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# Tower Safety Week

PASMA has confirmed that Tower Safety Week 2016 will run from 14th to 18th November. Back with a new identity and fresh content, the initiative aims to improve height safety, develop industry knowledge and skills, and reach a wide range of tower using industries, including construction, maintenance, facilities management and retail.

Throughout Tower Safety Week, now in its fifth year, tower users everywhere will be asked to show their support for tower safety by taking advantage of new information graphics and charts developed specifically for the campaign.

Across the UK, PASMA members, their customers and the industry in general will also celebrate the versatility of towers and their increasing use in a wide range of different, challenging applications. Resources for this year include an expanded website, new posters, updated fact packs and the return of old favourites such as the High Tower Challenge and the 'See a tower, take a selfie!' competition, aptly renamed 'Tower selfie GO!' for 2016.

Above all else PASMA says the event will provide a snapshot of national tower use, both good and bad, which will help shape future safety led campaigns, training and user guidance. PASMA marketing and communications officer Gary Chudleigh said: "Tower Week is dedicated to keeping people safe when working at height. It turns the spotlight on towers and provides a unique opportunity to inform and educate both existing and potential users."



## Only use EN1004 towers

Winter is coming, and PASMA is reminding users that they should only use towers that comply with the requirements of EN1004, the European standard for mobile access towers. Towers conforming to this standard meet or exceed the minimum safety standards. EN1004 towers come with the correct number of purpose-designed platforms which can be securely fitted and are provided with safe trap door access. There must be enough platforms to install them at two metre intervals during assembly and dismantling.

Stabilisers are not an option, they should be supplied as part of the tower. Towers must always be fitted with them when they are freestanding. You should never climb up the outside of a tower or lean a ladder against it to gain access to the platform, as the tower will become unstable and could overturn. EN1004 towers have built-in ladders or frames with safe distances between the rungs and frames with safe distances between the rungs and slip resistant climbing surfaces to ensure safe ascent and descent.

Never work on a platform without guardrails - correctly fitted guardrails are essential. EN1004 compliant guardrails also meet minimum height requirements at all points around the platform.

Never stand on an unprotected platform, there are only two recognised safe systems of building and dismantling towers - 3T (Through the Trap) and AGR (Advanced Guardrail). EN1004 towers are specifically designed so that they can be built using one of the two approved methods.

Finally, make sure you receive a set of instructions. All EN1004 compliant towers are supplied with detailed user instructions and critical safety information, specifying the use of either the 3T or AGR systems of assembly and dismantling.



## New Middle East conference

PASMA is planning to host the first ever Middle East conference dedicated entirely to mobile access towers later this year. The conference is due to take place on 20th November, at the Fairmont Hotel, Dubai, and is aimed at supporting the development of tower safety and best practice across the region. It will also showcase the many applications of mobile access towers which are fast becoming a popular choice on a variety of projects in the region.

Catering to delegates of all levels from first-time users through to experienced tower specialists, the free, one day event is open to PASMA members and non-members alike. It will address a wide range of topics and include practical demonstrations of the latest tower technology. Delegates will hear from experts with unrivalled knowledge of the industry, get clarity on the latest standards and guidance, and gain insights into the opportunities and challenges facing the industry.

The conference date has been chosen specifically in advance of The Big Five, the international building and construction show, which runs from 21st to 24th November at the Dubai World Trade Centre.



For details of PASMA standards, guidance and training, including free PocketCards and posters, visit: [www.pasma.co.uk](http://www.pasma.co.uk)