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IPAF summit achieves new heights

The IPAF Annual General Meeting and Safety summit held in early April, attracted a record attendance. With the theme `Work Safely at Height` it was generally considered to be the best yet. We bring you a special four page photo supplement from this year's event.



The AGM kicks off with...

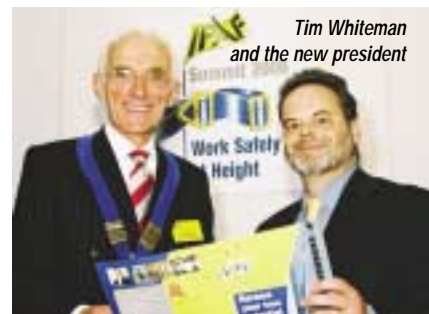


Pierre Saubot hands over the chain of office to Andrew Reid



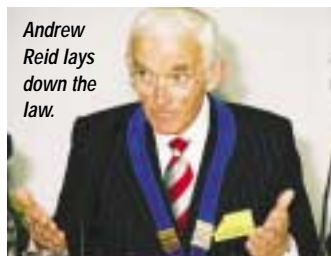
Council members: Ben Martin, Arnie Dirkinck-Holmfeld and Michel van Mill

federation's aims. He said that the primary reason for IPAF was to support members' interests. "I want to encourage a strict adherence to safety standards", he said, and warned that IPAF will start to clamp down on any members who 'cut corners'. He looks forward to the time when no self respecting contractor or



Tim Whiteman and the new president

user would consider renting a piece of access equipment from a non IPAF member. "My objective is to propel IPAF towards this goal over the next two years" he said. The regular business of IPAF was carried out at a brisk pace, followed by a buffet lunch.



Andrew Reid lays down the law.



Council members Tony Mort, Steve Shaughnessy and John Ball.

The IPAF flag flies over Whittlebury Hall.

with a plethora of record numbers, from membership, to revenues to the number's trained. Having passed the £1 million milestone in 2004, revenues jumped a further 21 percent in 2005 to just under £1.5 million, producing an after tax surplus of £140,000. Reid, acknowledged Saubot's contribution to creating a more international federation and pledged to continue that progress. He suggested that members visit the federation's Milnthorpe HQ if they get a chance, in order to experience the diligence of the IPAF team first hand. Now semi retired Reid, aims to use his 30 years of access and business experience to further the

The IPAF Annual General Meeting this year saw the handing over of the president's chain from Pierre Saubot to Andrew Reid. Saubot, commented on the fact that while two years pass too quickly, it serves to keep the federation fresh and full of energy in terms of leadership. IPAF has certainly continued its upward progress,



Tim Whiteman with Jean Harrison, Margaret Caton and Sue Heath



Pierre Saubot gives the presidents report

The IPAF Summit

IPAF managing director **Tim Whiteman** opened the summit, thanking everyone for such a strong attendance.

Kevin Appleton of the Lavendon group, Europe's largest powered access rental company, in his presentation, said that even in the UK where more than 50,000 operators will be trained this year and the number trained has grown over three times faster than the market, there is still a long way to go before the market begins to mature.

Richard Lockwood certainly takes the award for one of the best presentations ever from the HSE. He focused on reaching painters and decorators with safer access methods, his observations and comments had a number of delegates making furious notes.

Gil Male highlighted the progress that EN280 has made towards aerial lift safety, with the number of accidents resulting from poor machine design dropping substantially since the standard began to bite.

Murray Pollock gave some interesting insights into the UK market for aerial lifts, following a survey of leading rental companies.

Ladder man **David Walker** of the British Ladder Manufacturers Association not only informed the summit where ladders can fit into the access mix, but also wanted to instruct on the safe and proper

use of ladders.

The most amusing presentation of the day undoubtedly came from **Kevin O'Shea**, a Scott living in the USA and pioneering the IPAF training programme there. He likened himself to a 'caped crusader'. Clearly in his element he made some very strong and pertinent points as to how a lack of training can result in accidents that can then lead to a safer access method, such as mastclimbers being banned in favour of less safe alternatives.

Joe Henderson CEO of Hendersons Insurance informed the attendees that given the industry's safety record and clear focus on safety, it was not benefiting as much as it should in terms of lower premiums. Hendersons is working with IPAF towards achieving this goal.

The summit was closed with a presentation from **Oliver Favre**, the world high diving champion who described how he worked up to his world record and the planning that went into it, to ensure that he and his team, that now put on demonstrations around the world, remain safe.

Following a cocktail reception for all attendees, over 220 members and guests stayed on for the dinner, with after dinner speaker **Quintin Wilson** who spoke of his escapades with **Jeremy Clarkson** and the **Top Gear** team.



David Walker, the ladder man



Pam Penny and Phil Hemmings

Richard Lockwood of the HSE



Berlinda and Eleanor of IPAF



The Ladies of IPAF



Kevin O'Shea, "I am a caped crusader"



Mike Evans and Steve Shaughnessy



Jean and Margaret of IPAF, monopolise Quintin Wilson



Two Scots share a joke, Kevin O'Shea with new council member Andy McClusker.



Oliver Favre world high dive champion talks about hard water



Erkki Hokkinen (R) the new MD of Dino lift with owner Lars Petter Godenhielm



"Is it legal to download that?" Gill Male and Roger Bowden share a joke.



Hugh Cole and Leigh Sparrow ponder the universe



Pierre Saubot, John Ball and David Walker



No badge for me? Hans Aarse and Johnathan Wiseman search for their identity.



The Summit attracted a record attendance



Gordon Leicester gets some driving tips



The Francophones - Claude Gillou, Bernard Volut and Oliver Favre



What's Giles up to?



Murray Pollock delivers



From the USA, Lynn Kissinger, with Tony Mort, Austin Baker, Rupert Douglas Jones and Steve Kissinger.



Rupert and friends.



A rose among thorns, Esther Lawson, Tony Lock, Steve Watts and Dave Perry



The Mastclimbers, Cameron Reid, Brian Webb and Massimo Troni.



The Intellectuals.. Bernard Volut and Pointet put the world to rights with Chris Buisseret



It was not all serious business



Kevin Appleton says training numbers will triple in the UK

After the Summit

The IPAF summit and reception was followed by the dinner with Quintin Wilson as guest speaker.

