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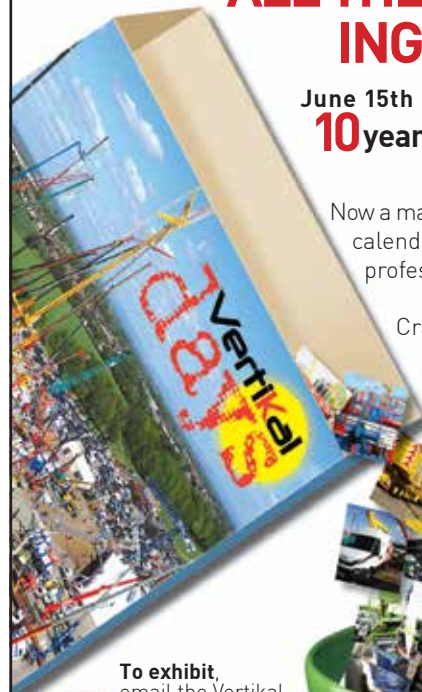


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PASMA and HAE forge closer links

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PASMA



PASMA and the Hire Association Europe (HAE), the trade association for the tool and general equipment rental industry, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding which formalises and extends their existing working relationship. A key aim of the agreement is to develop HAE's SafeHire standard of assessment and audit to satisfy PASMA's strict criteria for its Hirer/Dealer members.

Developed by HAE for the hire and rental industry with the assistance of the BSI (British Standards Institution) - and other organisations including PASMA and the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) - the SafeHire standard sets benchmarks for product quality and service delivery, and includes mobile access towers.

PASMA will provide HAE and its auditors with a control document specifying the criteria to be met in order to comply with the current requirements of its Hirer/Dealer membership category. Ultimately, PASMA will recognise compliance with the extended HAE SafeHire standard by its members as 'de facto' conformance with these requirements. The memorandum also calls for closer cooperation through the sharing and exchanging of information.

PASMA managing director, Peter Bennett said: "This is a natural and logical extension of a long standing relationship with HAE. Promoting excellence is a common theme of both organisations and one of the reasons why PASMA sponsors the SafeHire category at the annual Hire Awards of Excellence. We were also delighted to present a paper on height safety, and tower safety in particular, at HAE's Hire Convention last year."

"This development is good for towers and good for the hire industry," added HAE managing director, Graham Arundell. "There are many companies who are members of both organisations, and any initiative that seeks to raise and standardise levels of service, performance and safety can only be a good thing. Everyone at HAE looks forward to developing closer links with PASMA during 2016."



Carl Evans

Who's who on Council

- Carl Evans, chairman, head of operations, HSS
- Chris Blantern, immediate past chairman, managing director, Hi-Point Access
- Peter Bennett, managing director, PASMA
- John Bungay, vice chairman, business development director, Youngman
- Steve Booker, chairman of Training Committee, managing director, Kentec Training
- Richard Fairfield, chairman of Hire and Assembly Committee, managing director, ET Hire
- John Darby, chairman of Manufacturers' Technical Committee, UK manufacturing manager, Youngman
- Roger Verallo, council member, managing director, Euro Towers
- Gillian Rutter, council member, managing director, Skyward Access Training
- Paul Gallagher, council member, sales director, Pop Up Products
- Hannah Lewis, council member, commercial director, Lyte Industries
- Cathal O'Neill, council member, general manager, Instant Upright
- Stephen Kane, council member, managing director, Ridgeway Plant



When should mobile access towers be inspected?

PASMA is often asked the question "When should mobile access towers be inspected?" The answer is quite simple. They must be inspected as often as necessary to ensure safety.

Where it is possible to fall two metres or more, the association recommends that inspections are carried out after assembly or significant alteration, and before use and following any event likely to have affected the tower's stability or structural integrity. Inspection reports should be completed and issued in accordance with the requirements of the Work at Height Regulations and be re-inspected as often as is necessary to ensure safety, but at least every seven days and a new report issued on each occasion.

A tower from which it is possible to fall a distance of less than two metres has a different inspection requirement. It must be inspected after assembly and before use, and after any event likely to have affected its stability or structural integrity, and at intervals depending on its frequency and conditions of use.

PASMA recommends the use of its Tower Inspection Record which



not only gives a visual indicator of the tower's status, but when fixed to the tower and retained upon completion, satisfies the inspection requirements of the Work at Height Regulations. In addition to the Record, the association has also produced a PocketCard and poster explaining the inspection requirements for mobile access towers. Visit www.pasma.co.uk

Got a story to tell?

Work will start shortly on the 2015/16 annual review. If you have an interesting or unusual story regarding a mobile access tower, then PASMA's Gary Chudleigh, would love to hear about it - especially if you have good quality pictures. The best submissions will be included in the review as examples of the flexibility and versatility of towers.

gary.chudleigh@asma.co.uk



For details of PASMA standards, guidance and training, including free PocketCards and posters, visit: www.pasma.co.uk