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Safe Use of Remotes – Campaign Update

As reported in the July issue, following two fatalities in the last few months involving radio remote controls with loader cranes, ALLMI has launched an intensive campaign to raise awareness of the issue and promote the correct and safe use of the equipment. The campaign is now well underway and the association has made a number of tools available to the industry.

The following can be accessed via the ALLMI website:

- A web-based video accessed via the home page - 'Safe Use of Remote Controls'. ALLMI is also happy for industry stakeholders to upload this video to their company websites. If this is of interest, please contact ALLMI for a copy of the required embed code.
- A leaflet aimed at operators and their immediate supervisors (found under 'Guidance Documents' on the website). ALLMI is also offering hard copies of the leaflet to any companies that request it.
- A ready-made toolbox-talk template for use by supervisors and managers (also found under 'Guidance Documents').

ALLMI chief executive Tom Wakefield said: "The reaction to the campaign has been extremely positive. The message has been embraced by all those involved with lorry loaders and the material is being widely used to strengthen and improve working and training practices throughout the industry. However, we are very keen to increase the reach of this information and so urge all recipients of the campaign material to pass it on to customers and colleagues, or to contact us with any ideas they have for raising awareness of this important topic."

The safe use of remote controls leaflet



Gary Critoph receives Operator of the Year Trophy

This year's ALLMI Operator of the Year Competition winner, Gatwick Group's Gary Critoph, has been presented with his trophy by ALLMI technical director Alan Johnson, and received the £250 cash prize.

"It was a great feeling to win the award in what was a very tight competition, and having Alan present the trophy has really brought it home to me. My employer is delighted, because as well as the right to use the Operator of the Year logo, the prize includes a free ALLMI course and so the next step is to decide which of the training programmes to go for" he said.



(L-R) Bob Toon and Gary Critoph of Gatwick Plant with Alan Johnson of ALLMI at the trophy presentation.

Johnson added "The ALLMI scheme is all about the safe and efficient use of lorry loaders and the competition is specifically designed to prove that operating in this way yields the best results. In what was an extremely competitive event this year, with a high standard of operation, Gary did well to finish ahead of his peers and is a worthy winner."

ALLMI to launch Pre-Operational Checks Campaign

ALLMI has announced that it will soon be running an industry-wide campaign to promote the importance of carrying out pre-operational checks.

"The safety of the operator and often other persons is heavily dependent upon the machine being in a safe working condition and so the operator should carry out pre-operational checks at the start of each shift or when taking over the equipment," said ALLMI's Alan Johnson. "Pre-operational checks are a legal requirement and they should cover all aspects of the lorry loader, as well as any attachments and lifting accessories, and of course the relevant documentation. A system should also be in place to ensure that



the checks are recorded and any faults reported, and under no circumstances should a machine be used if it is considered unsafe."

"Whilst ALLMI members are well aware of the importance of this requirement, we feel that there are still areas of the wider industry where practices can be improved and an education process needs to take place. For this reason we will be highlighting the importance of pre-operational checks using a variety of tools, including a pre-operational check sheet for owners and an online video, which will be freely available."

BS7121 Part 2-4 Released

BS7121 Part 2-4 Code of Practice for the Safe Use of Cranes - Inspection, Maintenance and Thorough Examination - Loader Cranes, was released at the end of July. The new Standard contains recommendations and guidance for establishing a comprehensive maintenance and inspection regime, from daily pre-operational checks through to annual thorough examinations and overload testing. BS7121 Part 2-4 is available to purchase from BSI.

ALLMI TV launched

ALLMI TV is a new area of the ALLMI website featuring a range of videos, providing guidance and advice on various aspects of lorry loader use. "In recent years we have produced a wide range of training related videos, so this is a natural progression, which enables website users to find the material in a single, convenient location," said ALLMI's Tom Wakefield."