



RAISING the standard

news from **IPAF** supporting the world of powered access

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www.ipaf.org

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Guidance on working at height in confined spaces

Straightforward guidance on how to prevent rare but dangerous accidents that could happen when mobile elevating work platforms (MEWPs) are used in confined spaces is now available. The UK-based Strategic Forum for

Construction Plant Safety Group, of which IPAF is one of the lead organisations, has released Best Practice Guidance for MEWPs on this subject.

There have been a number of such accidents over the last few years, including fatal ones. Some of these incidents have involved the operator or other person being crushed against fixtures or other obstacles while working at height. These incidents could have been prevented by proper planning and preparation, selection of appropriate equipment and correct use.

The guidance provides clarity about the safe use of MEWPs including planning, equipment selection, training, provision of information, familiarisation, safe use, supervision and rescue procedures, together with monitoring and work management.

The guidance is divided into two parts. Part 1 is aimed at planners, managers and instructors. It covers hazards, risk assessment, controls and responsibilities. The annexes to Part 1 give detailed information that can assist in the identification of trapping risks and in the planning and managing of work activities to protect against trapping incidents. Part 2 is aimed at those using and supervising MEWPs and those responsible for rescuing anyone trapped on a MEWP platform. Part 2 has been designed to be used in briefings or toolbox talks for supervisors and MEWP operators.

The document contains references to UK legislation and is not intended to be complete guidance on all aspects of MEWP operation. Operators of MEWPs must at all times be properly trained and familiarised.

- The document is available free at the Publications section of www.ipaf.org. Translations in Dutch, French, German, Italian and Spanish are also available from IPAF.

Work in confined overhead areas requires proper planning and supervision.





Inspired rentals

Rental management software from inspHire has helped Higher Access based in Lancashire, UK to streamline its hire services from a manual to a computerised system.

"inspHire allows us to have an immediate handle on what is happening within the business in an easy-to-access format," said Paul Hyde from Higher Access. "It has had a very positive effect upon our business. We are in a much better position to know what equipment we have available for hire, where it is, what state of readiness the equipment is in and how the machines are being utilised."

IPAF members get a 10% discount on software from inspHire. Details at the Services section of www.ipaf.org



inspHire software gives IPAF members control of their rental and back office processes.

Regional meetings extend southwest

IPAF continues to extend its popular series of regional meetings in the UK. The first South West regional meeting was held at the end of August in Bristol, following earlier meetings in the Midlands, North West, South East and Scotland.

The South West meeting was chaired by Peter Douglas of Nationwide. Chris Wraith of the Lavendon Group delivered a presentation on the topic of working at height in confined spaces. John Scott, Health & Safety manager at Morgan Sindall Fit Out, discussed powered access from a customer's perspective.

Regional meetings are a unique opportunity for engineers, rental managers, health & safety officers, instructors and hire desk controllers to learn and to network with associates in the industry. These meetings are held regularly throughout the year. Watch out for one near you at www.ipaf.org/events



New HQ helps serve international membership

IPAF is now serving its growing international membership from its new headquarters at Moss End in Cumbria, UK.

IPAF's new head office is more spacious and has more room for expansion than its former premises at Milnthorpe. High-speed broadband and video conferencing are among the tools that facilitate interaction with members around the world. IPAF members are welcome to use the meeting room by appointment.

IPAF also recently changed its legal status to an industrial and provident society registered with the UK Financial Services Authority (FSA). In practice, the conversion does not change the way IPAF deals with members and suppliers.

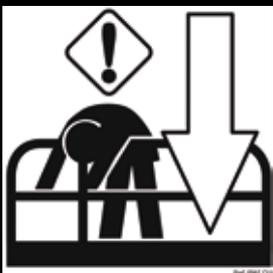
Having limited liability for corporation tax and being subject to FSA rules will provide better protection of any financial reserves that IPAF builds up and enable it to use these funds purely for the purposes directed by members.

IPAF president Steve Shaughnessy of Skyjack (right) officially opens the new IPAF head office at Moss End in Cumbria, UK, with IPAF managing director Tim Whiteman (left).



Standardisation of controls

The IPAF UK MEWP Safety Forum is collecting data on platform and ground controls with the aim of reviewing whether some MEWP controls could be standardised in the interest of safety. The Forum also discussed the desirability and



feasibility of bringing about greater standardisation of emergency descent controls. The group agreed to focus on ways of standardising the signposting of emergency descent controls.

This safety decal can be used to signpost the location of emergency descent controls. It is available free from the Resources section of www.ipaf.org



Exiting the platform at height

Exiting the platform at height should only be undertaken after a rigorous risk assessment has been carried out that justifies this practice as the safest way of carrying out the required work tasks. MEWPs are specifically designed to lift people to a position where they can carry out work at height from the platform and then return to ground level. They are not intended for the transfer of people from one level to another. New technical guidance on exiting the platform at height is at the Publications section of www.ipaf.org



IPAF complies with ISO 18878 and 9001

IPAF's operator training programme has again been certified by TÜV as complying with ISO 18878:2004 Mobile elevating work platforms – Operator (driver) training.

IPAF fulfilled all requirements of the standard and no non-conformities were found. The audit was performed by TÜV Rheinland.

The audit report highlighted positive aspects such as IPAF's continued development of the training programme, Operations Manual and instructors through involvement and feedback;

strong surveillance system (audits) and results analysis with escalation processes; clear customer focus; and team approach.

IPAF also meets the 2008 version of ISO 9001, having passed the surveillance audit. No non-conformities were found.

"IPAF are an extremely well organised outfit and a large

part of their business involves auditing of member training centres and organisations, thus they are on top of auditing principles and methods," noted auditor David Willcocks from ISOQAR in his report. "They have an excellent QMS and it is thoroughly appraised via internal audits by their own staff."

RSC wins sustainability award

RSC Equipment Rentals recently received their International Award for Powered Access (IAPA) trophy from AWPT executive vice-president Tony Groat.

RSC was the first ever winner of the Sustainability award, with the judges stating that its emissions tracking system "will set the standard for environmental awareness and customer services in the rental business worldwide."

The IAPA awards ceremony and dinner was held in March this year in London. RSC representatives were not able to receive their IAPA trophy in person at the ceremony as they had decided not to take the long flight across the Atlantic – and in this symbolic way did their bit for sustainability and the environment.

Legal consulting service

Are you an equipment manufacturer wishing to check the legal situation in Italy? IPAF members can turn to a new legal and technical service offered by Italy-based Lext Consulting and Servizi Impresa. The question-and-answer service exclusively for IPAF members covers straightforward legal and technical matters with regards to safety at work in Italy. Users can expect a reply by e-mail within 48 hours. IPAF members can e-mail their queries, also in English, to serviziolegale@ipaf.org

Pictured from left to right: RSC's Kevin Groman, Linda Luman, AWPT's Tony Groat holding an RSC mug, RSC's Neil Sparks with the IAPA trophy, Anthony Giorgi, Heather Schlichting, William Smith and Ken Colonna.



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Inspection key tags

Operators can use inspection key tags as reminders on the points to look out for before daily use of powered access equipment. The MEWP checklist is available in English, Dutch, French, German, Italian and Spanish, and in an US version that follows the requirements defined in the ANSI standards. There is also an MCWP checklist for pre-use inspections and emergency procedures following requirements defined in international



standards. These inspection key tags can be obtained by contacting your local IPAF office. Quantities of the first 200 per company are free of charge. Subsequent quantities can be purchased at cost price from IPAF.

Is your machine and your workplace safe? – handy checklists for operators.

First meeting of the Engineers Forum

The IPAF Engineers Forum met for the first time at the end of July in Lutterworth, UK. The meeting was chaired by Roger Wickens of the Lavendon Group. The Forum brings together rental company engineers to exchange ideas on issues relating to safety and other technical matters. Items discussed included: collating information on structural failures, load sense testing, thorough examinations and field service bulletins.

IPAF Elevating Safety

Elevating Safety, IPAF's new annual publication dedicated to promoting aerial lift safety in the US market, is now available.

This first-ever issue features a debate on the need for proper operator training and familiarisation, an article on the basic recommendations for using harnesses and lanyards, and a useful list of training centres.

Elevating Safety can be downloaded at the Publications section of www.ipaf.org. Free printed copies can be requested from mail@awpt.org



New Members

IPAF welcomes the following new members. Full contact details can be found in the Membership Directory at www.ipaf.org.

DEALER/DISTRIBUTOR
Hermans Heftrucksva, Belgium

HIRER/DEALER
Sicel Srl, Italy

HIRER/RENTAL
Sogenol SpA, Italy

INSTRUCTORS
Paul Maxwell, UK
Ian Meadows, UK

MANUFACTURER (GROUP)
Ihimer SpA, Italy

SERVICE
ARC Service Ltd, UK

TRAINING
ALS Safety Ltd, UK
Ladder & Fencing Industries (Newent) Ltd, UK
Trabajo Temporal en Actura SL, Spain

TRAINING CENTRES
Access Platforms (Aberdeen) Ltd, UK
Advanced Access Platforms Ltd, UK

Al Laith Scaffolding LLC, Dubai
G Q Training Ltd, UK
Hematec Arbeitsbühnen GmbH, Germany
Mayer Hubarbeitsbühnen GmbH, Germany
Merlo Deutschland GmbH, Germany
Omerod Management Services (T/as OMS), UK
Prolift Access Ltd, UK
Ritchies Training Centre, UK
Schweizer Kompetenzzentrum hfs GmbH, Switzerland
Tecnamac Industriale Srl, Italy

TRAINING CENTRES (SATELLITES)
Lift Manager GmbH, c/o Rothlehner Arbeitsbühnen GmbH, Austria
LTC Training Services, Cornwall, UK

CAP ASSESSMENT CENTRE
Highway Plant Co Ltd, Ireland

USER
Chim Kee Machinery Co Ltd, Hong Kong

IPAF Diary 2010

5 October
IPAF UK Hire Committee Meeting (members only)
Castle Donington, UK

6 – 7 October
Ambiente Lavoro
Modena, Italy

6 October
IPAF-Italia Convention
Modena, Italy

12 October
IPAF Netherlands Country Council Meeting (members only)
venue to be advised

27 – 30 October
SAIE
Bologna, Italy

28 October
IPAF C3 Dinner Event for the Powered Access Industry
Bologna, Italy

10 November
IPAF Engineers Forum Meeting (members only)
Cumbria, UK

18 – 19 November
LiftEx
Coventry, UK

14 April 2011
IPAF Summit and International Awards for Powered Access
Amsterdam, Netherlands

Did you know? Details on IPAF meetings and events can be found at www.ipaf.org/events

Aerial platforms + IPAF trained operators = Safe effective work at height Platforma sicuro ed efficace + Hubarbeitsbühnen + IPAF geschulte Bediener = sicheres und effektives Arbeiten
Piastraforme aeree di lavoro + Operatori formati da IPAF = lavoro in altezza sicuro ed efficace



The world authority in powered access

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The world authority in powered access • Die weltweiten Experten für den sicheren Betrieb von Arbeitsbühnen
La référence mondiale des Plates-formes et Nacelles élévatrices • L'Autorità mondiale nell'accesso aereo
Autoridad mundial en técnicas de altura • De wereldwijde autoriteit in hoogwerker toegangstechniek