

# When the job gets tough, we get started

"In Finland, the cold can get extreme and the darkness sets early. We've learned to innovate in harsh conditions and build world-class solutions that make life easier. Even today, the Finnish persistence affects everything we do. We've been up for it since 1972."





### **CICA RAISES TRAINING ISSUE FOR PICK**

### & CARRY CRANES

The Crane Industry Council of Australia has issued a safety bulletin on Pick & Carry Crane Safety and operation and launched a new training initiative to introduce both skilled experienced and non-experienced operators to the additional challenges involved with articulated pick & carry canes along the lines of the Franna cranes (other makes are available).

The moves are part of an increased focus on this sector as a result of a number of investigations and a coronial inquiry. The bulletin covers some of the reasons why pick & carry crane operation can be hazardous and why extra care needs to be taken when operating and working near these cranes. There are more than 5,000 such cranes in Australia making up around half the total crane population. They are also typically highly utilised when on site, increasing the exposure and risks to site personnel.

The association says that many seasoned operators have never been assessed or trained

on articulated pick & carry cranes because of the current high risk work licence framework, which allows Slewing Crane licence holders to also operate pick & carry cranes without any formal training. As a result, CICA is developing a training programme that can assess an operator's familiarity with the driving behaviour of articulated cranes. For experienced operators, the training and assessment will be accelerated, while inexperienced operators will have to undergo more thorough and extensive training.

See presentation and video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FEUvVRr9\_P0



#### **£1,500 FINE FOR BLOCKING HSE INSPECTORS**

A Scottish court has fined Baldev Singh Basra, a director of Stable Homes, £1,500 for refusing site entry to two inspectors from the Health & Safety Executive in 2021. The inspectors had received several reports of unsafe work at height taking place on a steel structure.

The site gates were locked and Baldev Singh Basra refused to unlock them and let them in, even after they explained the powers they had to enter the premises. Officers from Police Scotland were called and gained entry to the site, allowing the inspectors to take enforcement action to stop the unsafe work. Two men were then found to be on the roof of the structure with no safe means of getting down.

The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service were called to bring them down. HSE principal inspector Graeme McMinn said: "Inspectors appointed by an enforcing authority have the right to enter any premises when they think it necessary for the purposes of enforcing health and safety at work and at any time when they think the situation may be dangerous. In this case, their priority was to deal with the unsafe work activity, and they could not allow the person in control of the site to refuse them entry to stop the unsafe work."



## WHO TRAINED THEM?

Spotted by a reader - a man painting from a narrow ledge on an upper floor with a





#### PALLET AND FORKLIFT SOLUTION COSTS £206K

UK joinery company Staircraft Group has been fined £200,000 plus costs of £6,477 after an employee fell from a pallet on a forklift in June last year at company headquarters in Coventry.

The man was cleaning office windows at a height of up to six metres when the unsecured stillage/pallet suddenly titled causing him to fall more than 3.5 metres to the ground. He sustained a broken leg and an injury to his elbow.

An investigation by the Health & Safety Executive found the company failed to identify that using a stillage to lift someone on the forks of a forklift truck - a method that they had used before - was unsafe. There was also a lack of training for employees on the dangers of working at height without the proper equipment and there were no systems of work or risk assessments in place.

HSE inspector Rebecca Whiley said: "The employee's injuries were very serious, and he could have easily been killed. The incident could so easily have been avoided by simply carrying out correct control measures and safe working practices."

