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Judith Hackitt opens PASMA HQ

Judith Hackitt, chairman of the UK's Health and Safety Executive, has officially opened the new headquarters of PASMA. Situated in the commercial heart of Glasgow, 7 Newton Place is the association's first permanent headquarters and is home to its eight strong secretariat.

Unveiling a plaque to mark the occasion she recalled her time as director general of the Chemical Industries Association (CIA) and acknowledged the contribution of PASMA and trade associations in general to advancing safety and best practice.

In particular, Hackitt highlighted the long time cooperation between HSE and PASMA and the work of the association in promoting competency when working at

height. She commented: "PASMA is a good example of what can be achieved when regulator and trade body work together to improve standards and develop a culture of safety and excellence."

Responding on behalf of the association, PASMA managing director, Peter Bennett, said: "PASMA has always valued its relationship with the HSE and continues to do so. It remains a key partner in helping us to serve



Judith Hackitt and Peter Bennett at the unveiling of the plaque celebrating the opening of PASMA's new HQ



PASMA Council Members (L-R) Paul Gallacher, Kevin Bellis, Brian Meadmore, Peter Bond, Colin Wright and Paul Pritchard.



Judith Hackitt with guests on the front steps of PASMA's new HQ at 7 Newton Place, Glasgow.

both our members and the industry at large, and in promoting and encouraging the safe and proper use of access equipment for working at height."

One of the fastest growing trade associations in the work at height sector, PASMA has made considerable progress in the last 18 months. Celebrating its 35th birthday in 2009, it moved into its

own premises, took over full-time responsibility for the secretariat, appointed its first technical manager and trained more than 50,000 delegates in the safe use of mobile access towers in that year alone.

The opening was attended by members of the PASMA Council, past and present officers, staff and invited guests from all over the UK.



PASMA Team (L-R) Christine Shepherd, Stuart Hopkins, Karen O'Neill, Jill Couttie, Chris Smith, Lynn Couttie, Susie MacFarlane and Don Aers.

Strategic partnership

The Association for Project Safety (APS) and the Access Industry Forum (AIF) - of which PASMA is a member - have announced an agreement to provide mutual advice and assistance and, in particular, to act as strategic partners with regard to construction health and safety risk management and working at height respectively.

The aim of the agreement is to provide advice and assistance to each other's organisations and respective members by recognising and benefiting from each other's knowledge and skill base.

Diary dates

Working at Height Knowledge Base and Access Village at Safety & Health Expo, 11 - 13 May 2010, at the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham.

More information at www.accessindustryforum.org.uk

PASMA Annual General Meeting at Moxhull Hall Hotel, West Midlands, 13th July 2010. More information at www.pasma.co.uk

Wanted Southern regional auditor

PASMA is looking for a Southern Regional Auditor for the South of England, including Greater London, see the advert in the recruitment section of this magazine.

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