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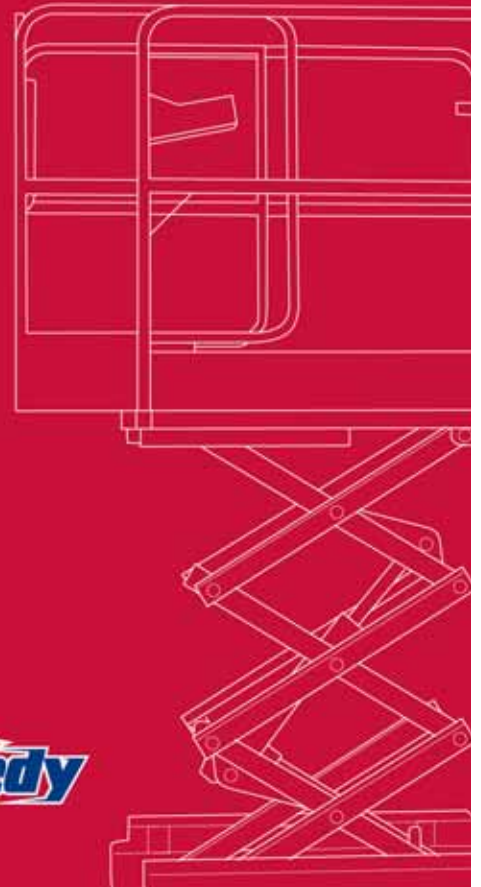
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PASMA Tower Week goes national

11–15th November 2013

What is Tower Week?

Sponsored by PASMA, PASMA Tower Week is a safety-led event for the UK and Ireland, managed by the association and delivered locally by its member organisations. Its roll out this year follows a successful, Yorkshire-based pilot carried out in 2012.



What are its objectives?

PASMA Tower Week 2013 has four distinct objectives:

1. To promote safety in the work at height sector generally and the mobile access tower industry in particular.
2. To make a practical contribution to helping reduce the number of deaths and injuries resulting from falls from height.
3. To promote best practice and competency through industry-recognised standards, guidance and training.
4. To grow awareness and understanding of the benefits of towers and their increasing use in a wide variety of different applications.

PASMA Tower Week will also collate information about current tower use. The data will be used to inform future safety campaigns and initiatives.

Tower Week website

A dedicated website will be the focus and resource hub for PASMA Tower Week 2013. It will host a range of resources - advice, information and guidance - including a diary of events and activities planned by PASMA members on a local basis.

Social media will also form an important part of this year's campaign.

What's happening?

In the run up to PASMA Tower Week 2013 the association will engage with the national and regional press - including the broadcast media - trade and professional publications and other 'safety focused' organisations, including the Access Industry Forum (AIF).

In addition, Cranes & Access will

carry a 2-page feature in its October issue.

These communications will publicise a range of PASMA Tower Week events and activities, including:

- Free 'tower topics' packs
- Tower workshops and surgeries
- On site health checks
- Training taster sessions
- Tower demonstrations and displays
- Ask the expert panels
- Competitions and quizzes

As part of Tower Week, PASMA's managing director, Peter Bennett, will be one of the speakers at this year's IIRSM Annual Conference at the Birmingham Think Tank on 14th November. He will join, amongst others, Judith Hackitt from the Health & Safety Executive, Neal Stone from the British Safety Council and Richard Habgood from the Association for Project Safety.

Who is Tower Week aimed at?

Any organisation or individual using towers on an occasional, frequent or daily basis. It will have something for everyone - from directors, managers and supervisors to anyone assembling and using towers on a day-to-day basis.

It is aimed at a wide variety of sectors including major civil engineering and construction contractors, the self-employed, facilities management companies, maintenance and refurbishment specialists, the utilities, local authorities, the health service, retailing, warehousing and distribution companies.

For more information contact: lynn.reid@pasma.co.uk or visit towerweek.pasma.org.uk



Delegates at a 2012 Tower Week presentation

New chairman for PASMA



Chris Blatern

Chris Blatern, 54, is PASMA's new chairman. He takes over from Roger Verallo who steps down after a period of four years in office. He is the first chairman of the association to come from the hire assembly membership category.

Managing director of Sheffield-based Hi-Point Access, a company he formed with his brother in November 1991, Blatern has spent virtually all his working life in the access industry.

Throughout his career he has been an enthusiastic champion of aluminium towers and the wide and varied applications for which they can be used. He has also consistently advocated the need for the highest standards in training and safety for anyone involved in the work at height sector.

Significantly, Hi-Point Access -

which operates nationally and employs 60 people - was one of the first mobile access tower rental specialists to appoint a health and safety director to its board.

PASMA's new chairman first joined the association in 1995, becoming a member of the training committee in 1997 and chairman of the inaugural hire assembly committee in 2007, a position he held until 2012. During this five year period he was responsible for pioneering a code of conduct for PASMA's hire assembly members, contributing to the development of a training programme for aluminium tower riggers and supporting the introduction of a local authority pavement licence.

"In taking over I must first pay tribute to Roger Verallo who has done an exceptional job as chairman," said Blatern. "I intend to follow his example and build on his legacy. Over the next two years my aim is to promote safety and best practice across the industry. I want tower users to know that when they specify a PASMA member organisation, they can do so confident in the knowledge that they are dealing with a competent, professional company that satisfies industry-recognised standards."



As a PASMA member, if you have an interesting or unusual story to tell about towers and tower training, please send it to michael.fern@pasma.co.uk