

AGM looks forward and glances back

Firstly, he cited the development and enhancement of the comprehensive support services that make IPAF membership of such value to anyone and everyone involved with powered access. Secondly, he emphasised the important goal of establishing and developing Regional Councils, to provide increased local support and foster co-operation between members within individual country or economic blocks.

At the Luncheon, that followed the AGM itself, almost 200 members and guests heard retiring President Godenhielm pay tribute to the contribution made by UpRight's Frank Huish. A former IPAF President, Frank has announced his retirement as an IPAF Council member after 17 years of active support. To

At the 17th AGM of IPAF, held recently at Manchester United FC's ground, Nicolas Davin of Aerial Platform Hire Ltd took over the mantle from Lars-Petter Godenhielm, as IPAF President for the next two years. In announcing his intention to continue to steer a similar course to his predecessor, he reinforced his own commitment to strengthening further the position of IPAF. He singled out two key themes calculated to help achieve this overall objective.

mark his contribution, not just to IPAF, but to the development of the powered access industry as a whole, Lars-Petter presented Frank with an Art Deco, silver clock.

Light at the end of the VED tunnel

Nothing can ever be certain in dealings with Governments until everything is signed, sealed, delivered and enacted in legislation. However, the

inscrutability of civil servants, the political caution of Ministers and General Election considerations notwithstanding, IPAF came away with a degree of optimism from the four-way meeting with the Treasury, the Department of Environment Transport and the Regions and the DVLA at the end of March.

Managing director, Paul Adorian, declared himself cautiously optimistic that IPAF's

position on VED for truck-mounted platforms will finally be reconciled with the Government's. "Our case, that the current VED system is unfair as far as truck-mounts are concerned has definitely been acknowledged. Yet we do accept that re-drafting of legislation is not straightforward and so there can be no immediate fix." IPAF now feels that it has achieved its objective and even though it may be a little later, rather than sooner, there is at long last a real prospect that this six-year old anomaly now stands to be corrected.

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