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Keeping up standards

PASMA has welcomed the proposed changes to tower standards. EN 1004, the standard that sets the criteria for the design of mobile access towers, is currently subject to revision by the European standards committee for temporary works equipment - CEN TC53.

As part of the consultation process, a ballot of TC53 members has approved the draft revision with a view to proceeding to the comment resolution stage. TG53 WG4, the working group tasked with the job of revising the standard, is now considering all the comments submitted in the consultation process with a view to producing an updated draft.

The draft contains changes that

are welcomed by PASMA as they are intended to help make mobile access towers even safer. The changes include:

- Revising the scope of the standard to cover towers from ground level to eight metres platform height outdoors and 12 metres indoors, rather than starting at 2.5 metres as at present.
- Clarifying the criteria for stability calculations.



Additionally, EN 1298, the standard for mobile tower instruction manuals, is being updated. In addition to the proposed changes to

EN 1004, the revision will consider developments in good working practice.

Tower Safety Week 2018



This annual event - the only event of its type in the work at height sector - will run again from the 11th - 18th November. Taking as its theme 'Working well with towers' Tower Safety Week will promote height safety, develop industry knowledge and skills, and connect with a wide range of tower using industries.

Saving lives by stopping falls

The No Falls Foundation is the first and only registered charity dedicated exclusively to the work at height sector. Championed by PASMA, its aim is to make a positive contribution to height safety and to keep people safe.

Every year literally thousands of people work at height in a huge range of industry sectors. Some are more obvious than others, such as construction, roofing and facilities management, but there are also countless others who work at height on a day-to-day basis - often without realising it - in shops, offices, factories and hospitals.

What they all have in common is risk. The risk that a fall might kill them or leave them with serious life-changing injuries with potentially devastating consequences for their families, friends and work colleagues.

The No Falls Foundation has three distinct objectives:

- To help keep people safe by creating greater awareness and understanding of the risks associated with working at height;
- To better understand the causes of falls from height through research and the exchange of information and knowledge;
- To support those people facing the aftermath and consequences of a fall from height.



Safety dialogue sessions

The association recently participated in a series of safety dialogue sessions organised by



Western Business Exhibitions as part of Health and Safety Scotland at the SEC in Glasgow and Health & Safety North at EventCity in Manchester.

It was standing room only at all four sessions as Gary Chudleigh, PASMA's marketing and communications officer, and Chris Smith, the association's head of audit services and professional standards, fielded questions from health and safety professionals on working at height in general and mobile access towers in particular.

PASMA exhibited at both events as part of the Access Industry Forum (AIF), the forum for the principal trade associations and federations involved in work at height.

Each member organisation of the Forum represents a different sector of the access industry and fosters and supports codes of good practice, equipment standards, training, education and knowledge. Its members are ATLAS, BSIF, EPF, FASET, IPAF, IRATA, Ladder Association, NASC, PASMA, SAEMA and WAHSA. www.accessindustryforum.org.uk

Diary date

PASMA chairman Gillian Rutter and Sue Verallo, have arranged a Grand Charity Ball - with live entertainment - in aid of the Foundation on Saturday, 9th November 2019, at four star hotel Coombe Abbey in Warwickshire. Tables for 10 are available at £1,000 per table and seven of these have already been reserved! For more details email gillian@skywardtraining.co.uk



PASMA held its 2018 Conference at the Aviator Hotel in Farnborough on 13th July. Video highlights will be released shortly on the PASMA website. Visit: www.pasma.co.uk/conference