

# Access live at Intermat

World high diving champion Oliver Favre and his team of acrobats stopped the crowds at Intermat in Paris with a fast-moving demonstration of how to use platforms safely and correctly, including the proper use of safety harnesses and the need for adequate training for work at height. Favre and three of his team successfully completed PAL Card training prior to the exhibition as preparation for the "IPAF MEWP Academy" show, which was performed four times a day at IPAF's Intermat demo zone.

"Too many accidents happen for want of a harness," said IPAF Managing Director Tim Whiteman. "Given the potential dangers, not using a harness on a boom lift, or not insisting that your employees use one, almost amounts to a deliberate decision to put lives at risk."



Need to work on a platform? Wear a harness and get your PAL Card as proof of training

IPAF advises users of all boom lifts to wear a full body harness with an adjustable lanyard set as short as is possible. The use of harnesses and lanyards should always follow a job-specific risk assessment and abide by all regulations, employer guidelines and manufacturer's operations manuals. IPAF's technical guidance note on harnesses, issued with the support of the HSE and other safety bodies in Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands, is available at [www.ipaf.org/h10505.pdf](http://www.ipaf.org/h10505.pdf)

## Manufacturers debate ongoing revisions to EN280

The IPAF Manufacturers' Technical Committee meeting held during Intermat saw an international mix of industry players in attendance—from the UK, US, Italy, France and Finland. The discussions centred on the ongoing revision of the EN280 standard governing the design, manufacture and testing of access platforms. Topics included: chassis tilt, folding guard rails, work restraint anchorages, manual levelling of platforms, drop bars, and scissor mechanism guarding requirements. The overriding theme through the discussions was how the draft requirements could be implemented on all MEWP types.

IPAF is canvassing manufacturer and user positions on these issues, to be discussed at the next meeting of MHE/12/WG1 in June 2006, before being put forward for further consideration at the next CEN/TC98/WG1 meeting in July.

\* All manufacturer members of IPAF are entitled to attend meetings of the IPAF Manufacturers' Technical Committee and to obtain copies of the minutes.

## CAP certified for machine inspection

Engineers who need to be certified as competent persons to plan, manage or carry out examinations of platforms in the context of current legislation (including the Work at Height Regulations, LOLER and PUWER 98) can turn to the Competent Assessed Persons (CAP) programme. CAP complements IPAF's operator training courses by extending the promotion of a safety culture to machine maintenance as well as operation. It is intended to provide guidance for platform engineers on compliance with regulatory requirements and to offer documented evidence that individuals can be regarded as competent persons to plan, manage or carry out thorough examinations of powered access equipment within the context of current legislation.



Experienced engineers from IPAF-approved training centres provide guidance through presentations and individually assess those attending the sessions. The CAP programme is available at a growing number of locations. To find your nearest IPAF-approved CAP assessment centre, visit [www.ipaf.org/training/cap.htm](http://www.ipaf.org/training/cap.htm)

## Access industry examines work at height issues

IPAF joined representatives from the Access Industry Forum (AIF) and the HSE to discuss work at height issues at a conference held in conjunction with the Safety and Health Expo in Birmingham on 10 May, around the time of publication. Topics discussed included BS8454 Delivery of Training for Work at Height and its implications for training in the access industry.

## Certificates for harness training

As of 13 April 2006, no PAL Cards (Powered Access Licences) will be issued for the category of harness training on its own. The paper certificates will still be issued for these courses. This is to prevent people who have only had harness training from getting on site to operate a machine. Operators who hold an existing licence for a machine category can have the harness category added to the card.

## Visit IPAF at SED

IPAF will be promoting the correct use of harnesses at the SED construction event from 16 to 18 May at the Rockingham Performance Park in Northants. Visit us at the Cranes & Access Village, Avenue E, Stand Number 800.

## Conformity for telehandlers with integrated platforms

The IPAF Telehandler Committee meeting during Intermat discussed the need for conformity for telehandlers with integrated platforms, within the context of the EN1459 and EN280 standards. The committee also reviewed the trial version of IPAF's training course for operators of telescopic handlers fitted with smart (integrated) baskets.

The next Professional Development Seminar for instructors will be held on 14 September 2006 at the Hilton Manchester Airport.



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SUMMER!**



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give you a**

**FREE  
safety  
harness**



**Yes Summer is coming!  
Until it does we're giving  
away a FREE full body harness and  
lanyard with EVERY hire of our new  
Haulotte self propelled booms.**

Simply mention this offer when placing your order\* and we will send you your harness by post or deliver it with your hire. The harnesses are normally sold via our website or safety shops for £59.99 + VAT. They meet EN 361:2002 and come equipped with an adjustable lanyard as recommended by the International Powered Access Federation (IPAF).

\* Conditions: This free safety harness offer ends on the 21st of June and only applies to the hire of our Haulotte self propelled booms, not to scissor lifts or other types of machine. Hire must be for a minimum of one week.

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