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The Year Ahead for ALLMI and the Lorry Loader Industry

c&a

ALLMI focus

On the 26th July, ALLMI held its second board meeting of 2007 which confirmed the appointment of Ben James as a director, reviewed the role of each board member and identified the key issues for the Association over the next 12 months. In order to ensure maximum focus directors have been allocated specific projects.



Ben James has been confirmed as an ALLMI director



Engine Management Systems

Commercial director, Alan Johnson, will look into issues concerning Engine Management Systems, with the aim to improve communication between crane manufacturers/installers/bodybuilders and truck manufacturers in relation to the wiring and programming of Engine Management Systems. The goal is to ensure that all concerned have a thorough understanding of their roles and responsibilities in relation to this issue, eliminating the problems that can occur when the customer receives the finished product.

ALLMI Training Abroad

As a first step towards ALLMI establishing itself internationally and expanding its high standard of lorry loader training overseas, training director Andrew Taylor, will investigate the opportunities beginning with Australia and Trinidad where ALLMI already has contacts. This will involve research into the legislative requirements for lorry loader operations within these countries. Taylor will report to the board meeting on 19th September

Membership of Training Companies

Taylor will also investigate the possibility of all ALLMI accredited training companies becoming members of the association, in order to produce a more cohesive and integrated organisation. This will facilitate improved dialogue between all parties.

European and British Standards Revisions

Technical director Eric Hawkyard, will lead ALLMI on the revision of the British and European Standards for lorry loaders. With the EN12999 revision already underway, he will chair a special meeting of the technical committee on 12th September, covering the proposed changes to this Standard. Hawkyard said: 'ALLMI members have already been sent a draft copy of the new European Standard and we are expecting significant feedback. Those responses will be reviewed at the meeting on the 12th along with comments from committee members.' Once agreed, ALLMI's views will be fed into the CEN committee via ALLMI's representative, John Penny.

The revision of British Standard, BS7121 Part 4, is expected soon and Hawkyard will be looking for feedback from members on any proposed changes.

ALLMI Sets its Agenda for Vertikal Days

With both an Operators' Forum and an Instructor Product Update Event planned at Vertikal Days on the 19th and 20th September, ALLMI has set a detailed agenda for the two day period. The Operators' Forum general meeting takes place on the 19th in the Jubilee Suite of the Haydock Park Conference Centre and includes a presentation from Sarah Hague of the HSE on its forthcoming Work at Height campaign followed by an update on the ALLMI buyers co-operative following a survey of Forum members into products they would like to see purchased through collective bargaining. The agenda also includes a report and discussion on proposed changes to the European Standard for loader cranes, EN12999.

Following the meeting, members will have the opportunity to visit Vertikal Days with a free show pass.

On the 20th ALLMI's Instructor Product Update, also in the Jubilee suite, will include presentations from Hiab, T H White (Palfinger), Terex Atlas, HMF and Fassi covering product range, technical features and maintenance requirements. A hands-on session will provide the opportunity to view some of the latest loader cranes and to hold direct discussions with the manufacturers.

Code of Practice

The technical committee has continued with its revision of the ALLMI Code of Practice throughout 2007 and publication is expected in May 2008. The updated Code of Practice will provide a valuable guide on the various aspects of lorry loader including: legislation, maintenance, thorough examinations, load testing, documentation, accessories and attachments.



Membership Growth

The board meeting agreed that Lee Maynard and Ben James would swap roles, with Maynard moving to membership director and James becoming service director.

Maynard is looking to boost manufacturer/service agent membership by 10 percent, and Operators' Forum by 25 percent by the end of 2007.

General manager, Tom Wakefield, said 'there are some exciting challenges ahead for the association and the industry in general, the ALLMI board believes that allocating responsibility for specific projects will help further improve efficiency and focus. Progress reports are due at the general meeting on the 3rd October at the Strawberry Bank Hotel, Meriden, Coventry along with a presentation on Whole Vehicle Type Approval by Peter Rotherham of Aire Truck Bodies.

Should you require further information on the issues above, please contact Tom Wakefield on 01249 659150.