

Entries wanted for the International Awards for Powered Access 2010 in London

Entries are now open for the International Awards for Powered Access (IAPAs) 2010. The awards dinner will be held alongside the IPAF Summit on 25th March 2010 at The Grange St. Paul's Hotel in London.

The awards celebrate and reward best practice and are open to all companies, not just IPAF members, although there are three awards for IPAF members only, - the New IPAF Training Centre of the Year, The IPAF Instructor of the Year and the Best Marketing Campaign for IPAF Training.

The other categories are:

- IPAF Safety Champion of the Year
- The Access Rental Company of the Year
- The Access International New Product of the Year

- Contribution to Safe Working at Height - Rental Company
- Contribution to Safe Working at Height - Equipment End User
- Contribution to Safe Working at Height - Manufacturer
- Mast Climbing Work Platform Achievement Award
- Access Industry Training Award
- Access Industry Sustainability Award
- IPAF/Access International Lifetime Achievement Award

New course for Push Around Verticals

A new course for the category Push Around Vertical (PAV) will be offered by IPAF-approved training centres in the UK from January 2010, in response to market developments and the need for appropriate training on this rapidly growing sector. Push Around Verticals are essentially small, simple static vertical machines. However, unlike Static Verticals (IPAF category 1a), they are physically pushed around.



Push around verticals are becoming a popular option for low-level access.

"We expect the new course, which was developed following extensive industry consultation, to be popular with contractors and the non-construction sector that use this type of equipment for low-level access work," said Rupert Douglas-Jones, IPAF international training manager. Equipment covered includes models with no drive produced by companies such as Genie, JLG, Pop-Up, Power Tower, Upright and Youngman.

The half-day course covers both theory and practice. Operators trained in the categories Static Vertical (1a), Mobile Vertical (3a) or Scissor Lift (old IPAF category SL) will also be able to use a Push Around Vertical after being familiarised with the specific machine.

Regional meetings go down well

IPAF members, and some non-members, are discovering that the federation offers a lot more than training. Around 50 people attended the second regional meeting in the Midlands in mid-October. The audience heard an excellent presentation by Mark Blundy, health and safety director of Bowmer & Kirkland, focusing on the customer's perspective. Blundy took the opportunity to share real-life experiences with professionals from the powered

access industry. Peter Douglas of Nationwide Platforms chaired the meeting and was the driving force behind it.

The next regional meeting will be held on 21st January at the Ramada Encore Haydock in the North West. Plans are underway for a South East meeting in Essex in the new year. Details at www.ipaf.org/events



C&a

IPAF focus

The Grange St. Paul's Hotel in the heart of London City is the venue for the 2010 IPAF Summit and International Awards for Powered Access.

IPAF managing director Tim Whiteman said: "We are confident that the second IAPAs will repeat the success of the first awards in Dublin. We urge everyone in the access business - manufacturers, distributors, rental companies and training organisations - to consider submitting an entry for the 2010 awards."

Companies and individuals can enter themselves or nominate others, submit entries for more than one award, and more than one entry per category. There is no charge for

entering. Entries must be for work done in 2009 and the deadline is 31st December. The judging panel will be announced shortly.

Entries must be submitted in English on the official entry forms, available in Word format at www.ipaf.org/iapa where you will also find information on sponsorship, dinner bookings and the venue. Those wishing to attend the event should book hotel rooms early to qualify for special rates.

What to do when emergency lowering systems fail

IPAF has produced guidance on rescue planning in the unlikely event that emergency lowering systems fail.

Under normal circumstances, built-in back-up systems allow the operator to lower the platform under controlled conditions. It is extremely unusual for these systems to fail.

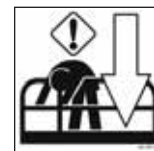
However, in the event of unexpected failure, the following standard operating procedure can be used:

- Ensure that all normal emergency lowering procedures have been activated.
- Contact the site manager to report failure of back-up emergency lowering systems and request engineering back-up.
- If, after inspection by the engineer, it is not possible to carry out a repair to lower the platform, the site manager must be contacted for

permission to carry out basket to basket rescue.

The guidance includes an example emergency rescue plan with proposed action for specific emergency situations. Rescue plans should be compiled in order to comply with current legislation and should be brought to the notice

of those working at height and those supervising and managing the same work at height. The guidance can be found at the Publications section of www.ipaf.org



This decal may be used to signpost the location of emergency descent controls on machines.



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