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"Syrinx has certainly brought all of this information together into one database and improved the efficiency of our business from start to finish." Phil Mitchell

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"Syrinx is our ideal solution." Gary Rose

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"When we were undertaking due diligence on the acquisition of another powered access company, who were already using the Syrinx system, we noted that Syrinx gave them a number of operational and financial functions that we didn't have with our existing system. Kimberly Access are a focused operational business and so this excited us. Syrinx is now set up as our group rental system and Higher Concept Software have exceeded all our expectations in terms of the product and their customer service." Ray Ledger

Lifterz
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"We chose Syrinx because of its stability and reliability - a great improvement on our previous system." Malcolm Bowers

platform
hire & rent

"Syrinx is the product best suited to the Powered Access Industry. The service was professional through from point of sale to data management to installation making the transition very easy." Duncan Howard

1UP
hire & rent

"After a disastrous 3 months with our initial supplier we switched to Syrinx and within 1 day we were up and running with all our plant information on the system. I would recommend Syrinx again and again, it's easy to use and the reporting is excellent. I can't thank Higher Concept Software enough, they pulled out all the stops when we really needed them." Ben James

HORIZON
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"Syrinx is easy to use, self explanatory and yet sophisticated." Ben Hirst



SYRINX

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Anti-entrapment solutions: IPAF reminds industry of existing guidance

No one single device will prevent all crushing and trapping accidents, and the basis for preventing such accidents must go together with appropriate training, adequate familiarisation, risk assessment, proper planning and management of work at height, says IPAF. The Federation's reminder comes amid a move by several UK contractors to require the fitting of specific anti-entrapment devices to all telescopic booms on their sites.

IPAF reiterates that there is current best practice guidance on avoiding trapping/crushing, first published in July 2010 by the UK-based Strategic Forum for Construction Plant Safety Group, of which IPAF is a part. This guidance is endorsed by the UK Health & Safety Executive (HSE).

"Incidents could have been prevented by correct planning and preparation, selection of appropriate machinery and proper use," writes Phillip White, HM chief inspector of construction and chairman of the HSE Construction Industry Advisory Committee (CONIAC), in the foreword to the guidance, referring to crushing/trapping incidents that have happened. The guidance is available in six European languages and a US edition, at the Publications section of www.ipaf.org. IPAF has also published guidance on the selection of anti-entrapment devices for aerial lifts.

"IPAF members have been at the forefront of the debate about understanding and preventing entrapment incidents," said IPAF chief executive Tim Whiteman. "These initiatives have involved manufacturers, rental companies, contractors and safety authorities around the world. The recently launched PAL+ training course is designed to address work in high risk environments. While there is a risk of trapping/crushing when operating equipment, aerial work platforms are one of the safest ways to work at height and entrapment risks should be addressed on all fronts, not just through the reliance on a specific device."



IPAF instructors gather for a day of professional development through lectures and workshops

Continuous learning at PDS events

Instructors from IPAF-approved training centres turned out in force for this year's Professional Development Seminars (PDS). Some 106 instructors attended the PDS in Oxford on 18th October while more than 120 attended the PDS in Wakefield on 6th November.

The PDS is the annual event for IPAF qualified instructors and ensures that they remain up-to-date with legislation and training in the use of powered access equipment. Through attending the event, instructors gain Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points, necessary to maintain their IPAF instructor status.

Other PDS events will follow in the next months across several countries. Details are at www.ipaf.org/events

Enter now to win an IAPA in Miami

Entries are now open for the International Awards for Powered Access (IAPAs) 2013. The IAPA awards ceremony and dinner, and the IPAF Summit conference, will be held on 26th March at the Hilton Miami Downtown Hotel, Florida, USA.

There are 10 award categories, open to all companies and individuals in the powered access industry, including Access Rental Company of the Year, Contribution to Safe Working at Height, and Award for Outstanding After Sales Service. Another three categories are designed specifically for IPAF member companies and individuals.

The judges are looking for professionalism and good business practice, innovation and forward thinking, quality, and client satisfaction. The basic criterion is simple – the judges want all entrants to tell them why they believe their company, project or product is special and why it deserves to win an award in a particular category.

Awards are for activities undertaken and for products launched in 2012. The deadline for entries is 21st December. Entries must be submitted using the official entry form available at www.iapa-summit.info. Alongside the IAPAs, there will be an access photography competition, sponsored by Facelift, who will donate the €1,000 prize. Judges are looking for a spectacular or beautiful shot that helps promote access equipment and/or highlights an important aspect of safety or productivity. Details at www.iapa-summit.info

Third quarter results of accident reporting revealed

IPAF's accident reporting project shows that there were 26 deaths resulting from 25 accidents worldwide involving aerial work platforms from January to September 2012.

Results for the last quarter reveal seven fatalities from six accidents, all involving boom lifts (3b) and the main causes were: electrocution (2), fall from platform (2), overturn (1) and entrapment (1). In one of the accidents involving electrocution, both the operator and a work colleague in the platform died. Three updates on the provisional half-year results announced in July, brings the reported number of fatal accidents worldwide to 25. Of these, 15 involved booms (3b), seven vehicle mounts (1b) and three scissor lifts (3a). The main causes were: fall from platform (7), electrocution (6), overturn (5), mechanical/technical (4) and entrapment (3).

15 of the accidents occurred in the USA, three in the Netherlands, two in the UK and one each in Australia, Canada, Singapore, Spain and Switzerland.

