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All training centres above offer **IPAF/PASMA/CPCS** or other approved and audited training courses. European directives and most national regulations require that staff are properly trained in the safe use of the equipment they operate. If you wish to become a sponsor of the Training & Safety page opposite by advertising, contact us on info@vertikal.net

Loader crane fatality costs £134,000

UK companies Cumbria Design Scaffold and Larkin Eng Services have been fined a total of £80,000 plus almost £55,000 of costs, following an incident in which a Larkin employee was crushed to death by a loader crane. Cumbria Design was fined £60,000 plus costs of £27,464, while Larkin was fined £20,000 plus costs of £27,211.

In March 2012, Andrew Bowes, 37, a metal fabricator employed by Larkin, had to collect two large metal walkways and deliver them to a customer using a flatbed truck fitted with a loader crane. The first walkway had been lifted onto the back of the truck but was not tied down. As the crane slewed to pick up the second walkway, a sling snagged on the first one, causing it to fall onto Bowes, who sustained fatal crush injuries. An investigation found that Cumbria Design Scaffold had failed to properly plan the lifting operation, had failed to recognise the risks involved and did not have a safe system of work for what was a complex lift. The company also failed to supervise the lifting operation properly. It also found that Larkin Eng Services had failed in its duty to ensure the safety of Bowes, who had only joined the company a week earlier.

Community service and fine for director

Graham Dyson, the director of Coventry, UK based Globalforce Contracts was sentenced to 200 hours community service and ordered to pay costs of £6,849 plus a victim surcharge of £85, after an employee sustained serious injuries in a fall.

On 7th April 2017, Globalforce employee Slawomir Miller fell through a roof light, dropping six metres onto the concrete floor below. He suffered multiple fractures to his vertebrae, ribs, elbow, wrist and sacral bones and spent eight weeks in hospital.

The HSE investigation found that Dyson had failed to properly plan the work or provide adequate fall protection and ignored the fact that Miller had never carried out roof work before and instructed him to gain access to the roof via a scissor lift, which he was not trained to use. He was also left to work without supervision on a fragile roof. Dyson pleaded guilty to breaching the Work at Height Regulations 2005. The company has now been liquidated.

HSE inspector Adam Hills said: "This incident could so easily have been prevented. Work at height on asbestos cement roofing is dangerous and requires adequate planning, organisation, training and equipment. The director was aware of the need to access and repair the roof. He could have provided work at height training and equipment to workers, or simply contracted the task out to a professional roofing company. Directors should be aware that they may be held personally accountable if they endanger the lives of their employees."



AMCS training simulator

French tower crane anti-collision system manufacturer AMCS Technologies has developed a crane simulator - the SIM 61 - in collaboration with Acroes.

The simulator allows users to create a virtual job site, including environmental factors such as wind speed, location type - such as city, desert, shipyard etc - the size of the job site, the type and size of the cranes, the shape and size of any buildings, and the performance capabilities of the crane. The simulator can be used in conjunction with AMCS' DCS 60 or DCS 61-S anti-collision devices, which simulate the sensors used on a real crane.



Genie courses updated

Genie has updated its US operator training programmes to comply with the new ANSI standards for safe use and training.

The courses include new content such as machine terminology, how to select the proper aerial lift for the application, how to create and adhere to a safe use plan, how to perform detailed risk assessments which include rescue planning, best practices for record keeping, and knowledge of machine operation and best practices safe use.



Genie has updated its operator training programmes

Who trained him then?



Spotted by a reader in Glasgow, Scotland, a truck mounted lift being used in the road with no attempt to warn traffic or prevent it from being clipped by a passing truck or bus, or to protect pedestrians walking underneath the work area. The operator also failed to employ outrigger mats.