

# IPAF works with RoSPA to eliminate training alphabet soup

IPAF is working with the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) on a new initiative that will increase clarity about which health & safety qualifications employees need to have and which training courses they need to undertake.

Launched in May, the National Core Competence Benchmark (NCCB) is a collaborative initiative supported by a wide range of trade associations and is open to any training provider.

A website will be created which lists courses and qualifications that are accredited by trade, safety or examination bodies, ranking them against recognised training frameworks. The initiative also includes "smart card training passports", where contractors can store all training histories online



Trade associations join hands to create the National Core Competence Benchmark.

and on electronically readable cards, allowing quick access and easy sharing of records.

"This initiative is a timely response to confusion and uncertainty among employers as to which training they should choose, the quality of the courses and the levels of competency," said IPAF managing director Tim Whiteman. "IPAF is pleased to work with RoSPA to give employers a viable framework on which to make training decisions."

## Vote on mutual status

An Extraordinary General Meeting is being held on 18th June 2010 in Cumbria to vote on IPAF changing its legal status to a mutual organisation. Copies of the EGM notice and the new rules of the Federation have been sent to all members.

In practice, the conversion will not change the way IPAF deals with members and suppliers.

On conversion, IPAF will no longer be a company limited by guarantee that is registered at Companies House. Instead, it will be an Industrial and Provident Society registered with the Financial

Services Authority (FSA) widow/orphan protection.

Having no liability for corporation tax and being subject to the rules of the FSA 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.

## How big is the powered access rental market?

The European and US rental markets for MEWPs are expected to improve in 2011, according to the IPAF European Powered Access Rental Report 2009 and the IPAF US Powered Access Rental Report 2009. The European market is estimated at €2.6 billion in 2009, a decrease of 13 percent over 2008, while the US market is estimated at \$6 billion, a drop of 25 percent. The reports can be purchased at the Publications section of [www.ipaf.org](http://www.ipaf.org)

## Scottish regional meeting

IPAF's first Scottish regional meeting will take place on 29th June 2010 at 18:00 at the Hilton Strathclyde Hotel, Phoenix Crescent, Bellshill ML4 3JQ.

IPAF's regional meetings are an informal opportunity to meet industry associates and to discuss topics of interest. A buffet meal will be provided, for which there is a nominal charge. IPAF members and non-members are welcome and should register in advance at [www.ipaf.org/events](http://www.ipaf.org/events)

## PDS events in North and South

IPAF-approved instructors and training centre staff in the UK can look forward to attending one of two Professional Development Seminars in September. The PDS for those based in the South will be held on 21st September 2010 at the Milton House Hotel in Oxfordshire, while the northern meeting will be held on 23rd September at the De Vere Whites Hotel in Bolton. Details at [www.ipaf.org/events](http://www.ipaf.org/events)

All IPAF instructors are encouraged to attend a PDS once a year and earn points toward their continuing professional development programme – required for maintaining instructor status.

## IPAF Safety Experience draws in bauma visitors

Visitors who did make it to Bauma took the unique opportunity to walk through IPAF's powered access theme park highlighting the safe and effective use of equipment. Professional artistes illustrated, through lively shows, how MEWPs can offer a safer, more economical way to work at height than ladders and other traditional access methods.



Dr. Katrin Kobe, managing director of Tractel-Greifzug (L), with the award-winning Ladytrac harness modelled by Teresa Carlino of IPAF.



Tractel's Ladytrac harness won the IPAF Design Award for the best designed harness for women. The harness is equally suitable for men. Another harness submitted by ZT Safety Systems was highly commended for its innovative thinking and the fact that no forces are applied to the chest area.

## Incident reporting

The IPAF UK Hire Committee is testing an incident reporting form with the aim of drawing out key lessons that can be used to improve safety and best practice. The form is for use by

IPAF members to record incidents that occur to themselves, their employees and contracted personnel. It covers incidents on the member's premises as well as those that occur during delivery and collection of MEWPs from customers' premises or places of work. All information will be treated in strict confidence, with only aggregated results made available to the Committee and other interested parties.



IPAF, Moss End Business Village, Crooklands, Cumbria. LA7 7NU.UK  
Tel: 015395 66700  
Fax: 015395 66084  
[www.ipaf.org](http://www.ipaf.org) [info@ipaf.org](mailto:info@ipaf.org)  
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