

Are **YOU** working **SAFELY** at height?



Heightmaster

Raising Standards

At Heightmaster we're specialists in raising standards. We provide training, advice and consultancy to enable people to work safely at height.

We offer a wide range of operator and demonstrator courses to individuals and companies across the UK. All our courses are certificated by appropriate accrediting bodies such as **IPAF** and **PASMA**.

- Powered Access
- Mobile Access Towers
- Low Level Access
- Safety Harness & Work Restraint
- Work at Height & Risk Assessment
- Safety Wear & Equipment

Join the Heightmaster Team -

We are currently recruiting training instructors to augment our expanding training division. If you have proven experience and hold **IPAF/PASMA** instructor accreditation, contact Keith Barnett at the Heightmaster office.

Start working safely at height today by contacting the **Heightmaster Training Team**.



Tel: 08700 771709

Email: training@heightmaster.uk.com

Web: www.heightmaster.uk.com

Risk assessment is the key

The HSE has emphasised the importance of proper planning and selection of equipment for all work at height, following requests from some contractors for guidance in implementing the Work at Height Regulations.

"With any kit, I would expect people to have had training so they understand how it is supposed to be used," said HSE inspector Justine Lee. "There is the perception that if someone uses a ladder and things go wrong, they'll be automatically criticised by the HSE, and that isn't the case. The WAHRs have been written in such a way to allow ladders to be used in certain circumstances. It's about doing the risk assessment, referring to the work at height hierarchy and then selecting the right equipment." Full article in the IPAF Powered Access Review.

MEWPs for managers

The one-day course was developed with the HSE and is available from selected IPAF training centres.

"We cover everything a manager should know about planning, selecting and preparing for the use of MEWPs, from paperwork to logistics," said Chris Buisseret, vice-chairman of the IPAF Training Committee and who was instrumental in developing the course. "This includes



The new course stresses the importance of machine familiarisation, as well as pre-use checks and daily maintenance

regulations, accident prevention and control, risk assessment, and looking at the various types of MEWPs available and what they are best suited for." Find your nearest centre at ipaf.org

Mastclimber course revamped

IPAF has revised its mast climbing work platform (MCWP) course to offer a consistent, international and harmonised training programme.

"The MCWP course was revised to allow for local regulations to be inserted with ease," said Cameron Reid, chairman of the IPAF MCWP (UK & Ireland) Committee. "The terminology was internationalised; there are no specific references to manufacturers or their unique machine requirements. We have presented the course as a best practice guide."

While the old course had six modules, the new course has 28 smaller, bite-sized, simplistic modules that are easy to deliver and assess. MCWP training covers the categories of Mobile Operator, Demonstrator, Installer and Advanced Installer,

each leading to the award of a PAL Card (Powered Access Licence). The User category does not require the issuing of a PAL Card. This is essentially an induction course that is conducted by a certified demonstrator. Users, those who work on MCWPs, are not required to have specific certification, other than a clear understanding of the machine's operating controls.



Trainees go through the paces on an MCWP course

Harness stickers spread safety message

Too many accidents happen for want of a harness, says IPAF. The federation has joined hands with the organisers of SED 2007 to produce 50,000 stickers with this simple message: "Wear a full body harness with a short lanyard in boom type platforms."

"Powered access is one of the safest ways of working at height and yet every year people die for want of following this simple message," said IPAF managing director Tim Whiteman. "If you work with platforms or have them on your site, help us to get this message to the right people. Or on a practical note, stick it next to the controls of a boom type machine – you really could save a life."



Free stickers and copies of IPAF's technical guidance note H1 on the correct use of harnesses in platforms can be obtained by e-mailing info@ipaf.org

IPAF MD elected to SIA Board

Signalling increased cooperation between IPAF/AWPT and the US-based Scaffold Industry Association (SIA), Tim Whiteman, managing director of IPAF, was recently elected to SIA's Board of Directors.

Whiteman has also been named chairman of the European Rental Association's Statistics Committee. The group is charged with investigating the total size of the European rental market and developing information that will help provide direction for its membership.

Read all about it in the IPAF Powered Access Review

The federation's annual journal, the IPAF Powered Access Review, is now available, featuring a discussion with the HSE and health and safety professionals from major contractors on work at height responsibilities, articles on training, rentals and safety, plus a full training centre directory. Free copies can be obtained from the UK office or you can download a copy from www.ipaf.org



Access Summit focuses on management responsibilities

Next year's IPAF Summit will focus on how site management responsibilities have changed since the implementation of the Work at Height Regulations. The Summit will be held on 27 March 2007 at Whittlebury Hall in Northamptonshire. To book rooms, call Whittlebury Hall at 01327 857857 and quote the booking reference number 12939 for a preferential rate. Full programme details will be available at www.ipaf.org



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