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All training centres above offer IPAF/PASMA approved and audited courses. European directives require that all staff are fully and adequately trained in the safe use of the equipment they operate.



## Innovative penalty for fatal overturn

The US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has agreed an unusual settlement with Mass Bay Electrical, following a fatal overturning incident in 2014 that resulted in the deaths of employees Joseph Boyd and John Loughran both aged 34. The two men were installing a new high tension power line from a platform mounted to an Elliot 20142 boom truck. They were around 43 metres up when its outriggers sank into the sandy ground causing the machine to overturn. The two men were harnessed in, but died on hitting the ground.

The company has accepted a reduced fine of \$136,000, but also agreed actions to help prevent future accidents including training of management and employees on crane and aerial lift operations, committing to regular independent safety audits, developing an in-house safety committee and requiring field managers to be trained as linesmen. The company will also set up an endowment fund in the men's name to provide scholarships to train new recruits in line construction project management and safety. The company will contribute at least \$3,000 a year to the fund for the next 10 years and at least \$5,000 a year for 10 years after that. The fund will be administered in cooperation with union, IBEW Local 104.

## £10,000 fine for Anglian

In June 2012, Anglian Windows employee Alan Campbell, 47, fell while loading an easi-dec system onto the roof of his van at a home in Linlithgow. He suffered two bleeds to the brain and was kept in an induced coma for three weeks. A metal plate was required to reshape his face and he now suffers epilepsy and is unable to drive.

The investigation found that Anglian had failed to provide sufficient information, instruction and training to employees who were required to load and unload equipment from van roofs. As a result it was fined £10,000.

HSE inspector Ritchie McCrae said: "Loading and unloading of materials and equipment from van roofs should be properly planned and appropriate control measures identified and employed. On this occasion, Anglian Windows failed to control the risk of falls from van roofs as the company was entirely reliant on an instruction which was not properly communicated and was not monitored to check compliance. As a result this entirely preventable incident occurred and an employee sustained serious and life changing injuries."



## New apprenticeships from GAP

UK rental company GAP Hire Solutions has introduced a new Hire Desk Operatives Apprenticeship and opened new apprenticeship assessment centres to help recruit new candidates. The Hire Desk Apprenticeship will be delivered in conjunction with the CITB and Hire Association Europe at six of the company's depots. Candidates will gain an NVQ Level 2 qualification by working directly in the depot and completing external training blocks.



## Lack of guardrails costs £113,000

Three companies have been fined a total of £90,000 plus £23,000 in costs after a man fell six metres from an unguarded platform.

In May 2013 two workers were dismantling an industrial unit at a construction site in Westferry Road, London.

One of the men slipped and fell over the side of the platform, hitting the wall and then landing on the concrete floor six metres below. He sustained multiple injuries including internal bleeding, a collapsed lung, and fractures to his pelvis and right arm and has been left unable to work.

Principal contractor Meta Management Services - trading as Aktrion - of Edinburgh, was fined £9,000 with £1,942 in costs. Goss Graphic Systems of Preston was fined £27,000 with costs of £7,000 and Beck & Pollitzer Engineering of Dartford, Kent was fined £54,000 with costs of £14,000.



# Who trained them then?

Spotted in the UK and Spain, contractors working with boom lifts half on the road, half on the pavement and using different ways to level up, in one case over pedestrians.

