

# Building the future

PASMA's move to new premises in Woodside Crescent, Glasgow, marks the next phase in the development of the association. For the first time, it has its own offices and staff - resources that will now be used to enhance the quality of service it provides and the range of benefits it offers to its members.

Situated in the commercial and professional heart of the city, the offices provide modern, spacious accommodation for the new PASMA

team and include a conference/board room ideal for meetings and presentations. Managing director, Peter Bennett said: "We hope as many members as possible



will visit us here in our new home as we begin a new and exciting stage in the growth and evolution of the association."

PASMA's new address is 19 Woodside Crescent, Glasgow G3 7UL. The telephone number remains the same: **0845 230 4041**.

## PASMA People In brief

### Paul deChastelain retires

Paul deChastelain, regional training scheme auditor for the South of England, has announced his intention to retire. A past chairman of the association, he has made a consistent and influential contribution to PASMA's progress over many years.

His knowledge and enthusiasm will be greatly missed and we wish him a long, healthy and happy retirement.



Paul deChastelain

### Ronald Upton

The association was saddened to hear of the death of Ronald Upton, better known to his friends and colleagues throughout the access industry as 'Big Ron'. He began his career in the then fledgling access industry with Access Equipment Ltd of Hemel Hempstead before, in the late 1980's, transferring his considerable experience and expertise to W C Youngman from where he eventually retired.



Ron Upton

### PASMA Database

Following the appointment of PASMA's first membership communications officer, Jill Coultie, work has begun on updating the association's database to speed and simplify member communications.

### Don't Miss This!

Mark your diary and don't miss PASMA's major contribution to the Access Industry Forum's activities at Safety & Health Expo 2009, 12-14 May, at the NEC.

### Access Tower Supplement

PASMA and The Vertical Press, publishers of Cranes & Access, are planning to produce a major supplement devoted exclusively to mobile access towers in September. More details to follow.

## PASMA Planner

Events and meetings currently planned for 2009.

**April:** Regional Instructor Workshops

**May:** PASMA at Safety & Health Expo, NEC, Birmingham

**June:** Training Committee; Hire Assembly Sub-Committee, Regional Instructor Workshops

**July:** PASMA Annual Members' Meeting

Workshops for revised and updated Work at Height (basic); Low Level Access; Manger/Supervisor and Advanced modules - regional dates to be advised.

**October:** Training Committee; Hire Assembly

More information from [stuart.hopkins@pasma.co.uk](mailto:stuart.hopkins@pasma.co.uk)

## Tower Tips: Tying Mobile Access Towers

There are often times when for various reasons a tall mobile access tower is the most suitable piece of access equipment to reach heights that are above the free standing capability of the tower. The manufacturer's current instruction manual for the tower will indicate the maximum free standing height (both indoors and outdoors), to which the tower can be safely assembled, under normal conditions. There are a number of solutions to take a tower safely above this height, one of which is tying it in to an adjacent structure.

### Before tying-in

Before tying in to any structure, you must establish that the structure is capable of sustaining the loads transferred to it by any form of tie.

### When to position ties

It is essential during the erection of all tied tower structures that the ties are fitted as soon as each tie level is reached. When dismantling, the same principle applies in reverse - ties must only be removed progressively as the upper sections of the tower have been removed and the tower height has been reduced.

### Tall structures

When erecting such tall towers, you also need to ensure that the maximum design load of the structure is not exceeded, regardless of whether it is tied in or not. Additionally should the tower need to be moved or relocated, the height of the tower must be reduced according to PASMA recommendations (refer to the PASMA Code of Practice).

A four page technical/safety guidance note 'Tying Mobile Access Towers' is available from the association. More details at [www.pasma.co.uk](http://www.pasma.co.uk)

## Access in Action



Access tower by Euro Towers Ltd, Northampton

## Zero Tolerance on Cards

Whilst the overall number of incidences remains small, in recent weeks there has been a spate of reports concerning the use of fake PASMA ID cards. They have all been rigorously investigated and at least one will result in the association taking legal action. Maintaining the integrity of the training scheme is fundamental if it is to remain the recognised industry standard for tower training and competency.

The association is closely monitoring the situation and asks all members to be especially vigilant when validating and issuing cards. In the interests of everyone associated with the scheme, PASMA will not hesitate to take vigorous action where a report is investigated and subsequently proven.

### Contact details



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