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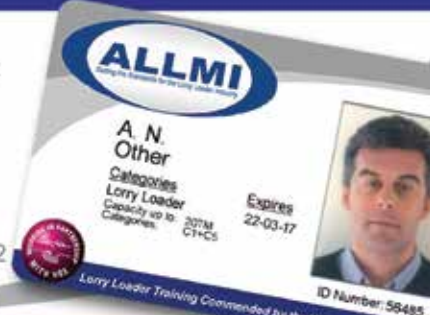


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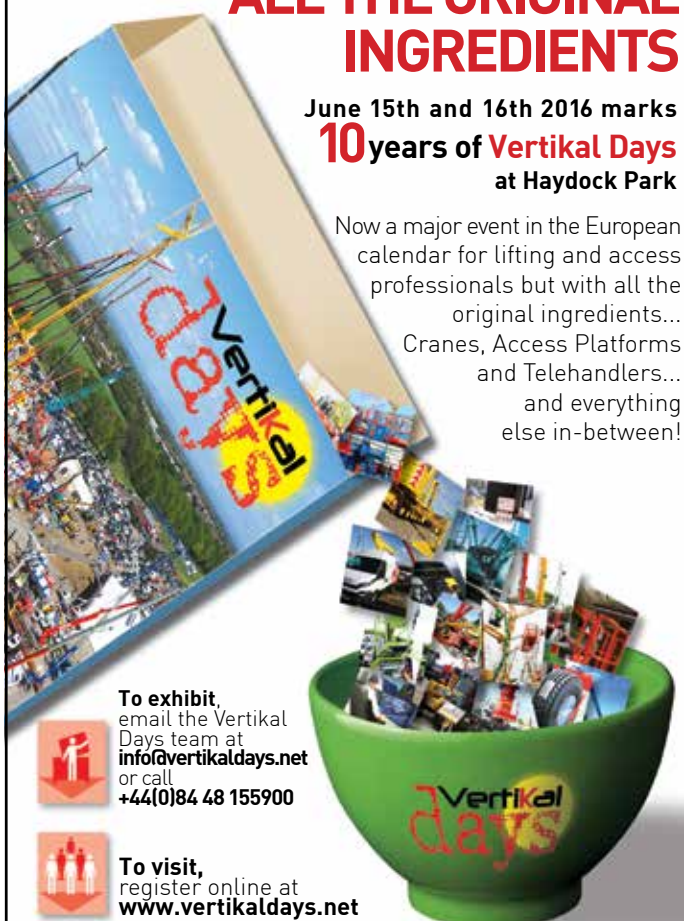
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## CPA apprenticeship seminar for Vertikal Days

The CPA is planning an Apprenticeship Levy Seminar on Thursday 16th June at Vertikal Days, to offer practical information for employers in the UK, Ireland and Scotland on Trailblazers Apprenticeship Frameworks.

The association is currently involved with four trailblazer apprenticeships, at various stages of development. Government policy requires all existing Framework Apprenticeship schemes to be replaced by new trailblazer schemes, with former schemes no longer receiving funding after 2020.

A trailblazer apprenticeship is made up of a group of employers who work together to design new apprenticeship standards for occupations within their sectors. Employers are now required to be at the forefront of the development of apprenticeships and learning, creating people with workplace skills that are relevant to their business and industry.

### Lifting Technician Apprenticeship

A Lifting Technician Apprenticeship standard has already been approved by the Department for Business Innovation & Skills. Developed by a consortium led by Laing O'Rourke, work is now underway to develop the Assessment Plan, and to get agreement from the Skills Funding Agency on the levels of funding that employers will require.



Peter Brown CPA technical development manager said, "CPA staff have been providing full support to the lifting technician trailblazer apprenticeship development programme and a number of members attended

the employer consortium, which has set the training standards and assessment requirements. The CPA is excited and pleased to support and promote the lifting technician apprenticeship and is playing an important part in ensuring that the standards and assessment methods meets the needs of the lifting sector. The CPA will host the training and assessment material and logbooks on its website, allowing access by employers and potential apprentices. The development work and lessons learnt from the lifting technician programme will aid us in the forthcoming development of the plant operator trailblazer apprenticeship, for which the CPA is leading the development programme."

### Plant Mechanic Apprenticeship

The CPA is working with UK's Construction Equipment Association on a Plant Mechanic Apprenticeship. A standard has already been approved by the department for agricultural service engineers, and this appears to be very similar to what is required for the construction sector. The ground-based engineering group which developed the existing standard has agreed that a cooperative approach should be taken to refine and extending the existing standard.

Rob Oliver, chief executive of the Construction Equipment Association said: "The new apprenticeship levy, has stimulated a lot of ideas on where the training gaps are and what standards should be used. We are delighted to working with our friends at both the CPA and Agricultural Engineers Association both of which have been 'trailblazing' this area of work."



Katie Kelleher, crane operator and Lifting Technician Apprentice

### Hire & rental desk controller Apprenticeship

A previous draft had been submitted to the department but was rejected as being too similar to an existing retail sector apprenticeship standard. Work will now begin on a new draft standard, emphasising the special nature of this role. A consortium will need to be formed to lead this work, coordinated by the CPA. An exploratory meeting is planned for June.

### Plant Operator Apprenticeship

An exploratory meeting was organised by the CPA on 23rd April and was attended by members, principal contractors, clients and others. The meeting brought together existing bodies which have expressed an interest - although none of these have submitted a formal expression of interest to the department. A working group has been set up, to start drafting what the Construction Plant Operator Trailblazer Apprenticeship might look like. The next full meeting is scheduled for May, to which a wider range of participants will be invited. It is intended that a consortium coordinated by the CPA is formed

following the meeting.

For further information on Trailblazer Apprenticeships please contact Peter Brown at CPA [peter@cpa.uk.net](mailto:peter@cpa.uk.net).

### 75-Years of the CPA

The Contractors Plant-Hire Association - the CPA - is celebrating its 75th Anniversary this year and is currently putting together a commemorative brochure which will take a trip down memory lane through the association's history from its humble beginnings to the modern day. The association is asking for your help to complete the 'coffee table' style publication. Do you have any archive photographs of machines, CPA members, Lighthouse Club events or vintage safety & training brochures? Do you have any memories or stories you would like to share with us and CPA members? Please email Nick Johnson at [nick.johnson@constructionplant.info](mailto:nick.johnson@constructionplant.info) with any information you might have!



Katie Long works for UK Forks in Exeter and is studying for a three-year apprenticeship delivered by Myerscough College