

General Meeting manufacturers/ service companies

ALLMI held its second General Meeting of 2012 for manufacturer/service company members on December 4th. Members were updated on a range of issues, including increases in operator and Thorough Examination training levels, membership growth, Whole Vehicle Type Approval and the development of ALLMI's Crane Supervisor Course.

ALLMI chairman, Mark Rigby, said: "The meeting was well attended and we received a wide range of questions and comments from members, which generated some interesting discussions throughout the day. We came away with valuable feedback which will help us focus the association's efforts on the important industry issues in 2013."

New company secretary for ALLMI

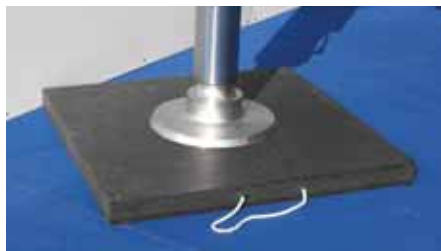
Lee Maynard of Terex Cranes has taken over as ALLMI company secretary, following the resignation of Andrew Taylor who has served ALLMI in various roles for over 13 years. "Andrew has done an outstanding job as secretary, as well as being extremely dedicated to numerous other positions over the years. His input and commitment will be sorely missed by the Board, but I'm very keen to build upon his excellent work and the involvement I've already had as a Director of the Association over the previous six years," said Maynard.



ALLMI chairman, Mark Rigby added: "We are extremely fortunate to have such vibrant and committed board members; we wish Andrew the very best in his future endeavours and know that Lee will continue his exceptional work and high standards."

Ground conditions and stabiliser pads

On 27th November, ALLMI held its second General Meeting of the year for its Operators' Forum, providing fleet owner members with a comprehensive update of the technical and legislative issues currently affecting the industry. ALLMI also launched its new "Terms & Conditions for a Lifting Operation using a Lorry Loader" and included a presentation on ground conditions and stabiliser pads, by Mike Allanson of Universal Crane Mats. "It was a case of exploring the subject of specifying stabiliser mat sizes and some of the common misconceptions which can occur when doing so. I also addressed the considerations which need to be made when assessing what is required which led to some interesting discussions on what is a topical issue for the industry", said Allanson.



Reminder: Pad Size Calculator available from ALLMI. A template spreadsheet is available to help determine minimum stabiliser foot/pad size requirements



Helping companies comply with PUWER 9.2

In 2010, ALLMI released a range of one-day courses for managers designed to assist companies in complying with their legal obligations under PUWER (Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations) 9.2:

"Every employer shall ensure that any of his employees who supervises or manages the use of work equipment has received adequate training for purposes of health and safety, including training in the methods which may be adopted when using the work equipment, any risks which such use may entail and precautions to be taken."

The association has experienced a significant increase in demand for the courses, which are available for the subjects of thorough examination and load testing, duties and responsibilities of the Appointed Person, lorry loader operation and slinging/signalling.

Steve Collins, operations manager for Rushlift, recently attended a thorough examination course: "The course for managers is an abbreviated version of the standard thorough examination and load test training that our engineers will be going through. It covers the main aspects of thorough examinations and load testing and provided me with an even better understanding of the technical and legislative issues relating to this subject, whilst at the same time, my completion of the course allows our company to demonstrate that it is further complying with the requirements of PUWER 9.2. In my opinion, it was extremely worthwhile and I would recommend it to other managers who have responsibilities in this area."

ALLMI launches Terms & Conditions

ALLMI members can now access the 'Terms & Conditions for a Lifting Operation using a Lorry Loader' document and support material via the ALLMI website. Further educational tools are available in the form of an online video and forthcoming CPD events.

ALLMI technical director, Alan Johnson, who chairs the working group responsible for the document, said: "The launch has been well received and it is now down to members implementing the Terms & Conditions within their businesses and using the facility on the ALLMI website to provide us with any feedback. We are confident that the Terms & Conditions will soon be established as the benchmark for the lorry loader industry and will become recognised as a guarantee of best practice and added value."

Loader crane sales on the increase

ALLMI's latest market statistics report indicates that the UK loader crane industry continues to strengthen, with the figures showing a significant increase in sales compared to last year.

