

CPA focus

This is the first of a regular crane technical and information page by the UK's Construction Plant-Hire Association – the CPA.

Replacement parts for tower cranes

Another example of CPA's on-going technical work is a new Technical Information Note 'Specification and Verification of Replacement Components for Tower Cranes'. Development of this was prompted by a recent incident involving a replacement trolley motor/brake assembly supplied by a tower crane manufacturer.

The CPA is publishing an updated Technical Information Note on the verification and checking of tower crane replacement parts.



The component was installed on the crane and the air gap on the brake release mechanism checked in accordance with the crane manufacturer's manual. Unfortunately the brake torque was incorrectly set by the brake manufacturer and had not been checked by the crane manufacturer before dispatch to the tower crane owner. When the rated load was lifted and moved out to its maximum radius, the brake did not have sufficient torque to hold the trolley and it continued to move out until the load hit an obstruction causing a significant overload to the crane.

When ordering parts for Tower Cranes they must meet the original specification of the manufacturer, be correctly configured and thoroughly checked.

Obtaining more information

The revised versions of **Rescue of Personnel from Height on Tower Cranes** and **Specification and Verification of Replacement Components for Tower Cranes** are due to be published by the CPA in February, and will be available to download from the CPA website at www.cpa.uk.net. The Tower Crane Interest Group will also hold an Open Meeting on 21st March at Wyboston Lakes conference centre, St Neots.



Revised CPA guidance 'Rescue of Personnel from Height on Tower Cranes'

The Tower Crane Interest Group of the Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA) has updated a Technical Information Note on the 'Rescue of Personnel from Tower Cranes' which was last revised in 2010. The revision was prompted by discussions between the group and the Fire and Rescue Services about the levels of support available from local services.

The scheme allows PASMA's accredited training centres to use the association's Facebook page to post details of any last minute places available on their respective training courses, giving those who need to be trained, a reliable single source for locating the most convenient PASMA course across the country.

By offering a trusted, last minute service online, the association hopes to help as wide an audience as possible to find the best training and understand the dangers of working at height.

PASMA training committee chairman Ian Fyall said: "We believe it's important to continue to press forward with new ways of delivering training to those who need it, especially the micro, small and medium sized companies that have traditionally been the hardest to reach with the safety message."

The online scheme is the latest in a series of moves the association has made to embrace new media. Since creating a new social media role within the organisation last year, PASMA now updates its online channels daily and regularly produces multimedia content such as online videos. Through this scheme and future projects, the association plans to continue to be at the vanguard in using technology to widen the safety message.