



# RAISING the standard

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

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[www.ipaf.org](http://www.ipaf.org)

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## “Spot the Mistake” video alerts operators to common errors

Operators can now benefit from a new IPAF safety video called “Spot the Mistake”, which focuses on the wrong and right procedures for using MEWPs (mobile elevating work platforms).

The 20-minute video features six separate scenarios, which are extracted from the IPAF operator training course. Each scene contains one deliberate mistake which the audience has the chance to identify. The correct procedure is then shown.

“The video encapsulates the most common operator errors and what the right procedures should be,” said Rupert Douglas-Jones, IPAF international training manager. “It’s a great educational tool and we thank all the producers and actors for their enthusiasm in making the scenes realistic.”

The UK version was launched at the IPAF Professional Development Seminar (PDS) in Stoke-on-Trent this September. The Dutch, French, German, Italian, Spanish and American versions will be launched at subsequent PDS events in other countries. All versions will be available at the Publications/Film section of [www.ipaf.org](http://www.ipaf.org)



## Europlatform delegates get set for recovery

The Europlatform conference on 15 September 2009 at the Atahotel Expo Fiera in Milan, Italy will take the theme of “Access Rentals: Ready for the Rebound?”

There is a strong line-up of speakers including Tim Ford, president of Terex Aerial Work Platforms; Antonio Gómez de la Vega, director of JLG Financial Solutions; Cees van der Kooij, chief operating officer at Loxam; and Mendes Migotto, managing director of Venpa3.

- See the full report after the conference at [www.europlatform.info](http://www.europlatform.info)



# Selling safety in new ground

Singapore-based BS Technology, the first IPAF-approved training centre in Asia, participated at a forum organised by the WSH (Workplace Safety & Health) Council of the Ministry of Manpower in June. About 400 delegates gathered to learn about the safe use of MEWPs across industries.

BS Technology was invited to speak at another WSH forum in August, this time related to the use of MEWPs in landscaping.

**Making the case for MEWPs and operator training: Raymond Wat, product manager at BS Technology, is third from right.**

# Industry seeks to define noise limits on MEWPs

IPAF has presented a position paper to Bern Mertz, the European Commission representative responsible for the revision of Directive 2000/14/EC relating to noise emission in the environment by equipment for use outdoors.

The position paper asks for achievable limits for MEWPs if they are moved from Article 13 to Article 12. Article 13 applies to equipment that must have a noise level marking while Article 12 applies to equipment with a noise limit. The paper aims to specify limits that bring about a reduction in environmental noise from MEWPs while, at the same time, reducing the impact to a limited range of models/engine power ratings.

"This shows the MEWP industry's desire to work with the EC but also to keep developments within practical and economical limits," said IPAF technical officer Gil Male.

IPAF had previously lobbied to keep MEWPs in Article 13 and not 12 of the Directive, following industry concerns that Article 12 would place inappropriate constraints on MEWPs. There were also concerns about the lack of a test code, which implied developing a methodology for defining noise levels on MEWPs.



IPAF had also presented a position paper to the FEM Noise Task Force some time ago. This position paper was circulated before and discussed at the IPAF Manufacturers' Technical Committee Meeting in Atlanta, USA in March 2009. This paper asked for a specific test code and limits for MEWPs.

It is now clear that proposals to keep MEWPs in Article 13 are unlikely to be accepted and that test codes for individual machine types will not be accepted, i.e. manufacturers will have to use the methods of test and analysis given in the Directive.

IPAF has therefore drafted the new position paper in response to these developments. Proposals for revision of the Directive are to be presented to the European Commission this September.



# Italian officials refine legislation

The Italian Council of Ministers has approved Corrective Decree 106 to the 81/2008 Health and Safety Act that was introduced a year ago. The amended Act went into force on 20 August 2009.

Of particular interest to the powered access industry are the amendments to article 70, paragraph 4 regarding the actions to be taken by the notified body in case of non-conformity with one or more essential safety requirements. Another significant amendment is in article 71, paragraph 7 where the phrase "adequate and specific training" has been replaced with "adequate information, training and familiarisation".

Article 71, paragraph 11 related to mandatory inspections specifies that if ISPESL (Italian certification body) does not

proceed with the first machine inspection within 60 days or the ASL does not provide the required mandatory periodic inspection within 30 days, the owner may use another approved public/private body.

Both paragraphs of Article 72 related to the obligations of rental companies or individuals who deliver a machine to a customer have been amended. Rental companies and sales organisations must issue a declaration under their own responsibility that at the time of delivery, a machine that had been manufactured before the European Machinery Directive came into force complies with the safety requirements of Attachment V. They must also ask the employer or the person who takes delivery of a machine, rented without an operator, for a signed

declaration that the operators who will be using the machine have been properly trained and familiarised.

Attachment IX is an important document for MEWP users and specifies the safety distances to be kept when working near electric power lines.

"In essence, the amendments amplify the importance of practical training for users of work equipment, which requires particular knowledge and responsibility in relation to specific risks," said Gerhard Hillebrand, IPAF-Italia.

IPAF is updating its Italian training material to reflect the changes. The amendments will be one of the subjects at the IPAF Convention of the Italian Powered Access Industry on 14 September in Milan ([www.ipaf.org/events](http://www.ipaf.org/events)).



## IPAF North America completes successful road trip

Tony Groat, AWPT executive vice-president, and Gary Riley, IPAF North American membership development, together with IPAF managing director Tim Whiteman (below left), visited several IPAF members across North America this August, including NES Rentals, Skyjack and United Rentals.

The group took the opportunity to meet the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) director of cooperative and state programmes, Steven Witt (below right), in Washington, DC. Possible areas of cooperation were discussed.

"A hot topic in the US is the question of what constitutes appropriate aerial work platform operator training," said IPAF MD Tim Whiteman. "IPAF believes that minimum standards, as set out in the ISO 18878 standard, are a sound basis on which training programmes should be built on."



# Spanish members draw strength in trying times

The first annual meeting of IPAF's Spanish members was held in July in Barcelona and saw several good presentations. Benjamin Monterde, the training managing director of the FLC Catalunya, spoke about the "Tarjeta Profesional de la Construccion" (Construction Professional Card) and explained the requirements set by the IV Convention of the Construction Sector.

He made clear that the 20-hour training course established in Article 155 of the Convention is specifically for risk prevention and not in any way related to operating platforms, for which specific training is needed.

Antonio Sanchez-Cervera from the law firm Acervera explained the legal implications of risk prevention and criminal responsibility, analysed the current Spanish law and showed how an industrial accident could affect a company on several levels. IPAF is launching a legal helpline as a new service to its Spanish members.

The commercial director of Cicor insurance brokers, Luis Ortiz, brought clarity to the issue of insurance policies for the powered access sector and companies.

The audience was also given an analysis of the rental market and how the recession is affecting



Benjamin Monterde from FLC Catalunya takes the audience through the training requirements under Spanish regulations.

the Spanish rental fleet by David Muñoz, chief editor of Rent & Gruas.

"IPAF wants to become a point of reference for small access platform businesses, providing the many benefits of belonging

to a global organisation with local representation," said Romina Vanzi, IPAF representative for Spain and Portugal.

IPAF-España has been chosen to be on the organising committee for SMOPYC 2011.

## IPAF staff get their PAL Card



Two new members of IPAF staff got their PAL Card (Powered Access Licence) this July. Karina Lehmann, secretary to the managing director, and Gemma Rea, purchase ledger clerk, were successfully trained in the categories 3a and 3b at JLG in Manchester, UK, an IPAF-approved training centre. Stephen McGill was the instructor on that day. Also on the course was IPAF managing director Tim Whiteman, who successfully renewed his licence.

"We were honoured and pleased that IPAF chose JLG to complete its staff operator training," said Edward Price, customer support manager. "We take pride in the quality of training we deliver, so we were more than glad to assist Tim and his team. Our belief is that training should go beyond simply issuing certificates as the quality, content, standard and delivery of the training has an impact on the knowledge that each candidate leaves the course with."

From left to right: Stephen McGill, IPAF-certified instructor, explains the correct operating procedures to Gemma Rea and Karina Lehmann.

# TABS reaches new heights

TABS, the German platform safety conference jointly organised by IPAF and Vertikal Verlag, drew more than 100 delegates to the Airbus facility in Hamburg in June.

The conference covered topics from machine life cycles and intelligent security systems, to the use of powered access in ground support equipment at airports. This was rounded off with a guided tour of the Airbus facility.

The next TABS will be held in June 2010. Watch for details at [www.tagung-tabs.eu](http://www.tagung-tabs.eu)



Harald Diemer, an engineering consultant, outlined the responsibilities of employers with regards to training and operating procedures in their facilities.

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## IPAF Diary 2009

### 14 September

IPAF Council Meeting (members only),  
IPAF Italian Training Working Group Meeting (members only)  
IPAF Manufacturers' Technical Committee Meeting (members only)  
IPAF Convention of the Italian Powered Access Industry  
IPAF European Rental Forum  
Milan, Italy

### 15 September

Europlatform  
Milan, Italy

### 25 – 26 September

Verticaaldagen Benelux  
Hilvarenbeek, Netherlands

### 9 October

Federation of Window Cleaners Exhibition  
Blackpool, UK

### 13 – 15 October

Maintain 2009  
Munich, Germany

### 25 – 30 October

National Safety Council Congress & Expo  
Orlando, FL, USA

### 28 – 31 October

SAIE  
Bologna, Italy

### 3 – 6 November

A+A  
Düsseldorf, Germany

### 12 – 15 November

Expoedilizia  
Rome, Italy

### 23 November

IPAF German Training Working Group Meeting (members only)  
Erkrath-Unterfeldhaus, Germany

### 23 – 26 November

Big 5 PMV  
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Did you know? Details on IPAF meetings and events can be found at [www.ipaf.org/events](http://www.ipaf.org/events)

## New Members

IPAF welcomes the following new members. Full contact details can be found in the Membership Directory at [www.ipaf.org](http://www.ipaf.org).

### COMPANY ASSOCIATE

Urban Access, UK

### DEALER/DISTRIBUTOR

Cumberland Industries UK Ltd, UK

### HIRER/RENTAL

Hartley Hire, UK  
Stroyrent Ltd, Bulgaria

### INSTRUCTORS

Livio Corrado, Italy  
John Peter Whiffin, UK

### SERVICE

Destination Bulgaria, Bulgaria  
Progress Cleaning Services, UK

### TRAINING

Schweizer Kompetenzzentrum Hfs GmbH, Switzerland  
SIM Training Services Ltd, UK

### TRAINING CENTRES

Access Lighting Solutions, UK  
Brightcast Ltd, UK  
Haulotte Italia, Italy  
MB Plant, UK  
Mr Plant Hire PLC, UK  
North East Access Training Ltd, UK  
Top Car Srl, Italy

### USERS

Jaiprakash Associates Ltd, India  
Sapphire Signs Ltd, UK

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



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La référence mondiale des Plates-formes et Nacelles élévatrices • L'Authority mondiale nell'accesso aereo  
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