

Pioneering Technology Continuous Innovation



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See us at:



Sept 17-19th
2008



Aug 29-30th
2008

Are your MEWPs safe?

c&a

IPAF focus

Is your equipment safe? Who is competent to carry out thorough examinations of access platforms? IPAF is addressing these questions at this year's SED show.

In the UK and Ireland access equipment used to lift people must be thoroughly examined by a competent person every six months. IPAF's CAP Card (Competent Assessed Person)

certifies that the holder has been independently assessed as being knowledgeable and able to carry out thorough examinations. The assessments focus on machine safety and are for experienced engineers.

Visit the IPAF stand (800, Avenue L, Cranes & Access Zone) to find out about this and IPAF's established PAL Card (Powered Access Licence) operator training programme.



Truck drivers' CPC

IPAF is currently analysing the implications of Directive 2003/59/EC for mobile elevating work platform users.

"One area of potential concern is whether or not people who rent a truck or van-mounted MEWP will need a CPC," said Gil Male, IPAF technical officer. "We are preparing a short interpretation and guidance for IPAF members."

The Drivers' Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC) is for LGV (large goods vehicle) and PCV (bus or coach) drivers who operate professionally throughout the UK. It is being developed as a requirement of Directive

2003/59/EC, which is designed to improve the knowledge and skills of professional LGV and PCV drivers. There are two parts to the legislation:

1. The initial qualification that must be achieved by new LGV and PCV drivers along with their vocational licence to enable them to use their licence professionally, and
2. Periodic training, which involves all professional drivers undertaking 35 hours of training every 5 years.

The Driver CPC for PCV drivers is to be implemented by 10 September 2008 and that for LGV drivers by 10 September 2009.

Watch www.ipaf.org for more news.

Safety-conscious access companies need not fear Corporate Manslaughter Act

The new Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act 2007 will support well-managed access companies by punishing those that take unjustifiable risks with people's safety, said barrister Denis Barry, speaking at the IPAF Summit on 15 April.

The Act went into force on 6 April 2008 and applies across the UK. Under the law, an organisation is guilty of a statutory offence if the way in which it manages or organises its activities causes a death and amounts to a gross breach of a relevant duty of care to the deceased.

Barry urged access companies to review management and operator training procedures, and to ensure that safety systems are in place, as the key question that the Act poses is whether management failure to organise activities properly caused the victim's death.

Managing thorough examinations

Gil Male, IPAF technical officer, has carried out an examination of the inspection and thorough examination practices throughout Europe, as outlined in the Use of Work Equipment Directive 95/63/EC, and the United States, as defined in the ANSI standards.

Across the European countries and the US, differences exist in the

frequency of thorough examinations, for example, 12 months in Germany, Italy and the Netherlands compared with six months in the UK and France and three months plus an annual inspection in the USA. Other differences lie in the nature of the examination record (certificate, report, entry in machine safety file or sticker), the required length of

time for record keeping, and the type of competent person (government inspectors, second or third-party inspectors).

Male indicated that IPAF is working with the European Rental Association on a statement on thorough examinations which would outline best practice on this subject.

New IPAF auditors

IPAF is expanding its UK audit function and increasing the number of unannounced audits to training centres.

Together with Giles Councill and Geoff Marshall, the UK team has been expanded to include Chris Smith and Richard Steele. Andrea Boldrini has recently been appointed to audit training centres in Italy. IPAF is also looking to recruit auditors in Germany, the Netherlands and North America.

All active IPAF training centres are subject to quality audits and expected to meet stringent quality standards and procedures. IPAF has increased its auditing activities internationally to ensure that training is delivered to high standards on a consistent basis throughout the world.

Two new IPAF auditors who will be visiting training centres more often: Chris Smith (L) and Richard Steele (R).



IPAF president takes charge

John Ball, group managing director of Height for Hire, Ireland, is the new president of IPAF, having



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been appointed at its Annual General Meeting on 15 April. Close to 270 people attended the AGM, Summit and annual dinner which celebrated the federation's 25th anniversary.

A photo contest was launched as part of the celebrations.



Presentations from the IPAF Summit on the theme of thorough examinations are available at the Resources section of www.ipaf.org



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IPAF Summit 2009 on 2 April in Dublin