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...AT THE EXECUTIVE HIRE SHOW 2014
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cranes & access

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Another year... Another record

65,000 people successfully completed PASMA training courses last year, equipping them to use mobile towers and low-level work platforms such as podiums or pulpits safely and productively. In comparison, the association achieved what was then a new record of 45,000 in 2009, a modest increase to 47,000 in 2010 and a step-change increase to 55,000 in 2011. In 2012, training numbers went up yet again reaching just over 60,000 by the end of the year.

Courses on offer from the national network of PASMA approved training centres include the industry standard Towers for Users, Towers for Managers, Low Level Access, Combined Low Level & Towers for Users and Work at Height Essentials. A number of new courses will also be announced during 2014. For more details on PASMA courses visit: www.pasma.co.uk.



PASMA records its highest yearly training numbers

PASMA and SELECT agree partnership

PASMA has entered into a new partnership agreement with Scotland's electrical trade association SELECT in order to make professional tower training more accessible to SELECT's members. Delegates who complete PASMA's working at height training through this partnership will receive a unique PASMA card with the SELECT logo printed on it.

PASMA's managing director, Peter Bennett said: "Electrical contractors work regularly at height. We are delighted that this agreement will benefit both organisations by giving SELECT's contractors an easy route to training and allowing PASMA members to get more involved in an industry that will benefit from their expertise."

Based just outside of Edinburgh, SELECT has some 1,200 member companies covering the whole of Scotland. Acting as the voice of the electrotechnical industry in Scotland it speaks for around 80 percent of electrical contractors ranging from large contractors to one-man operations.



Trade associations PASMA and SELECT have entered into a new partnership agreement.

2014 Exhibition dates

As part of the Access Industry Forum (AIF), PASMA will be represented at a number of health and safety events during 2014. These will include the Health & Safety Event, 11-13th March, at the NEC, Birmingham and the Safety & Health Expo and IOSH Conference, 17-19th June, at ExCeL in East London.

A landmark AIF Working at Height Twitter Symposium is also planned for 2014, where business and industry will have the opportunity to submit questions and queries about all aspects of working at height. These will then be answered by the relevant member organisation of the Forum. The date for this event will be announced later this year.



PAS 250 low level standard

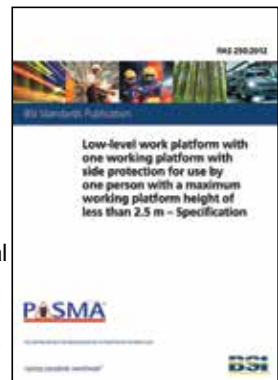
Since the launch of the PASMA-sponsored PAS 250 specification, which has set minimum standards for low-level work platforms to help keep users safe, it has attracted considerable attention.

Until now, designs for low-level work platforms have been developed in the absence of any formal standard, and although many are perfectly safe for use, aspects of some products could be significantly improved by adherence to a properly developed standard.

PAS 250 meets this need, establishing minimum safety and performance criteria for low-level work platforms. Developed by the UK national standards body BSI, PAS 250 has established the requirements for low-level work platforms, including podiums and pulpits. It outlines the requirements for any single-use low-level platforms which have one working platform, side protection, a maximum working height of less than 2.5 metres and a maximum platform capacity of 150kg. The standard also sets out requirements for materials, design loads, dimensions, strength and stability tests, marking and user instructions.

Anne Hayes, head of market development for governance and risk at BSI, said: "Without safety guidelines to follow, there is a risk that an inferior product design may reach the market and end up in the workplace. PAS 250 can safeguard potential users working at height and help minimise accidents in the workplace."

BSI's PAS 250 specification can be obtained from PASMA's online shop.



www.pasma.co.uk

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@asma.co.uk