



ALLMI accredited Lorry Loader Operator Training Providers

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Are your Lorry Loader Operators properly trained? Call a certified ALLMI training provider and Insist on the ALLMI card.

The training accreditation service of Lorry Loader Manufacturers and Importers

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In-Service Structural Inspection

This weld just forward of the lift ram pivot point, should have been noticed before it got this far. This crane needed a new boom, if the guidance note been followed, and the problem detected earlier, it could have been easily repaired.

All loader cranes are designed in accordance with DIN15018, or more latterly, EN12999 and EN13001. Cranes to these standards are classified into groups according to their calculated service life. The Nov/Dec 05 edition of ALLMI focus demonstrated the methods for calculating service life, but this information can also be found in ALLMI guidance note "Guidance for Life Expectancy of a Lorry Loader". This is available to download free of charge using the following link: <http://www.allmi.com/guidancenotes.html>

As a loader crane approaches its calculated service life, it is likely that the structure will show signs of deterioration. As well as the daily visual inspection of the crane, as detailed in both the manufacturer's operating instructions and BS7121 part 4, it is recommended that close attention is paid to the more highly stressed areas of the crane. These are areas around pivot points and changes of section. For example:

1. Connection between stabilisers and stabiliser beams
2. Connection between crane base and stabiliser assembly
3. Connection between crane base and pendulum beam
4. Top of base around upper column bearing
5. Rear of base around slew rack guidance

6. Connection between lift ram and column
7. Connection between lift ram and 1st boom/linkage
8. Connection between 1st boom and column
9. Connection between 1st boom and 2nd boom ram
10. Connection between 1st boom and 2nd boom
11. Connection between 2nd boom ram and linkage/2nd boom
12. Closing welds on underside of booms
13. Hook / grab suspension points

The majority of these areas are adjacent to greasing points so a close inspection can be made whilst the structure is being lubricated.

If any indications of cracking or excessive wear in pins, bearings or

the structural components are evident, then a Thorough Examination by a competent person must be carried out before the crane is put to further use (See ALLMI guidance note 'Thorough Examination and Testing of Loader Cranes' for guidance on this issue). The competent person will decide what corrective action needs to be taken and has a legal duty to inform the enforcing authority if such corrective action is not taken.

It is the recommendation of ALLMI that you ensure that your maintenance staff/contractors and the competent person carrying out Thorough Examinations on your behalf are made aware of the issues in this article.

Reference information:

BS EN 12999:

Cranes – Loader Cranes

LOLER: Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations

PUWER: Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations

ALLMI: Code of Practice for Installation Application and Operation

BS 7121: Safe use of cranes, Parts 2 and 4.

New Instructor Section of ALLMI Web Site

Further to the recent launch of its new website, ALLMI has now introduced a secure, password protected section of its site exclusively for ALLMI accredited instructors.

The 'Instructor Area' will contain the new ALLMI PowerPoint course presentation (available to download free of charge), a digital copy of the ALLMI logo for training providers to use as part of their corporate image, and also all ALLMI training course test papers. There are further developments planned for the Instructor Area and the website in general so watch this space.

ALLMI at the Commercial Vehicle Show 2006

The Commercial Vehicle show at the NEC (25th-27th April) in Birmingham, will see ALLMI exhibiting for the second consecutive year. Based in Hall 5 (Stand 5265), alongside companies such as Palfinger, Hiab and Atlas, ALLMI will be promoting its HSE Commended training scheme, its technical literature and also the newly formed division of the Association, the Operators Forum. The stand will be manned by general manager, Tom Wakefield and ALLMI Training Standards Committee members, David Ottaway of T H White (Palfinger) and Peter Brammah of John L Turner Hydraulic Engineers.



ALLMI Operators Forum

On the 9th February ALLMI held its first significant meeting of the Operators' Forum, a new division of the Association devoted exclusively to owners of lorry loaders.

The Operators Forum is growing rapidly and its members range from some of the biggest fleet owners in the UK to small, local businesses, running just one or two vehicles.

The meeting on the 9th allowed a subscription rate to be agreed (£350 per annum), an Executive Committee to be elected and the aims and objectives to be established. These are:

- To promote continuous improvement in the standard of lorry loader use.
- To provide members with the opportunity to discuss ideas and opinions relating to issues affecting the industry.
- To provide members with the opportunity to voice opinions on forthcoming changes in legislation affecting the industry.
- To hold a minimum of two to three meetings per year.
- To provide members with greater access to information regarding cranes.
- To facilitate contact of a non-commercial nature between Forum members and manufacturers / service providers.
- To provide interpretation of legislation for members.
- To gain access to the Health & Safety Executive.
- To help to develop the ALLMI training scheme through contact with the ALLMI Training Standards Committee.

The Operators Forum will work directly with the ALLMI Technical and Training Committees which consult upon all legislative, technical and training issues affecting the industry, and which contain representatives from all of the UK's major loader crane manufacturers and importers as well as the Health and Safety Executive. For information on becoming a member of the Operators Forum, please contact ALLMI.

key inspection points



Column around base and ram pivot



Linkages and pins between booms



Hook/Grab suspension points.