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New guidance on pavement licences

PASMA has published guidance notes and an application form for use when applying for a licence to assemble and use a mobile access tower on a public highway (Highways Act 1980 - Section 169).

The guidance produced in consultation with the Health & Safety Executive, the Highway Authority and the National Traffic Managers Forum, was launched at this year's Safety & Health Expo at the NEC and included a talk on the topic by PASMA's technical director, Don Aers, in the Access Industry Forum's (AIF) Working at Height Knowledge Base. A video of the talk will shortly be available to view at www.pasma.co.uk

The Highways Act 1980 requires scaffolding placed on a public highway - even temporarily - to be licenced. This requirement extends to mobile access towers and the application form allows those planning to use a tower to formally apply for such a licence. For the purposes of the form, a highway can be considered any place where the public have a right to pass,



regardless of whether it is publicly maintained - for example, carriageways, pavements, footpaths and verges. The form covers, amongst other things:

- The details of those responsible for managing and using the tower
- The details of any mobile tower contractor involved
- The planned location of the work
- The period of time the licence is required to cover
- Details of the type of tower to be



- used and the nature of the work being carried out
- Technical details including the tower's dimensions, configuration and positioning
- Risk assessments
- Confirmation that all relevant

- documents and proof of competence have been submitted
 - Final confirmation that the applicant accepts the licence's terms and conditions
- For more information visit www.pasma.co.uk

Hot topics and talks at Vertikal Days

Together with PASMA members Euro Towers, Lyte Ladders & Towers and Turner Access, the association is returning for a third consecutive year to Vertikal Days, in order to promote knowledge, safety and best practice and, of course, the latest developments in tower technology and the use of towers in an increasingly wide and varied number of industry sectors. PASMA and its members will also be in a new location - the popular Marketplace.

New for 2013 are a series of informal presentations, including guest speakers, covering topics such as:

- PAS 250: PASMA's new standard for low level access
- Pavement licence: PASMA's new guidance and application form
- The HSE's review of the Work at Height Regulations (by HSE)
- The consequences of a fall from height (by former builder, Paul Blanchard)

The full programme and timetable can be seen at www.pasma.co.uk and www.vertikaldays.net

PASMA AMM 2013

The Annual Members' Meeting (AMM) will take place on Thursday, 27th June, at 14.00 during Vertikal Days. It will be held in the Lancaster Suite, Haydock Park Racecourse, Newton-Le-Willows, Merseyside WA12 OHQ, and will be preceded by an informal, networking lunch starting at 13.00.

In addition to managing director, Peter Bennett, delegates will hear from the outgoing and incoming chairmen, Roger Verallo and Chris Blantern respectively, and the chairman of the technical committee, the training committee and the hire assembly committee. Copies of the 2013 Annual Review will be distributed at the event.

The AMM represents a unique opportunity for members to hear about the work and achievements of the association and its plans for the year ahead. It also provides the chance to catch up with old friends and colleagues. And, of course, the chance to visit the show. For more information email lynn.reid@pasma.co.uk

Find Your Way Around PAS 250

The association has published a new poster 'Find Your Way Around PAS 250 Products'. PAS 250 is PASMA's new standard for low-level work platforms, often called pulpits or podiums, developed in conjunction with the British Standards Institution. Using straightforward illustrations, the poster explains simply and clearly the main points covered by the standard.

The publication of PAS 250 completes PASMA's three-strand approach to improving standards for this type of equipment. It joins an existing half-day training course for prefabricated units less than 2.5 metres in height, and the DVD 'Accidents can happen even at low level'. More details at www.pasma.co.uk

PASMA is currently developing a section on the PASMA website where interested parties can source PAS 250 compliant products.



As a PASMA member, if you have an interesting or unusual story to tell about towers and tower training, please send it to michael.fern@pasma.co.uk