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How to identify non-compliant aerial lifts

The FEM Product Group for MEWPs, for which IPAF is the secretariat, has published a brief guide to identify any non-compliant aerial work platforms. All MEWPs placed on the European market have to comply with the Machinery Directive 98/37/EC, and since 29 December 2009, its amended version 2006/42/EC.

What are the items to look out for? All lifts placed on the EU market must clearly and permanently identify the machine and manufacturer in one of the languages of the Community, and

include the CE mark, serial number and year of construction. They must be accompanied by a declaration of conformity that shows which EU directives the machine complies with. Instructions on safe use and markings/warnings must accompany each machine and they must be in the language of the member state where the machine is placed on the market or put into service.

Full details are in the FEM brief guide for identification of non-compliant MEWPs, which can be downloaded from the Resources/Reference Guides section of www.ipaf.org

Summit and IAPAs date: 29 March 2012 in Rome

Online bookings are now open for the IPAF Summit and International Awards for Powered Access (IAPAs), to be held on 29 March 2012 at the Sheraton Roma Hotel in Rome, Italy. Visit www.iapa-summit.info to register for the free IPAF Summit and to book your ticket to the awards ceremony and dinner.

The IPAF Networking Event will take place on the evening of 28th March at the Centrale Ristotheatre. Join your colleagues and business associates for a relaxed evening of discussion and entertainment at this beautifully restored setting in the heart of Rome. This event is open to all IPAF members and those holding a ticket for the IAPA awards dinner. Register in advance at www.iapa-summit.info



November sets monthly record for PAL Cards

November was a record month for IPAF with 10,128 PAL Cards (Powered Access Licences) issued, breaking the 10,000 barrier for the first time. IPAF chief executive Tim Whiteman thanked all those who contributed to making the PAL Card so successful, noting that this voluntary programme relies on the high quality service provided to keep the demand growing.



More than 10,000 PAL Cards were issued in a month for the first time.

Europlatform 2012 in Edinburgh

The next Europlatform access rental conference will be held on 20th September 2012 in Edinburgh, Scotland. The one-day conference is targeted at senior and middle managers of rental companies.

The theme and speakers will be announced in due course. Watch for details at www.europlatform.info or register your interest by sending an e-mail to info@europlatform.info



Time and Tide site manager Craig Halliwell says that IPAF's MEWPs for Managers course has changed the way he works and thinks.

MEWPs for Managers course changes site manager!

IPAF's MEWPs for Managers course has changed the way he works and thinks, says site manager Craig Halliwell of the Time and Tide group.

"The course covers everything managers need to know about using MEWPs on site," said Halliwell. "It makes you totally aware of every possible danger. I now pay more attention to planning and control, and doing the risk assessment. I am more aware of the need to select the right machine and to walk the route, for instance."

Halliwell was sponsored by IPAF to take the MEWPs for Managers course at Lutterworth-based Nationwide Platforms, as part of the Federation's efforts to encourage best practice. Halliwell is currently supervising a building project opposite the IPAF head office in Cumbria.

"It is a really good course, well put together, and well-mixed with lots of relevant information and hands-on exercises," said Halliwell. "There are courses where you sit in and they seem to drag on. MEWPs for Managers gets you totally involved and thinking about safety. My fellow students from a major contractor and I thoroughly enjoyed it."

Halliwell passed the written test and obtained a MEWPs for Managers certificate.

The one-day course is about planning, supervising and managing the use of powered access, and not about operating equipment. It is offered by selected IPAF-approved training centres. To find a training centre near you, use the training centre locator at www.ipaf.org

North West regional meeting

IPAF's 4th North West regional meeting will be held on 1st February 2012 at 18:00 at the Best Western Hotel Smokies Park, Ashton Road, Bardsley, Oldham, Lancashire OL8 3HX.

IPAF regional meetings are an informal opportunity to learn about the industry and to meet colleagues and business associates. They are open to members and non-members. They usually feature a couple of presentations on issues of interest to the industry and end with networking over a buffet supper for which there is a nominal charge. Book your place at www.ipaf.org/events



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