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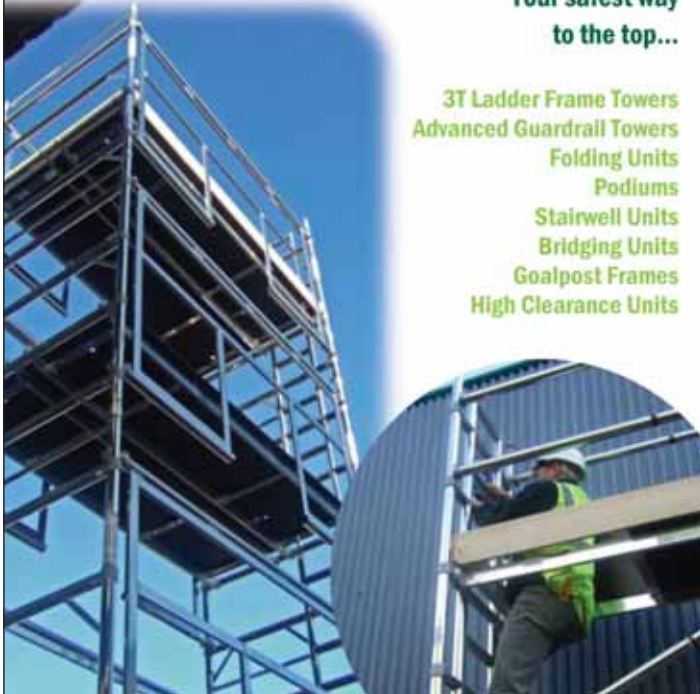
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soon and had only one
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And what would you say?
And why are you waiting?"*

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Fall Protection Review: Moving Forward

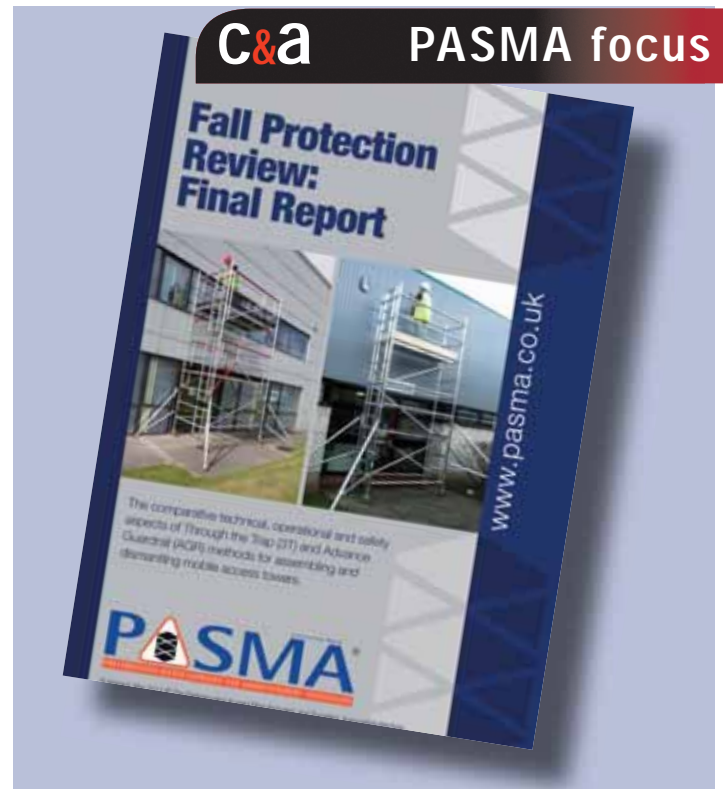
It is now 10 months since PASMA first published its review into recommended best practice for the avoidance of falls from height when using mobile access towers. So now would seem to be an appropriate time to review the steps that PASMA has taken to implement the recommendations flowing from the report.

The 20-page report brings clarity to the use of Through the Trap (3T) and Advance Guardrail (AGR) methods for assembling, altering and dismantling mobile access towers. It is available as a PDF download from the PASMA website www.pasma.co.uk

CPD Seminars: These seminars - mandatory for PASMA instructors - which included practical demonstrations, were run throughout the UK to ensure that all instructors fully understood both the content and implications of the review. In particular, they were intended to provide knowledge and information about the latest developments in Advance Guardrail towers, with a focus on the latest

generation of integral AGR products. Towers for Users Course: PASMA's industry standard training course, now includes a mandatory section, both theoretical and practical, devoted to Advance Guardrail Towers. Changes to PASMA Form 13 mean that delegates are marked on their understanding of AGR towers in exactly the same way as 3T towers.

A new training Module - AGR Towers for Users - is intended to supplement, but not replace, the Towers for Users Course, the new training module focuses entirely on safety and best practice when using Advance Guardrail mobile access towers. It is geared towards those



delegates wishing to acquire a more in-depth understanding of AGR systems.

PASMA's director of training, Stuart Hopkins says: "The report concluded that when used in accordance with manufacturers' instructions and guidance, both systems provided an acceptable safe method of work, with Advance Guard Rail systems

providing comprehensive fall protection, while the 3T system using conventional components to minimise the risk of a fall."

"As a result of the review and the actions taken following its publication, both systems are properly and equally represented in all aspects of the association's work."

2012 PASMA Tower Week

PASMA's first ever Tower Week will take place later this year (date to be confirmed). The week long campaign will focus attention on mobile access towers as a safe, flexible and increasingly popular piece of access equipment for working at height. It will also provide invaluable data to help inform the future work of the association.

Initially confined to Yorkshire in advance of a national roll out, the initiative will see PASMA members, in collaboration with the association, stage a series of tower-related events and activities aimed at both occasional and regular users; from the self-employed and Small to Mediums Enterprises, to major contractors, utilities and local authorities.

Specifically, PASMA Tower Week will:

- Promote the safe use of towers and encourage best practice;
- Demonstrate the versatility of and all-round benefits of towers;
- Provide a snapshot of towers in use in the workplace;
- Raise awareness of the PASMA brand and training.

More information about PASMA Tower Week is available from jill.couttie@pasma.co.uk



News in brief

Safety & Health Expo 2012: As part of the Access Industry Forum (AIF), the association will again be a major contributor to this annual event. Dates are 15th -17th May at the NEC, Birmingham.

Tower Supplement: PASMA is collaborating with Cranes & Access to produce a second tower supplement, currently scheduled for publication with the March issue of the magazine.



Tower Images: The association has an on-going need for good quality 3T and AGR images, ideally showing towers in use. Different or unusual application shots are especially welcome. Please send them to jill.couttie@pasma.co.uk



Toolbox Talks: These continue to be an invaluable source of information. Watch the latest editions free online at www.pasma.co.uk