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# Work platforms now available in BIM library

A selection of 3D virtual Mobile Elevating Work Platforms and Mast Climbing Work Platforms are now available for free download from the UK based National Building Information Modelling (BIM) Library.

BIM is increasingly recognised and used around the world by architects and project managers when designing new buildings and considering how they will be constructed and maintained. Three dimensional computer modelling allows a 360 degree view of any structure before it is built, and allows for better project planning and to map out the construction and maintenance process in the virtual realm.

Now IPAF is in the process of developing scalable 3D BIM work platforms and mast climbers that can be used to visualise their use in the construction of new buildings or the conservation, repair or maintenance of existing structures, before work gets underway. This allows for easier selection of the correct type of machine as well as correct height and outreach so that managers can plan work more effectively, save money and reduce the risk of misuse on site.

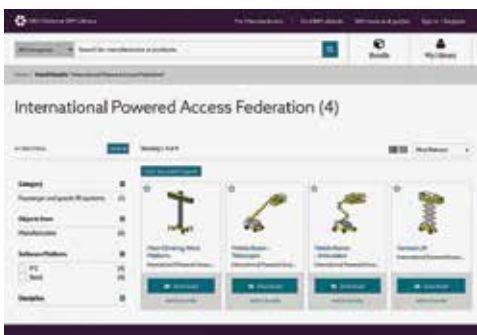
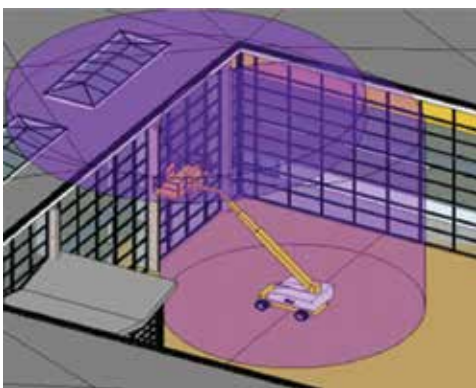
So far IPAF has had four virtual models produced and accepted into the UK's National BIM Library for use in modelling projects around the world. These completed models are: MCWP, Vertical Lift; Mobile Boom - Telescopic and Mobile Boom - Articulated. Three more are still in development and will be available soon, namely: Static Boom - Spider type, Static Boom - Vehicle mounted, Static Boom - Trailer mounted.

The models are each based on a typical, generic design as opposed to specific makes or models of machine, but all are adjustable for height and outreach, so they can be used to identify what type and capability of equipment is required by adjusting the specifications to suit the intended task and checking things like reach and clearance.

IPAF chief executive Tim Whiteman said: "Architects and project planners now have access to scalable 3D models of work platforms that can be used to design construction or maintenance work at height more effectively, and in particular to identify the capabilities and limitations of specific types of equipment before that work begins. It has taken a particularly creative approach to come up with these BIM models, which others have previously attempted but were thwarted by the sheer variety of different shapes, sizes and capabilities of equipment available in the market.

"This is certainly in line with IPAF's core mandate – promoting the safe and effective use of powered access worldwide. I am sure the new virtual models will prove valuable as BIM is increasingly being adopted for a whole range of applications in countries around the globe."

The BIM models can be found using the search term "International Powered Access Federation" on the National BIM Library [www.nationalbimlibrary.com](http://www.nationalbimlibrary.com)



## IPAF to brief MPs' inquiry into work at height

Key IPAF spokespeople are working closely with a new working group of UK members of Parliament, whose aim is to cut the number of workplace fatalities in the UK that are caused by falls from height. IPAF president Nick Selley and UK market general manager Richard Whiting attended the inaugural meeting on 12th December of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Working at Height at the House of Parliament in Westminster, London.



Alison Thewliss

Alison Thewliss, the member for Glasgow Central and convener of the group invited politicians and stakeholders to work together to investigate serious injuries and fatalities while working at height and to launch a wide scale inquiry into how to improve safety and implement best practice. A final report will be published and presented to Parliament.



## IPAF Summit and Awards dinner

Booking is now open for IPAF's Summit and the International Awards for Powered Access (IAPAs) celebration dinner, to be held at the Hilton Miami Downtown in Florida, USA, on the 8th March.

The theme for the Summit will be "Quantifying Sustainability", and confirmed speakers so far include: William Plummer of United Rentals; Brad Boehler of Skyjack; Norty Turner of Riwal Guru Bandekar of JLG. Others will be announced shortly. There will be parallel sessions in the morning, one for aerial work platforms with a focus on enhanced training techniques such as Virtual Reality and Simulators, and one for mast climbing work platforms.

The IPAF Summit is free to attend but ticketed, while tickets for the awards dinner need to be purchased, ticket prices have not yet been announced, but there will be early bird discounts available. A discounted room rate at the Hilton of \$269 a night is also available when booked through the IPAF/IAPA web site [www.iapa-summit.info](http://www.iapa-summit.info)

