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PASMA Members' Conference 2018

PASMA has announced the date and venue for its second Members' Conference, following the highly successful 2017 event, which expanded the scope of the traditional Annual Members' Meeting format of previous events.

The 2018 conference will be held at the Aviator Hotel, Farnborough on 12th to 13th July. Bookings will open with a special early bird rate, which is open to both PASMA members and non-members alike. PASMA chairman, Gillian Rutter, said: "The 2017 Conference was our best attended annual event ever and hailed a massive success. The 2018 Conference is set to be even bigger and better and is a must attend for anyone who wishes keep abreast of the most up to date trends and developments in the mobile access tower industry."



Date set for revised EN 1004 review period

In last month's issue it was revealed that the revised standard for EN 1004 - which sets criteria for the design and manufacture of mobile access towers - was to be sent out for public comment. This was following approval for release by an internal ballot of TC53 - the CEN European Technical Committee - for standards relating to temporary works equipment.

The draft has now been made available by each of the CEN member states and is open to vote on whether to adopt the standard, and to also provide comment, until June 12th, 2018. TC53 WG4, the working group tasked with the job of revising the standard, will then hold a comment resolution meeting to review the results, which must be submitted via the National Standards Bodies (e.g. BSI in the UK) to decide if any changes to the draft are required.

EN 1298 revision underway

Alongside the work on EN1004, the most recent meeting of TC53 WG4 progressed the draft for a revision to EN 1298 - the standard which sets criteria for the content contained in instruction manuals for mobile access towers.

Influential in its revision are some of the proposed significant changes to EN 1004 together with relatively recent changes in good practice - such as the use of Advance Guard Rail (AGR) systems and the Through The Trap (3T) method of assembly and dismantling. The revision to the draft is being proposed to TC53 for a 'new work item' - whereby if approved, the work will formally begin.

PASMA obtains Cyber Essentials accreditation

PASMA has become Cyber Essentials Plus accredited following a successful audit of PASMA head office's web security systems in January. Cyber Essentials Plus is a scheme operated by the UK Government's National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), which advises a set of security controls based on the Government's research into the most common cyber attacks on UK businesses. Accreditation demonstrates that PASMA takes its IT security seriously and goes to great lengths to ensure its data storage is secure and in compliance with the upcoming GDPR regulations.



PASMA Middle East Conference

PASMA's second Middle East Conference, held at the Marriot Al Forsan Hotel in Abu Dhabi, welcomed around 100 delegates on March 14th for what was a hugely successful event. Delegates heard from a range of speakers, from organisations such as Abu Dhabi Occupational Safety and Health Centre, Dubai Municipality, the International Institute of Risk & Safety Management and more.

Each session covered key themes relating to safety at height in general and the safe use of towers in particular - from fall prevention, to the legal fall-out and investigative process of an accident and choosing the right tower equipment. PASMA's Safety at Height Advisory Panel chairman, Mike Palmer said: "I am delighted to see such a positive response to the event. Its influence in developing tower safety in the region will be felt for years to come."

The event was preceded by special CPD sessions for PASMA instructors and an award ceremony and networking dinner on Tuesday 13th.

The association is pleased to announce the following winners from the night:

- Highest volume of delegates trained in 2017 - Rapid Access, collected by Mike Palmer
- Outstanding contribution and services to PASMA - Safelift, collected by Wayne Taylor
- Long-term service to PASMA - Simian Risk, collected by Ian Fyall
- Best newcomer 2017 - Enertech Qatar, collected by Sarah Nunn on behalf of
- PASMA Safety at Height Advisory Panel - H&S Professional 2017 in promotion of PASMA - IIRSM and Matt Cox

PASMA chairman, Gillian Rutter, said: "The PASMA community in the Middle East is going from strength to strength which these awards clearly demonstrate. I would like to thank all members in the region for their continued efforts in promoting PASMA, its training and the development of product standards."



For details of PASMA standards, guidance and training, including free PocketCards and posters, visit: www.pasma.co.uk