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# Operators Forum - General Meeting

On the 21st May, the ALLMI Operators Forum held its first General Meeting of 2008.

The agenda included a presentation by Cameron Christie of Lifting Gear Products (LGP) in which he outlined the company's product range and extensive services as well as

explaining how this could become part of ALLMI's co-operative buying arrangements, which would bring further benefits to members. The next step is for Christie to conduct a follow-up survey with the Forum members, which will be carried out during the coming months.

## Better Insurance and a 50% saving

The meeting then heard from Barbara Edwards of AIPS, ALLMI's preferred supplier for insurance services. Edwards gave a report on the year ahead for the insurance industry. She explained that the market was starting to harden and said that now is the time for operators to review their portfolio. She added that insurance renewals require proper planning and so fleet operators should start to review their policies six months before the renewal date. Edwards explained the various aspects of policies that operators should be aware of, such as breakdown cover, air side cover, directors' liability insurance and tool of trade working cover. Edwards also reported that she was in the process of negotiating an exclusive policy for ALLMI members on motor trade insurance. AIPS' work was commended by those members present who had already used its services, all of whom claimed that they had received an improved level of cover,

as well as reduced premiums. One member claimed to have saved over 50 percent on its motor fleet insurance policy.

The meeting concluded with a review of the Forum membership survey conducted during the three weeks prior to the meeting that sought suggestions for new developments to the Operators' Forum. Forum chairman, Steve Frazer-Brown said: "We had a good response to the survey with a positive attitude towards membership of ALLMI. With some members yet to respond, the review of the feedback will occur at the Forum Executive Committee meeting in June."



## ALLMI Code of Practice - First Draft

An ALLMI Technical Committee meeting in May saw the completion of the first draft of the new ALLMI Code of Practice.

Technical director, Eric Hawkyard, said: "We are pleased to have reached this stage at such an early point in the year, as the timetable for the revision has been affected by numerous other issues which

required the committee's attention. The next step is for the draft to be sent out for comment, but before this can happen there's an extensive amount of artwork to be completed, which includes the addition of a new set of hand signals, which have been designed to be much more specific to the operation of lorry loaders, rather than just cranes in general."



## Guidance on stabiliser forces

Following extensive research and discussions during 2007, the ALLMI Technical Committee has recently completed its latest guidance note, which covers the subject of stabiliser forces.

The issue of the forces being applied to the ground by stabiliser legs is critical when performing lorry loader lifting operations, and with more and more sites requesting this information before lifts can be performed, the new guidance note should act as a valuable source of advice for all fleet operators.

ALLMI's technical director, Eric Hawkyard, said: "It's with great pleasure that we release the

guidance note on stabiliser forces, as we are aware of what an important issue it is for the industry as a whole. The guidance starts by outlining the factors that influence the force exerted by the stabiliser legs and then goes on to provide a formula that gives the maximum force that the loader crane will impose on the stabilisers. Once the force has been established, the guidance note then explains how this figure can be used to calculate the ground pressure."

As with all ALLMI guidance notes, the information on stabiliser forces can be found on the ALLMI website [www.allmi.com/guidancenotes.html](http://www.allmi.com/guidancenotes.html)

## Vertikal Days "The most impressive loader crane display of 2008"

Taking place on the 25th and 26th June, Vertikal Days looks set to provide the most impressive loader crane display of 2008, with eight different manufacturers confirmed as exhibitors in the ALLMI area.

The following companies will be represented:

- Effer - Britcom International
- Fassi
- Hiab
- HMF
- Hyva
- PM
- Terex Atlas
- Palfinger - T H White

ALLMI executive director, Tom Wakefield, says: "We've been extremely pleased with the take-up from manufacturers regarding the opportunity to exhibit in the ALLMI demonstration area. Each one will be bringing a loader crane from their range and each will have literature and staff on site to answer any questions from visitors. It promises to be a unique opportunity for visitors to view loader cranes from a wide range of manufacturers at the same time in a small area."

**Vertikal**  
days