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HSE incident analysis reports: Entrapment risks being addressed

The UK Health & Safety Executive (HSE) recently published two reports focusing on aerial lifts: *RR961 Mobile elevated work platform incident analysis* and *RR960 Mobile elevated work platforms – Phase 3*.

The reports examine known fatal and serious accidents reported, in an attempt to identify actions that need to be taken to address the potential for sustained involuntary operation of controls and entrapment/crushing. IPAF welcomed the reports and notes that industry is also examining causation factors. Following the Strategic Forum's Best Practice Guidance for MEWPs: *Avoiding Trapping/Crushing Injuries to People in the Platform*, IPAF has produced and distributed guidance on the selection of anti-entrapment devices. IPAF's accident reporting database, updates to the IPAF MEWPs for Managers course, the launch of the PAL+ advanced operator course for those working in challenging environments, and research being undertaken by the IPAF Manufacturers' Technical Committee into the functionality of aerial lift controls are all measures being taken to address the risk of entrapment.



Guidance on anti-entrapment is available at www.ipaf.org

Environmental issues and aerial lifts

IPAF members now have access to a collection of resources on environmental and sustainability issues relating to the powered access industry at the members only area of www.ipaf.org.

Documents currently featured include sample environmental policy statements, pollution prevention guidelines, and an explanation of the Non Road Mobile Machinery Directive 97/68/EC with regards to exhaust emissions and how to recognise what category of engine is fitted to a particular work platform.

Visit the IPAF Safety Experience at bauma

The IPAF Safety Experience at bauma will feature a walk-through learning experience on how to use powered access equipment safely and effectively.

The IPAF stand N1115 in the outdoor area will highlight the "Spread the load" campaign promoting the correct use of spreader plates, share results and findings from the accident reporting database and provide a meeting point for members. Please do visit us!



IPAF instructor officer Margaret Caton retires



Margaret Caton has provided guidance and support to many IPAF instructors during her years of service to the Federation.

Margaret Caton, IPAF instructor administration officer, will retire at the end of March after more than 15 years of dedicated service to IPAF. Caton joined IPAF in July 1997, when there were just four employees: former managing director Paul Adorian, Jean Harrison, Sue Heath, who retired in June 2009, and her.

That year just 3,266 cards were issued. There were 14 training centres and around

15 to 20 instructors, all based in the UK. The introduction of the plastic yellow PAL Card (Powered Access Licence) saw the programme take off in 1998, with 5,636 cards issued that year. "Our greatest asset was the ability to turn cards around within 24 hours," recalls Caton. "People were happy that they got their cards almost immediately and the training programme became very popular. IPAF has grown beyond belief over the years."

Over the years she has taken great satisfaction in providing assistance to IPAF instructors – signing them up, offering guidance and ensuring that their paperwork and documents are in order. "They are a great bunch of guys, without them, the IPAF training programme wouldn't be the success that it is. I'll miss working with the instructors, she added."

IPAF chief executive Tim Whiteman said: "Thank you, Margaret, for all your enthusiasm and effort. You opted to work beyond what was then the official retirement date and gave us support throughout those additional years. I think everybody will agree that you have made a very important contribution to the success of IPAF and will want to join me in wishing you a very happy and enjoyable retirement."

Snorkel presents business plans at IPAF regional meeting

Mark Yarnold, Snorkel's district manager for UK & Ireland, presented Snorkel's business plans for 2013 and beyond, while welcoming attendees to the IPAF North East regional meeting in February.



At the North East regional meeting (left to right): Peter Douglas, Nationwide Platforms; Mark Yarnold, Snorkel; Giles Councill, IPAF; and Martin Wraith, INATIV.

Martin Wraith, operations director of INATIV, provided an overview of the Driver CPC and the requirements of the European

Directive. He looked at training options that employers and employees have to ensure compliance and explained how IPAF training centres can use the IPAF courses to get these accredited as Driver CPC training hours.

IPAF regional meetings are open to both members and non-members, and end with a networking opportunity and light buffet supper. The next regional meeting will be held on 9th May in the West Midlands. Register in advance at www.ipaf.org/events

Safety from the Top

"Safety from the Top" is the theme of this year's IPAF Summit, which is being held with the International Awards for Powered Access (IAPAs) in Miami, Florida on 26th March 2013. Details at www.ipa-summit.info