

Miami IPAF

In late March, the International Powered Access Federation - IPAF - held its Annual General Meeting, Summit and Awards dinner in Miami, Florida, the first time the events have been held outside of Europe. The timing during Easter week probably deterred a number of potential attendees, while proving an attraction for others. One thing is certain it did attract a large number of first-time delegates, most of them from North America.

The Summit included presentations from a number of high level speakers, including chief executives from Terex - Ron Defeo, United Rentals - Michael Kneeland - and NES Rentals - Andy Studdert - along with Jordan Barab deputy assistant secretary of labor for OSHA and Sérgio Kariya - director of Brazil's Mills Rental among others and certainly the most illustrious the event has ever seen.

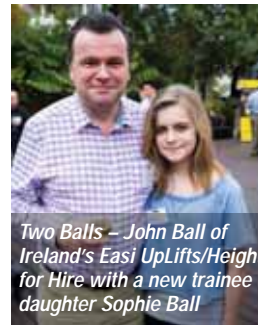
The photo album is smaller than in previous years however we have kept to our tradition and added the odd tongue-in cheek caption here and there. We apologise in advance if any of them offend - it is certainly not our intention.

Next year's summit will be back in Europe and is scheduled for April 3rd at a venue in Windsor, not far from Heathrow airport, within visiting distance of the famous castle.

But let's take a look at his year's event. The festivities kicked off with an evening networking event - hosted by UK-based manufacturer Niftylift - for those arriving the evening before.



A bit of team building between Bernie Morel and JLG Italia's Roberto Marangoni



Two Balls - John Ball of Ireland's Easi UpLifts/Height for Hire with a new trainee daughter Sophie Ball



A happy sponsor - John Keely of Niftylift



The balmy weather was perfect for the outdoor networking event



A thorn between two roses - Jo Wood, Tim Whiteman and Karina Mireles of IPAF highlighting the fact that the Federation also kicked off its 30th anniversary celebrations at the event



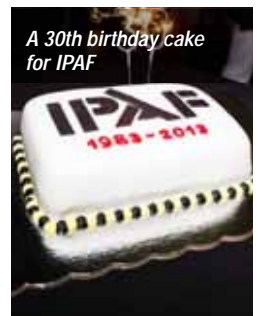
"Smile hard Karel and he will go away" Karel Huijsel of JLG Europe and Antonio Gomez de la Vega of RiRent



As the evening wore on more people arrived



Andy Studdert and Bill Doucette of NES Rentals



A 30th birthday cake for IPAF



Two Wraiths and a Parker get a little rowdy - Martin Wraith of INATIV, Chris Wraith of IPAF and Brian Parker of AFI UpLift



"Psst ... Karina - some man has just put his chin on my shoulder - I am afraid to look. Keep smiling." Karina Mireles and Jo Wood of IPAF with Photo Bomber Rafael Bazzarella of Skyjack.



North South co-operation - Norty Turner of Riwal with Marzia Giusto of Nacanco, Italy and Macarena Garcia Oliver from Spanish magazine Movicarga



"Careful" glasses are raised to toast who knows what



"The sun has got to him" – John Keely of Niftylift with Barry Brady of Elavation, Tim Ward of Niftylift and Mani Gonzalez of Elavation



"Come on now what'll you give me for it?" Morris Draper of Georgia based Area Work Platform Inspection gets animated



Terex and the press - Scott Owyen, Guy Ramsey of Maximum Capacity Media, Melinda Smith and Harrison Jenkins of Terex AWP

The Summit



The Summit covered a wide range of subjects



(L-R) Wayne Lawson passes the President's chain of office to Steve Couling in the presence of Tim Whiteman



"Well what have we here?" Ebbe Christensen of Reachmaster makes a point



"Get that camera out of here!" Giles Councill gives the look



"Ah so you are the famous Jean?" Martin Voegtli of Switzerland's SkyAccess meets IPAF's Jean Harrison



Ron Defeo's talk 'Keep it personal' was one of the best attended of the day



"Let me see now hash tag....." Outgoing president Wayne Lawson gives his review of the year, while Tim Whiteman tweets and incoming president Steve Couling waits his turn



Audience questions were often animated – Arjen Snijder of Riwal and Harry McArdle (below) of Easi UpLifts



"OMG... What have I let myself in for?" incoming president Steve Couling awaits his appointment



"Now look here you I'll have no nonsense while I'm president!" Steve Couling addresses the Summit as president.



Michael Kneeland of United Rentals gave his view of how the rental company of the future will look

The Dinner



"I'm watching you buddy" newly appointed President Steve Couling has a few words and watches for hecklers



The awards dinner



"It could use a little samba to liven things up" Sergio Karyia of Mills with Rafael Cardoso of Genie South America and Marcelo Tamani of Mills



"I tell you it was massive" Steve Smith of Edge International looks on in bemusement as Shane Nickel of Reachcraft spins a yarn



Checking out the unions - Ron Defeo talks to Rich Toth and John Nesta of the Sheet Metal Workers 33 - Cleveland district - winner of the best new IPAF training centre award



"I can't tell you how happy I am to hand over" outgoing IPAF president Wayne Lawson announces the Training Instructor of the Year award

C&a IPAF summit



"Oh Oh!" Rolf Kulawik (R) of Ruthmann gives a worried look as Mikhail Malvinsky of LTECH of Russia gets all chummy



"Double Blarney" Frank and Harry McArdle of Height For Hire/Easi UpLifts



"Is this mine or yours?" Jan Denks of Bronto (L) accepts the Photo of the Year award from David Smith of Snorkel on behalf of Paul TynanTynan



Erhan Acar (L) of Acarlar Makine and Farouk Aksoy general secretary of IMDER - the Turkish association of equipment distributors and manufacturers



The award winners

GOING UP IN THE WORLD

A history of Simon Engineering, the development of the powered access industry and a lifetime as an engineer, by Denis Ashworth

Ashworth was a keen engineer and from an early age found himself in at the very start of the modern powered access industry.

His book is an unusual combination of autobiography and history of Simon Engineering Dudley, a pioneer of the powered access industry and at one time, the world's largest manufacturer of aerial lifts.

The coffee table sized book, is highly readable and includes around 150 photographs and drawings from the very beginning of the industry. It is a 'must read' for anyone who is interested in powered access, the hydraulic equipment industry or in comparing modern day engineering challenges with those of an entirely different era.

The book is available direct from the publishers at £19.50, plus £4.50 postage and packing.

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