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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 for full listing

Fall costs £4,700 due to lack of training

Thornett Mechanical Services, of Napier Street, Coventry, was fined a total of £2500 plus costs of £2151.50 on 13th May, following an accident on 2nd December 2008 at a unit in Bilton Industrial Estate, Coventry, in which an employee fell 3.5 metres dislocating two fingers, fracturing his left wrist and injuring his eye socket.

The employee was constructing the roof of a 3.5 metre high acoustic booth. A mobile scaffold tower was used to gain access to the top of the booth, however in order to undertake the roof work, it was necessary for the employee to work on the roof and so two planks were placed on top of the booth to kneel and stand on. He was kneeling on the edge of the booth, drilling, when his drill bit broke, jolting him forward. As a result, he lost his balance and fell onto a concrete floor.

HSE investigating inspector Pam Folsom said: "Thornett Mechanical

Services failed to carry out a risk assessment or plan a safe system of work. This could have involved fabricating the roof at floor level and lifting it into position so that the perimeter fixings could then be undertaken from the tower scaffold, or erecting edge protection around the roof's perimeter as the tower scaffold only covered the width of the booth.

"The injured man had not been trained to work at height and his supervisor had not been trained to conduct risk assessments. Furthermore, the supervisor had not done any work at height training himself."

"Such failures are unacceptable, especially as HSE has published a wealth of advice and guidance for employers to help them reduce the risk of falls from height. HSE has also recently launched the 'Shattered Lives' campaign to raise awareness of slips, trips and falls in the workplace."

Pyeroy attributes safety record to training

Gateshead, UK based Pyeroy Group has recorded a million man hours without a single lost time accident. While it's Construction Division has chalked up three years without a 'lost time accident'.

The fast growing industrial services company employs over 1,000 people working on industrial, construction and marine projects throughout the UK and Ireland, frequently at height. It also provides access equipment for its customers.



A typical job for a Pyeroy employee, painting a beam in the ceiling of a large hall

Over the past 18 months Pyeroy says it has enhanced its investment in training, with an emphasis on 'behavioural safety training' designed to enhance its safety ethos and encourage people to take more personal responsibility for on-site safety.

Hugh Pelham, managing director, said: "Health and safety is of paramount importance and our investment is paying dividends in enabling us to consistently achieve a high standard of safe working standards on-site across all areas of our business."

"Customers will also see the value of the safety practices in place, which can help to prevent injuries, improve the long term health of our workforce and avoid on-site accidents from occurring."

C&A

training



John Ball presents the A-Plant training award

IPAF Iapa training awards

UK based A-Plant won the first IPAF/Iapa Access Industry Training award, while the Best marketing campaign for IPAF training went to

Camillo Vismara of Switzerland and the IPAF instructor of the year was won by Mauro Potrich of CTE, Italy.

Training award for Lavendon

Lavendon Access Services (UK) has won this year's Hire Association of Europe's 'Excellence in Training' Award.

One of the areas that the judging panel identified as key to winning the award was the Lavendon Access Services Academy in Lutterworth, Leicestershire. The Academy is responsible for welcoming new employees to the company, along with the ongoing development of over 900 staff through a suite of courses and projects.

Mentor gains first LEEA accreditation

Training company Mentor has become the first training company to have a two day lifting and slinging course accredited by the Lifting Equipment Engineers Association (LEEA)

Following the recent launch of the LEEA "Accredited Training Companies" scheme, Mentor was

keen to ensure that its two day course met the exacting requirements of the scheme. After a thorough audit the LEEA awarded Mentor with the first accreditation for a course under the new scheme.



Who trained him then?

Spotted in Montreal, Canada recently not quite what is meant by using a van mounted access platform. Note the second ladder just prior to the photo being taken a second man was working on the other step ladder.



New IPAF training centres

The following UK based companies gained their IPAF training centre accreditation in May:

• Wakefield, Yorkshire, based **Horizon Platforms** which also gained Rental Plus status.
• The Doncaster depot of **Peter Hird & Sons**, which also achieved IPAF Rental Plus status.

• The Bradford depot of **Caledonian Access** has become the first of the company's locations to achieve IPAF training centre accreditation.