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Product update review

Using the Vertikal Days as its platform, ALLMI held its first ever Product Update Event for accredited instructors at Haydock Park on the 20th September.



Manufacturers updated delegates on their products.

The morning session saw presentations from each of the crane manufacturers. Representatives of Terex-Atlas, Palfinger, Hiab, Fassi and HMF, provided information on their product ranges, including an explanation of model nomenclature systems, outrigger and crane deployment and stowage procedures, control systems - including radio remote units and an in-depth explanation of their various safety systems.

After a break for lunch and a look around the Vertikal Days show, instructors benefited from a practical session which involved a demonstration by each manufacturer. ALLMI accredited instructor Harold Thomas of Thrapston-based. Thomas Truck Training, said: "The event was very informative and definitely strengthened my product knowledge. The quality of the presentations was very good and



this was supported well by the practical session, which gave us the opportunity to see the latest systems being demonstrated." Tom Wakefield ALLMI's executive director, added: :The day was a big success, we had an impressive turnout and the feedback we've received so far has been extremely positive. This is definitely an event that, in one form or another, we'll be looking at running on a regular basis; perhaps annually."



ALLMI GENERAL MEETING UPDATE

Website developments & E-Newsletter

At the ALLMI General Meeting on the 3rd October, executive director, Tom Wakefield reported on the ALLMI website's new download areas for members and training providers. This includes a legislation page, where regulations relevant to lorry loaders can be downloaded, a Draft Standards page, which allows members and training providers to comment on the changes being made to standards that are under review, and a Safety Bulletins page containing useful information from the Health & Safety Executive and the ALLMI Technical Committee. In addition, ALLMI training providers will also benefit from the introduction of a new Accident Library, a facility that is designed to assist the delivery of operator training.

The new accident library section of the ALLMI website



In addition to the website changes, Wakefield demonstrated the new ALLMI E-Newsletter, which he said would be sent to all members and

training providers, as well as those outside of the association. It will also be used to keep people abreast of the issues affecting the industry and that the newsletter would contain direct links to various pages on the ALLMI website.



The newsletter feature

Engine Management Systems

Alan Johnson, ALLMI commercial director, reported that following a meeting held between crane manufacturers and installers, bodybuilders and truck manufacturers. a series of action points have been agreed with regard to resolving problems surrounding the wiring into and programming of Engine Management Systems.

A questionnaire will be produced for truck salesman to use, which will be pushed through to dealer level by the truck manufacturers. This will assist in the correct specification of the equipment, which should reduce problems later on, Also, a Control Sheet will be introduced,

which will allow the crane installer to fax a declaration to the truck dealer, stating that the truck is correctly wired and confirming programming parameters, etc. The truck dealer will then acknowledge receipt of the declaration. In addition to these measures, in co-operation with both truck and crane manufacturers, ALLMI will post relevant information on the ALLMI website and will also investigate the possibility of offering a competitively priced wiring harness/plug kit to act as an interim 'industry standard' solution. In an attempt to find longer term solutions, several attendees at the meeting agreed to participate in a working group, the function of which will be to feed back a uniform proposal to the manufacturers.

International opportunities

Andrew Taylor, ALLMI's training director, reported that the appropriate legal and market research had been carried out in relation to the delivery of the ALLMI operator training programme in Trinidad, and that the process would begin with a representative of Trinidad based, **Hydraulic Components, visiting** the UK to undergo instructor training. Taylor said that a possible expansion into the Australian market was still under investigation.

Membership Growth

ALLMI has recently experienced an impressive surge in membership applications, with eight companies joining during the last two months alone. This positive trend is likely to continue, with an aggressive mailshot campaign planned for the fourth quarter 2007, together with a reward scheme being implemented for those members that introduce new companies to ALLMI. In addition, manufacturer members are working on an agreement that will see all of their sub-contractors being asked to join the Association by 1st January 2009.

ALLMI appoints new BSI rep

Bryan Flintham of Terex Atlas has been appointed as the new ALLMI representative working with the BSI Crane Committee, MHE/3. Following his extensive experience in the lorry loader industry and his many years of work with the ALLMI Technical Committee, Bryan will now attend BSI meetings with ALLMI colleague, John Penny of Penny of Penny Hydraulics, and will be heavily involved in the revision of both the British and European Standards for lorry loaders.

