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All training centres above offer IPAF approved and audited courses for Operators of Mobile aerial work platforms, European directives require that all staff are fully and adequately trained in the safe use of the equipment they operate.

See [www.ipaf.org](http://www.ipaf.org) for full listing

# Rebuild challenge for apprentices

A.M.P, the South West based access rental company now part of the Lavendon UK regional group, has teamed up with Niftylift to give two of its apprentices the chance to develop their knowledge and experience by rebuilding two very neglected Nifty Height Rider 12's.

The two lifts were acquired as part of a package of machines from a bankruptcy sale and had been robbed of parts and generally abused to the point where they were close to scrap value. The eight week programme was officially launched in February by Niftylift's John Keely, Andy Person of A.M.P Access, Paul Williams, the National Construction College assessor and Terry Cole A.M.P. regional engineering manager.

The two apprentices, Chris Verrin-Sipsom, based in Liskeard and Sam Lee based in Taunton, have eight weeks in which to strip out the machines and then completely rebuild them.



The battered Nifty HR12

## The job has been planned in 10 stages:

- A complete strip down and clean
- A full chassis structural inspection and rectification
- Replace slew bearing, bushes and pins, repair and fit boom
- Hydraulic system full refit and replace where needed
- Complete review, repair and replace of running gear
- Refit engine
- Full overhaul of electrical system
- Check test and run up
- Repaint and decal
- Test and prepare for new six month Loler test

The two apprentices will maintain a work-board charting their progress and will be fully supervised throughout the rebuild by A.M.P's rebuild workshop foreman. The completed machines will go on display at SED and Access Days in May. Niftylift is supporting the programme and helping sponsor the project.

Vertikal.Net will carry regular updates of the progress as part of its support for apprentice training and encouraging the recruitment of young people into the industry.



(L-R) John Keely of Nifty, Paul Williams of the National Construction College and Andy Pearson of A.M.P.



C&a

Training

Who trained him then?

## Fall costs £350,000

A manager and three firms have been fined a total of £342,500 after the death of a trainee scaffolder in January 2004. Steven Burke, 17, fell 16 metres from scaffolding at Davyhulme Wastewater Treatment Works, Trafford only two days after Health and Safety inspectors had said it was too dangerous to climb.

Burke was employed by 3D Scaffolding and under the control of a visiting contracts manager David Swindell Jnr. The firm was contracted by RAM Services, a subcontractor of principal contractor Mowlem.

Judge Jonathan Foster QC, sentencing at Manchester Crown Court, told Swindell and the three companies the case was 'a tragic example' of the 'disregard for safety measures'. He fined 3D Scaffolding, of Northbank Industrial Estate, Irlam, £60,000 plus £20,000 costs. Swindell, of Barrington Drive, Middlewich, £7,500 with £15,000 costs. Principal contractor Mowlem, of Isleworth, Middlesex, was fined £75,000 plus £70,000 costs and RAM pleaded guilty to failing to ensure scaffolding used by its employees had been properly inspected and safe to use and was fined £75,000 with £20,000 costs.

## New IPAF training centre

Oxford-based rental company, 2 Cousins Access, has opened a new IPAF training facility in Oxford. Keith John, director of 2 Cousins said: "Over the past two years we have been growing at a steady rate and opening this training centre enables us to offer a complete service to our growing client base."



IPAF trainer Mark Smith conducts the first course at 2 Cousins new facility.

## Harness saves two

Two men are alive and well following an accident in Miramar, Florida in mid February, after a crane dropped a 450kg, seven

metre long steel beam from around 25 metres after its lifting slings gave way. The beam struck the guardrail of the basket of a

boom lift that two men were using to reach the beam in order to fix it in place. The collision caused a catapult effect on the boom throwing the men towards the beam. The two were retained in the platform by their harnesses and short lanyards. One of

the men suffered a back injury from the jolt and was taken to Hospital. The main contractor on the job - the Miramar Cultural Arts Center - is Kaufman Lynn General Contractors, the steel erection is subcontracted to Industrial Steel Fabricators.

### National

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