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# CPA Stars of the Future event

The Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA) is hosting its Stars of the Future awards ceremony on Wednesday 26th June to recognise and reward some of the industry's brightest and most promising talent. This is the seventh consecutive year that the CPA has hosted the ceremony, which will be held at the Heart of England Conference and Events Centre near Coventry. This year's event is being held in partnership with main sponsor A-Plant. Traditionally, Stars of the Future has rewarded mechanic apprentices, but the scope of the event has been widened even further this year to also include awards for equipment operators and lifting technician apprentices and trainees.

CPA chief executive Kevin Minton said: "This is a landmark year for the event, and it recognises the introduction of recently introduced plant-related Trailblazer apprenticeships for operators and lifting technicians. Just with the mechanic apprentice awards alone, around 700 plant apprentices will be eligible to enter from companies large and small. Stars of the Future is a brilliant event providing the opportunity to acknowledge and congratulate some of the industry's most promising apprentices and trainees, and it is highly regarded by employers, participating colleges and the individuals themselves. It has been fantastic to see the progress that some of the former

winners have made in their careers since winning a CPA Stars of the Future award."

Apprentices are assessed throughout the academic year on their work in college and their work environment, and the enthusiasm and commitment they bring to learning. There are separate prize schemes for Level 2 and Level 3 apprentices, at both regional and national level. The awards are intended to recognise and reward outstanding apprentices who not only bring ability and commitment to their learning and their work, but also possess those extra capabilities which mark them out.

Snap-on is once again the tool kit sponsor and will be providing kits for the winners.

## Nominations invited for CPA Lifting Technician Star of the Future

If you employ a trainee or apprentice lifting technician who you believe is a star of the future, you can put them forward for the CPA Lifting Technician Star of the Future award. This accolade is being introduced in recognition of the recent availability of the lifting technician trailblazer apprenticeship. It is open to any trainee or apprentice whose main role, is operating a crane and undertakes slinging and signalling duties.

The following eligibility criteria is applicable to this award. The nominee must:



- Be employed as a crane operator on either a tower, crawler or mobile crane
- Be on a recognised apprenticeship or formal training programme of at least 18 months duration
- Be working towards, or achieved a relevant crane operating NVQ, SVQ or other form of formal occupational competence-based qualification
- Be following a formal training programme with appropriate off the job training
- Be undertaking crane operations with a mobile, tower or crawler crane which forms a major element of the apprenticeship or training programme, supplemented with slinging and signalling activities

There will be one national winner for this category with a suitable and fitting prize given to the

successful nominee. Nominations close on the 22nd May, the Lifting Technician application forms can be downloaded at <https://www.cpa.uk.net/starsdownloads/>

The form is designed for both the employer and training organisation to provide an account of the apprentice or trainee during the training period, including work experience. The nominee may also provide a supporting statement. It will be used by the judges to identify and reward the most suitable apprentice or trainee for the various awards being made by the sector through the CPA Stars of the Future initiative.

Forms for the new CPA Plant Operator Star of the Future award, can also be downloaded from the above address. All entries will be judged by a judging panel and each winner will be announced at the event.



## CPA 2019 Conference

The CPA Conference will take place on Thursday 17th October at the Heart of England Conference and Events Centre in Fillongley near Coventry. The one day event organised by the CPA and sponsor Datatag will have the theme 'Planting Resilience - Building for the Future', speakers will discuss some of the construction industry's most current and topical issues relating to how companies can deal with and overcome adversity, both now and in the future.

