# Quick Reach Powered Access enters administration after failed bank talks and fire setback



Quick Reach Powered Access has recently entered administration, marking a significant decline for the company, which specialised in the hire of powered access equipment. According to the announcement, the decision came after failed negotiations with its bank for a restructuring deal. This latest development paints a sobering picture of a business that, despite promising prospects a few years ago, has faced an escalating series of challenges.

The company, established in 2014 by brothers John and David Barton, expanded its operations across several locations including Manchester, Teesside, and West Bromwich. It not only provided lifts and telehandlers but also offered equipment maintenance and safety training, becoming a well-regarded entity in its sector. However, its latest financial accounts, revealing a pre-tax loss of £306,000 for the year ending 31 July 2023—down from a profit of £483,000 the previous year—signal serious underlying issues. Quick Reach attributed its losses to "exceptionally high" interest costs compounded by difficult trading conditions that strained its operations.

The company had relied heavily on asset finance solutions, a dependency that ultimately proved unsustainable. Following a breach of covenants related to its main asset finance facility earlier this year, the firm’s future has come under scrutiny. Although directors expressed optimism about securing a waiver from the bank, the independent auditor's report indicated a "material uncertainty" regarding the company’s ability to continue as a going concern.

In addition to financial woes, Quick Reach encountered a series of unfortunate events, including a significant fire at its West Bromwich depot. This incident, alongside rising debts and a data breach, compounded its struggles and left the company unable to negotiate effectively with creditors, leading to its current administrative state. As the administrators, Michael Magnay and Gemma Quinn of Alvarez and Marsal, step in, they will be tasked with assessing and managing the company’s outstanding debts and assets, a challenging endeavour in light of the firm’s precarious financial landscape.

Once buoyed by a substantial £4.5 million equity investment from Mercia Fund Managers in 2019—intended to double its fleet and expand its market reach—Quick Reach's trajectory has dramatically altered. Despite earlier successes, including geographic expansion and acquisitions that enhanced its service offerings, the recent series of setbacks appears to have overpowered its earlier momentum.

Reflecting on this downfall, industry observers may wonder whether the rapid growth strategy adopted by Quick Reach contributed to its vulnerability. Rapid expansion, particularly in challenging economic climates, can often stretch resources thin and lead to unsustainable debt levels. The current situation serves as a cautionary tale regarding the balance between growth and financial stability in the construction and equipment rental sectors.

As Quick Reach navigates this challenging phase, the outcomes will have implications not only for its employees and stakeholders but also for the broader landscape of powered access services in the UK, highlighting the importance of financial stewardship amidst ambitious growth initiatives.

### Reference Map

1. Paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4
2. Paragraphs 4, 5
3. Paragraph 6
4. Paragraph 6

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.constructionnews.co.uk/financial/administrations/end-of-the-road-for-quick-reach-19-05-2025/> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://vertikal.net/en/news/story/46112/admisistration-for-quick-reach> - Quick Reach Powered Access, a UK-based rental company, has entered administration after struggling with debts and a series of unfortunate events. The company faced challenges including changes to its credit lines, rising debts, a data breach, and a major fire at its West Bromwich depot in January 2025. Despite efforts to restructure with its bank, the company was unable to overcome these obstacles, leading to its administration. ([vertikal.net](https://vertikal.net/en/news/story/46112/admisistration-for-quick-reach?utm_source=openai))
3. <https://www.khl.com/news/Equity-for-Quick-Reach-/1137297.article> - In March 2019, Quick Reach Powered Access secured a £4.5 million equity investment from Mercia Fund Managers. This funding aimed to help the Manchester-based company double its fleet of access equipment and continue its nationwide growth. The investment provided Mercia with a minority stake in the business. ([khl.com](https://www.khl.com/news/Equity-for-Quick-Reach-/1137297.article?utm_source=openai))
4. <https://vertikal.net/en/news/story/32642/new-investment-and-depot-for-quick-reach> - In March 2019, Quick Reach received a £4.5 million investment from the Mercia EV Growth II Fund and opened a new location in Birmingham. The investment aimed to allow the company to double its fleet of powered access equipment and continue its geographic expansion. The new investment also gave Mercia a minority stake in the business. ([vertikal.net](https://vertikal.net/en/news/story/32642/new-investment-and-depot-for-quick-reach?utm_source=openai))
5. <https://www.khl.com/news/quick-reach-acquires-specialized-access/1114369.article> - In January 2016, Quick Reach Powered Access expanded into Scotland by acquiring Specialized Access from IAPS Group. The acquisition provided Quick Reach with a specialist fleet of spider lifts and truck-mounted lifts, enhancing its service offerings in the Scottish market. ([khl.com](https://www.khl.com/news/quick-reach-acquires-specialized-access/1114369.article?utm_source=openai))
6. <https://vertikal.net/en/news/story/24569/quick-reach-completes-specialized-acquisition> - Quick Reach Powered Access completed the acquisition of Specialized Access from IAPS Group in January 2016. The deal included retaining the Specialized Access facility in Wishaw, near Glasgow, and transferring all Specialized employees to Quick Reach. This expansion allowed Quick Reach to offer a comprehensive range of access platforms and telehandlers in Scotland. ([vertikal.net](https://vertikal.net/en/news/story/24569/quick-reach-completes-specialized-acquisition?utm_source=openai))
7. <https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/centre-partners-completes-acquisition-of-quick-roofing-302028590.html> - In January 2024, Centre Partners, a private equity firm, acquired Quick Roofing, a leading residential and commercial roofing service provider operating in nine states across the Southwest, Southeast, and Great Plains. The acquisition aimed to support Quick Roofing's expansion and strengthen its market leadership. ([prnewswire.com](https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/centre-partners-completes-acquisition-of-quick-roofing-302028590.html?utm_source=openai))