

Enhanced slingers

course

UK's Select Plant Hire has developed an enhanced slinger training programme to build on the standard CPCS A40 Slinger Signaller course. The two day course is aimed at providing further slinger/signaller training to reflect modern lifting applications which are increasingly heavier and more complex.

The first day consists of classroom based training providing comprehensive details on the responsibilities and safety risks, and includes the use of virtual reality training to help recreate scenarios and provide delegates with a greater appreciation of lifts from the perspective of the tower crane operator.

On the second day delegates guide a wide range of precast objects of differing sizes and shapes in order to better replicate lifts such as unitised cladding systems, rebar cages, machinery as well as undertaking 'topping and

tailing' lifts. It also includes a number of challenging blind lift scenarios that involve slingers guiding loads into position in shafts and around corners.

Select's

enhanced

signaller

/R sessions

Select Plant Hire's operation leader Mark Herlihy said: "We recently reviewed a number of lifting incidents and saw many were a result of slinger/signaller training gaps. A major factor behind this is that the complexity of lifting has changed significantly since the original slinger signaller course was developed and that many are having to learn on the job. That's why we decided to develop a more enhanced slinger signaller training, building on the basic training by replicating more realistic lifts that take place on today's site."

Accredited by NOCN and CPCS, candidates that successfully complete the course receive an enhanced slinger signaller training certification by NOCN on their CPCS cards. The course is available at the company's dedicated training centre in St. Neots as well as a number of sites throughout the UK.

Fatal scaffold tower fall costs £30k

Wembley Scaffolding Services and director Sean Chapple have been fined a total of £8,860 plus costs of £19,940 for a fatal scaffold incident in London in February 2017. Chapple also received a 12 week prison sentence which has been suspended for one year.

Two employees were dismantling the scaffold when it collapsed, causing one of them, David Smith, 38, to fall five metres onto the pavement below, sustaining head injuries leading to his death a few days later. An investigation found that Chapple failed to carry out a suitable risk assessment, plan the work or provide a design for its erection and dismantling and was unaware of the correct way to do so.

HSE inspector Saif Deen said: "This tragic incident led to the avoidable death

of a young man. The case highlights the importance of following industry guidance in order to design and erect scaffolding in a safe manner, to prevent risk to workers using the scaffold. The death could have been prevented had the employer acted to identify and manage the risks involved, and to put a safe system of work in place."





Wolffkran teams up with Russian college

Wolffkran's Russian fabrication plant has formed a partnership with the Lukhovitsy Technical School to train young adults in the region as certified welders.

\$80,000 fines for fall

Canadian general contractor G.E Macneill and subcontractor Seymour DesRoches Construction have each been fined \$40,000 after a man fell from a scaffold tower in 2019 leaving him paralysed. The site supervisor was also fined \$2,000 for his involvement in the incident.

Ryan Mahar, 32, a Seymour DesRoches employee of three months, was helping install roof trusses on a new potato warehouse in Elmsdale, Prince Edward Island, from the top of a six metre unguarded rolling scaffold tower. A truss was being lifted by a crane when the tag line broke, allowing it to swing free and strike Mahar from behind, causing him to fall to the concrete floor below, fracturing his skull.

An investigation by Occupational Health and Safety inspectors found that Seymour failed to provide formal safety orientation for new employees, provide a fall protection plan or safe work procedure. Work had been stopped on a company site a few months earlier for the same reason. \$70,000 of the fine will go to the Workers Compensation Board to provide fall prevention training.

Who trained them then?

Spotted in Spa Belgium, a mini excavator dismantling an old chimney from a flatbed skip suspended from a truck crane at the old Henrijean laboratory.

