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INTERMAT
International Exhibition of Equipment,
Machinery and Techniques for the
Construction and Building Materials Industry
www.intermat.fr

Taoiseach welcomes Summit delegates to Dublin

The Irish prime minister, also known as the Taoiseach, Brian Cowen, recently met with IPAF president John Ball and was given an introduction to the aims and activities of the Federation. Cowen congratulated Ball on bringing the IPAF Summit to Dublin, the first time that the Summit has been held outside of the UK.

"While IPAF may not be a household name in Ireland but it has gained a

well deserved international reputation for promoting and developing their industry," said Cowen. "And I hope that the 300 delegates attending this year's conference will not only enjoy an interesting and informative event but that they will also get a chance to sample some of our capital's delights during their stay."

The IPAF Summit and the first International Awards for Powered



Brian Cowen (right), the Irish prime minister, also known as Taoiseach, welcomes IPAF president John Ball (left) at his office

Access (IAPAs) were held on 2nd April, just as this magazine went to press. See the latest news at

www.ipaf.org and look out for the popular photo spread in the next Cranes & Access.

Manufacturers examine potential risk of sustained involuntary operation

Manufacturer members of IPAF met during the ARA/Rental Show in Atlanta, where it was decided to collate information on how manufacturers address risks associated with the sustained involuntary operation of platform controls through their design risk assessments. IPAF is collating this information and will present it in an anonymous way for discussion by interested manufacturers at a later stage.

IPAF is also drafting a report on the benefits and risks of safety devices that have been proposed by various parties to protect against sustained involuntary operation, such as stand-off bars, shrouds and trip wires. The safety devices report will be studied alongside the manufacturers' risk assessment.

"The intention is to identify what manufacturers are doing to address this risk and if the proposed safety devices provide benefits or create risks that outweigh the benefits they provide," said IPAF technical officer Gil Male.

IPAF continues to work with both the UK Health & Safety Executive (HSE) and major contractor Balfour Beatty to review proposed measures to protect against sustained involuntary operation of controls.

IPAF and ERA Rental Reports

IPAF members have the unique opportunity to obtain reports that contain groundbreaking research on the rental sector to help them plan business strategies. All three reports -- the IPAF European Powered Access Rental

Report 2008, the IPAF US Powered Access Rental Report 2008, and the ERA European Equipment Rental Industry 2008 Report -- can be purchased at a special price of €440 (£395). Details at www.ipaf.org

Live demonstrations and Job Access at Intermat

IPAF has a large safety zone at Intermat on stand E5 J 020 in the outdoor area. The IPAF Safety Zone will feature demonstrations to illustrate the dangers of not wearing a full body harness when operating a boom-type work platform, using a real-weight dummy on a specially modified boom lift. The demonstrations will run daily at 11:00, 14:00, 16:00 and 17:30. Job Access, which aims to draw young people to the powered access industry, will also take centre stage. Groups of 18-year-olds from technical high schools will attend a lecture at the IPAF stand and gain practical experience of operating a platform.



New look certificates

People who successfully complete an IPAF training course will start receiving new look certificates with immediate effect.

IPAF has updated the look of its training certificates to bring the design in line with its core training publications. The new IPAF certificate carries a watermark as a security feature. Holders of existing certificates do not need to get their certificates re-issued.



PDS on 9 September

The Professional Development Seminar (PDS) for UK instructors will be held on 9th September 2009 at the Best Western Moat House, Stoke on Trent ST1 5BQ. IPAF has arranged a special rate of £99 for bed and breakfast. Contact the Best Western Moat House directly on Tel: 0870 225 4601, Fax: 01782 206 101, www.bestwestern.co.uk and quote

the reference "IPAF". Special rates are available until 1 August 2009.

The PDS is the annual event for IPAF-qualified instructors and ensures that they remain up-to-date with legislation and training. Close to 400 IPAF instructors in six countries attended PDS events last year. Registration details and a full programme will be available soon at www.ipaf.org/events

Europlatform conference

Europlatform, the conference for European access professionals, will be held on 15th September 2009 in Milan, Italy. The conference will take the theme of "Access rentals: Ready for the rebound?"

Details on registration and getting to the venue are at www.europlatform.info



NEW Regional meetings

IPAF will soon announce its first regional meeting as part of its aim to reach out to more members. Watch for details at www.ipaf.org/events



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