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High turnout for IPAF Summit and Awards dinner

The IPAF Summit and Awards dinner were held on 25th March 2010 in London, as this magazine went to press. At last count, more than 200 delegates were registered for the IPAF Summit, while more than 400 guests were expected for the IAPAs ceremony and dinner.

The IPAF AGM held earlier that day saw the election of a new president for a two-year term. Also up for vote was a resolution to convert IPAF Ltd into a society registered under the UK Industrial and Provident Societies Act 1965. This will bring the benefits of harmonising IPAF's rules and constitution, allowing greater protection for reserves, while improving tax efficiency.



Regional meetings prove popular

IPAF continues its successful series of UK regional meetings with the first one in South East England hosted by Alistair Jordan of Rapid Platforms.

It was a good meeting with approximately 45 attendees. Presentations were made by IPAF president John Ball, Geoff Frackleton of the Health & Safety Executive and Chris Buisseret of Rapid Platforms.



Training figures brightened by international growth

IPAF issued 67,744 UK PAL Cards (Powered Access Licences) in 2009, 11.4 percent fewer than in 2008. On a brighter note, the decline in the UK was partly compensated by a 46.5 percent increase in PAL Cards issued in markets outside the UK (10,466 in 2009).

IPAF takes training solutions to ARA Rental Show

It was a busy time for IPAF and its North American subsidiary AWPT at the ARA Rental Show, where AWPT offered managers three concrete training solutions: 'Get your employees trained by an AWPT-approved training centre', 'Become an AWPT-approved training centre', or 'Get first-class training material'.

The event also saw the launch of a landmark US-based document that defines what operator training is necessary and to what standards that training should be provided.

The *Statement of Best Practices of General Training and Familiarisation for Aerial Work Platform Equipment* is a first-of-its-kind industry initiative to clarify what is required for general training and model-specific familiarisation of AWP equipment. It was developed for use in the US and is based on ANSI standards.

The document was launched by: the American Rental Association (ARA), the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM), the Associated Equipment Distributors (AED), the International Powered Access Federation (IPAF) and the Scaffold Industry Association (SIA). A copy can be downloaded from the Publications section of www.ipaf.org



Europlatform bookings open

The Europlatform conference on the theme of "Renting Smart" will take place on 16th September 2010 at the Hotel Eurostars Madrid Tower in Spain.

The conference will be held in English, with simultaneous translation into Spanish. A reception will take place on the evening of 16 September, immediately after the conference. Details on registration and getting to the venue are at www.europlatform.info



Dutch IPAF

A meeting was held in Holland to discuss the formation of an IPAF Dutch County Council. This would offer more services to local members, boost membership in the country, while providing a local networking opportunity and encourage existing members to play a more active role within IPAF. Over 50 companies - both manufacturers and rental companies - both members and non-members representing over 75 percent of the Dutch aerial lift fleet, attended at the event held at the premises of Kemp Hoogwerkers in Meern.



Elevating the art of access

A new show called ELEVarte (the art of elevation) is being organised in Spain to let visitors experience powered access equipment in a fun and relaxed environment. ELEVarte will take place from 17 to 18 September 2010 in Madrid at the exhibition grounds El Olivar - Alcalá de Henares. It is jointly organised by IPAF and Movicarga. ELEVarte follows directly on from the Europlatform conference. Details are at www.elevarte.es



IPAF-Basel has moved

IPAF's Swiss office has moved from its former serviced office to self-contained premises. The new details are:

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Dufourstrasse 11
CH-4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 (0)61 227 9000
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at Moss End in Cumbria that will be more suitable for delivering the services that members require. Watch for full new details at www.ipaf.org



The IPAF head office in the UK is also moving soon to new purpose-built premises



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