Hanix machines, both as an operator and as an owner. Over the years they have proved to be very reliable, smooth on the levers and come fully loaded. Back in the day there were many others in the UK that thought the same, both under the Hanix brand and before that Nissan.

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I was expecting a new D Series machine as a replacement for the H75C, perhaps an H80D, but what I was presented with was the N085uj.

The N stands for Nagano, the city where Hanix is based, not surprisingly 085 reflects its weight category, u stands for urban and j reflects that this is a Japanese designed and built machine. As is the norm these days, the new model has



The first of a new generation of Hanix mini- and midi-excavators is shortly to enter production.