

# New good practice guide for scaffolding with hoists

CPA's Construction Hoist Interest Group has published a revised 'Good Practice Guide' on 'Transporting Scaffolding in Construction Hoists (Including Transport Platforms)', in conjunction with the National Access and Scaffolding Confederation. The new guidance replaces the original guidance document, published in 2005 and was developed with the HSE and has been approved by the UK Contractors Group.

The original 2005 guidance, although adequate when published, was no longer thought to be the

most practical solution or compliant with the law. The team worked on the project for more than a year and sought wide input in order to produce practical 'user friendly' guidance for industry professionals that could improve safety.

The use of transport platforms and construction hoists to carry scaffolding materials, during the erection or dismantling of scaffolding provides a safer means of lifting these materials than most traditional methods. However, as transport platforms and hoists used for this purpose may not have all the physical safeguards present in a fully installed hoist, there is scope for unsafe use which has led to a number of serious accidents, including some fatalities.

The new publication provides guidance on the planning and safe use of construction hoists and transport platforms to erect/dismantle scaffolding. Transport platforms and hoists used for this purpose are referred to as a "temporary scaffolding transportation system" (TSTS) to



Installing scaffold with a transport platform in an industrial plant

differentiate them from transport platforms and hoists used conventionally. Mastclimbing work platforms and aerial work platforms are excluded from this guide.

When a transport platform or hoist is delivered to site and erected adjacent to scaffolding, it is common practice for the scaffolding contractors to use it to carry scaffold materials as the scaffolding is extended to higher levels. Whilst this is regarded as the safest method of lifting these materials, it is essential that their use for this purpose is effectively planned and supervised. If the correct system is not selected - properly equipped for the purpose, a safe system of work put in place, personnel trained, familiarised, assessed as competent and adequately supervised - the operation may well involve unacceptable risks.

The hoist supplier, the scaffolding contractor and site management have separate responsibilities, but all must work together. It is the responsibility of the equipment supplier and the scaffolding

contractor to carry out their respective risk assessments and draw up method statements in order to either eliminate risks or reduce them to acceptable levels. The site management must approve and adopt these method statements.

This comprehensive guidance covers subjects such as 'hazards' associated with transport platforms and hoists, persons travelling on transport platforms and hoists, planning, installation and operation. It also covers their handover for use by scaffolders.

Transporting Scaffolding in Construction Hoists (including Transport Platforms) guidance is available to download free of charge from [www.cpa.uk.net](http://www.cpa.uk.net).



Installing scaffold with a hoist



## CPA supports apprentice mechanics

During 2013 work was undertaken to produce a pilot scheme to support CPA members to take on apprentice mechanics. Several members expressed an interest in participating with three eligible for the shortlist. For the member to qualify for CPA support, the apprentices had to be fundamentally capable, but because of their circumstances may have had difficulty in competing equally with others for apprenticeship placements.

Haydn Steele, the CPA's safety and training manager worked closely with the management agency of the Construction Industry Training Board to identify the candidates who met

this criterion. He also helped arrange interviews for the candidates. Two CPA members were successful in gaining the support, Aerial Platforms in Lancashire and NRC Plant in Essex.

Aerial Platforms has taken on Oliver Bond who impressed the management team with his attitude, willingness to work and enthusiastic approach. He currently attends Myerscough College near Preston to complete the Plant Maintenance (Construction) Apprenticeship and work towards achievement of the Level 2 NVQ diploma in Plant Maintenance.

NRC Plant was looking for two apprentices and interviewed three candidates at its depot in Essex.

It then decided to offer two of the candidates two weeks work experience before a final decision was made, after which Jack Spencer was offered the apprenticeship. NRC was impressed with the way he portrayed himself, his attitude, willingness and ability to ask questions. He will attend the National Construction College at Ilford on the Plant Maintenance (Construction) Apprenticeship and work towards the Level 2 NVQ Diploma.

The CPA is looking to support other CPA members willing to take on a Plant Mechanic Apprentices during 2014. For details contact Haydn Steele: [haydn.steele@cpa.uk.net](mailto:haydn.steele@cpa.uk.net)



Sandra Morum, Jack Spencer and David Bailey of NRC Plant



APL's Simon Damant with Oliver Bond and CPA's Haydn Steele