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# AMM looks at PASMA's growth

For the third year running, PASMA held its Annual Members' Meeting at Merseyside's Haydock Park to coincide with Vertikal Days. Taking place on the second day of the exhibition on Thursday, 27th June, the AMM saw presentations from all the PASMA committee chairmen as well as the managing director. Also speaking were both the incoming and outgoing PASMA chairmen.

Reflecting on his time leading the association, retiring chairman Roger Verallo focused on PASMA's growth, saying: "Despite challenging economic conditions, we have managed to increase membership from 250 to 325 in my term of office, and training centres have leapt from 267 to over 400.

"Impressive as these figures are, more impressive again is the number of PASMA cards being produced. In 2009 a record high of 45,000 was reached, with a modest increase to 47,000 in 2010. This

was followed by a most impressive increase to 55,000 in 2011, before reaching a staggering total in excess of 60,000 during 2012."

Incoming chairman Chris Blanter also emphasised PASMA's growth and changes, noting that when his company became a member in the 1990s it was as an associate non-voting member as it was not a manufacturer. He said: "It is a testament to the progress that the association has made in moving forward to be truly representative of the entire mobile access tower



The Annual Members' Meeting drew a very good attendance

industry that I, as the representative of a Hire Assembly member, should be taking the chair."

The Annual Members' Meeting also saw the release of PASMA's 2013 Annual Review. Containing summaries of all of the presentations given at the meeting, the review also outlines PASMA's

marketing efforts over the past 12 months, the courses and products available for purchase and its work with the Access Industry Forum. It also features a page dedicated to the association's recent embracing of technology to improve its communication with delegates and member services.

## Vertikal Days seminars debuted

As well as holding its Annual Members' Meeting at Vertikal Days, the association ran a seminar programme at the exhibition itself. Located in the centre of the popular Marketplace pavilion, this was the first year of the exhibition during which PASMA has offered presentations.

PASMA's technical director, Don Aers, spoke on both days of the exhibition about the new PAS 250 specification for low level access platforms. A number of these podium type products were exhibited, with PASMA members Euro Towers, Lyte Ladders & Towers and Planet Platforms showcasing their products. Euro Towers and Lyte also constructed a tower behind the seminar area.

Aers also discussed the new guidance for pavement licences. The guidance helps those building towers on a public highway (which can include pavements, footpaths, verges or any place the public has a right to pass), clarifying the licencing process required by the law.

Also speaking on behalf of PASMA was Paul Blanchard, who fell through a fragile roof and now discusses his experiences. His powerful talk on the exhibition's second day was the most popular in the PASMA seminar programme.



The PASMA seminars at Vertikal Days were a new feature



Paul Blanchard's presentation was one of the most popular seminars



The PASMA theatre was located at the centre of the popular Marketplace

## SHE seminars free online

At the Safety & Health Expo (SHE) 2013 at the end of May PASMA once again delivered seminars on mobile access tower developments as part of the Access Industry Forum's Knowledge Base. These talks are now available online.

As with the Vertikal Days seminars, PASMA's technical director Don Aers gave presentations at SHE on the new PAS 250 podium specification and the association's new guidance for pavement licences. These developments were spearheaded in large part by PASMA, with the association sponsoring PAS 250 and producing the new pavement licence guidance. The seminars can therefore offer expert advice on both subjects.

These seminars can be found on the 'recent uploads' section of the AIF's YouTube channel ([youtube.com/accessindustryforum](http://youtube.com/accessindustryforum)), and are linked to on the news section of the PASMA site ([pasma.co.uk](http://pasma.co.uk)).

Further SHE 2013 seminars from AIF members, including more from Don Aers focusing on the Ladder Association and a talk by Paul Cook of the HSE on new upcoming guidance, will be uploaded as they become available.



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](mailto:michael.fern@pasma.co.uk)