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Tackling the Summit

This year the IPAF Annual General Meeting and Summit coincided with the Federation's 25th anniversary, a milestone celebrated by the reception and dinner. The following pages give a taste of the day's events which attracted a record attendance.

The AGM and Summit attracted a record number of delegates but as usual, the very brief AGM was less well attended.

noted that the industry was still relatively young and that when IPAF began some 25 years ago, many of today's products had only just been invented. He said: "The future is bright and the future for IPAF is very bright."



Tim Whiteman IPAF managing director opens the AGM and Summit.

AGM

Business included the approval of 2007 accounts and budget for 2008 along with a report on the transfer from a Not for Profit company to mutual status. It had been hoped to announce the mutual status at the AGM, but the transfer has been delayed by two to three months and is likely to take place during the summer. A vote was made in respect of council and board nominations as well as for committee chairmen.

The main event was the handing over of the presidency from Andrew Reid to John Ball, managing director of Height for Hire/Easi UpLifts. In his review of the past 12 months Reid

The 2008 IPAF council.



Andrew Reid (L) hands over to new president John Ball

Ball thanked Reid for 'his sterling work over the past two years', said that IPAF owed him a substantial debt of gratitude and wished him well in his retirement. After giving a short biography covering his entrance into the access industry some 22 years ago, Ball noted that the organisation is at a critical stage in its development in terms of extending its work and its influence to a truly global level. He also stressed the youth of the industry and announced that the next Summit will be held on April 2nd in Dublin adding that he hoped to see a similar attendance level as this year. He closed by promising to do all he could to continue the strong progress that his predecessors had achieved, adding 'The best is yet to come'.



c&a

IPAF summit

The Summit was very well attended

Summit

The Summit's theme this year was 'Are your MEWPs safe'. IPAF's technical officer Gil Male covered 'Thorough Inspections and the Law', focusing on self or second party inspections as well as highlighting 'Best Practice'. He talked about the need for those carrying out in-house inspections to be independent and unbiased and how that might be shown to be the case in the event of an investigation. Rupert Douglas Jones, IPAF international training manager added to this by covering the CAP programme which sets standards and certification for Competent Persons.



Gil Male



Rupert Douglas Jones

Dr Roberto Ciannotti was one of several senior officials from the Italian government associations that monitor and regulate safety.



Peter Jones of Lavendon Access Services took up the baton discussing accidents and particularly those involving overhead obstructions and crushing against control panels.



Alex Tribick, Peter Jones and Denis Barry

The summit was wound up with a very dynamic presentation by Alex Tribick of WH Mathews and Denis Barry of Five Paper Buildings, on the new UK Corporate Manslaughter and Homicide Acts, warning delegates about what to expect, the steps that companies must take to protect against the most penal aspects of the act which can include unlimited fines, with recommendations of up to 10 percent of gross revenues plus, not to mention tough remedial and publicity orders.

Barry stressed the need for a positive corporate culture, to be seen to be taking safety seriously, to heed employees concerns and be seen to act on safety advice.

The sum of it all was that well managed companies have little to fear from the new regulations while poorly managed companies are likely to be hit hard in the event of an accident. It also reinforced the need to follow industry best practices.



A good number of questions were posed to the speakers.



Back by popular demand our photograph album of the event and with an extra page it is bigger than ever. The photos show a good time was had by all at what was an excellent event. As with last year we could not restrain ourselves from adding a few possible captions, hopefully we have not offended anyone... too much? It is all meant in the spirit of fun. If you have a better caption, for any of the pictures please do send it to us.



The InspHired team give a demo.



"So I gave him a karate chop to the back of the neck" Erkki Hokkinen of Dinolift shows Mark Darwin Editor of C&A.



"Help I have been cornered" Peter Jones and Andy Wright of Lavendon flank Austin Baker of AFI-UpLift.



"Typical! They've left me to do all the work" Teresa Carlino.



John Corcoran, Mike Ripton, Susan Foster, Tony Groat and Brad Boehler



Tim Whiteman of IPAF shares a joke with Wayne Lawson of JLG.



"I don't care for your attitude mate" Ben Martin of Gardner Denver chats with John Jordan of Rapid Platforms.



Spot the odd one out Pier Angelo Cantù, Mauro Potrich of CTE, Gianluca Ferramola of Airo with Gerhard Hillebrand of IPAF Italia.



"I see your wife picked your tie as well" Nick Cragg and John Swift of AJ Access, Will Holloway of KHL, Andy McCusker of Active and Patrick Hill of KHL



"What are you talking about?" John Ball of Easi UpLifts



"Come on now you are going to have to smarten yourself up now you are president" Andrew Reid with John Ball.



"So what was it like being president then?" Roger Bowden of Niftylift with Andrew Reid.



"I bet you can't flutter your eyelashes like this?" Jim Pearson of A-Plant with ex colleague Steve Shaughnessy of Loxam.



"I don't believe he just said that!" Carrie Jordan at the summit.



"Look see it says it in this book of fine print" Denis Barry of Five Paper Buildings.



"What are we agreeing to here Bai?" Dirk Konings of PSE, Leigh Sparrow of Vertikal with Bai Ri and Liu Wenjing of Beijing Jingcheng Heavy Industries.



"What do you mean is my family name Adams?" Rupert Douglas Jones and Steven McEwan.



"Hey Jimmy! You got a problem with that?!" Andrew Reid makes a point.



"How much does the presidents job pay! Ha let me tell you" Past president Pierre Saubot of Haulotte with John Ball.



"So what do they call a collection of lawyers?" Alex Tribick of WH Mathews, shares a joke with Denis Barry and Ben Douglas Jones of Five Paper Buildings.



"I'm not sure what's in this tea? But I can recommend it" Chrissie Sloan of R&M Marketing with Berlinda Nadarajan of IPAF.



"So what do you know about finance?" Richard Marchant of Facelift is interviewed.



"Look at all the help I have now the work is done!" Christine Park, Susan Kitching and Teresa Carlino of IPAF.



A card shark challenges past IPAF president Roger Venthen now with Gamble.



"Get that camera out of here, you're cramping my style" Maria Hadlow of KHL with charmer Richard Rawlings of R&M marketing.



"She is so much better looking than John Fuller" John Ball with Linda Betts of Genie.



"Frank you are supposed to hug the ladies" Jean Harrison, Roger Bowden, a worried looking Margaret Caton, Dennis Ashworth, past president Frank Huish and his friend Glynn Goodwin of Genie.



The Easi UpLifts team out in force:-Patrick McArdle, Gerard Jennings, John Ball, Fergus McArdle, Mary Beakey and Harry McArdle.



Two Celtic Tigers Kevin O'Shea of Mastclimbers with Harry McArdle of Easi UpLifts.



"We are all the perfect height" Ben Bowers of Lifterz, Tom Wilson of Wilson Access and Fergus McArdle of Easi-UpLifts.



The Italian regulators: Giancarlo Bianchi of AIAS, Mario Alvino of Italy's ministry of Labour, Roberto Cionotti of ISPEL with Gerhard Hillebrand of IPAF Italy.



Access Link compatriots - John Swift of AJ Access, Julie Houston-Smyth and David Houston of Highway Plant and Nick Cragg of AJ Access.



"Can I have the name of your dentist?" Chris Buisseret of Rapid Platforms and Richard Tindale of UpRight.



Isabelle Laplume of IPAF France with Dirk Konings of PSE and Reinhard Willenbrock of IPAF Germany.



"Watch those Dutch men Liu" Liu Wenjing, Hans Aarse, Dirk Konings and Bai Ri.



The devil sprouts horns - Funny man Frank Page of Facelift with Leigh Sparrow of Vertikal and Dirk Konings of PSE.



Patrick and Harry McArdle with John and Carrie Jordan.



"You look nifty do you know anything about boom lifts?" John Keely of Niftylift gets a grilling.



"They don't build them like that anymore" Claude Guillou past president of IPAF admires the historic photo display.

And so to dinner and...

More than 260 members and guests attended the 25th anniversary dinner following the Summit and champagne reception. They were treated to a wide range of entertainment throughout dinner, while speeches were kept to a minimum.



