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Coombe Abbey
Warwickshire



New AMM venue

Coombe Abbey in Warwickshire has been chosen as the new venue for this year's Annual Members' Meeting, with PASMA hoping to build on last year's record-breaking attendance at the event that gives members the opportunity to catch up with all the latest news and developments.

Located at the four star Coombe Abbey hotel which was originally built in the 12th century as a Cistercian Abbey, members will hear from the chairman of council, Chris Blantern and managing director, Peter Bennett as well as the chairmen of the association's various committees. The event is scheduled on Thursday 3rd July 2014 starting with a lunch at 13.00 followed by the meeting at 14.00. To book, or for more information, please email: lynn.reid@pasma.co.uk.

Members attending the meeting will receive the first copies of the 2014 Annual Review. Anyone wanting to submit tower images for consideration for inclusion in this year's review - or for future use on the PASMA website - should send them to: michael.fern@pasma.co.uk. They might even end up in C&A PASMA Focus!

PASMA at OSH EXPO Africa

Last month PASMA took part in its first ever event in Africa - OSH EXPO Africa. Held in Johannesburg the event was aimed at occupational health and safety professionals. PASMA also organised the event's inaugural Work at Height Theatre which not only consisted of presentations by PASMA, but also by IPAF and the Institute for Work at Height (IWH).

In a presentation entitled Benchmark for Low Level Access, managing director, Peter Bennett, spoke about the new PASMA-sponsored standard for pulpits and podiums PAS 250, while PASMA's South African representative, Dave Bass, discussed how to protect the public around mobile access towers. The event was well attended and all the presentations received positive reviews.



Peter Bennett at the OSH EXPO in Africa



Toolbox Talks

PASMA's Toolbox Talks are a quick, convenient and informative way of learning about mobile access towers. Each one lasts about 10 minutes and can be viewed free online via the PASMA website. The emphasis is on practical help, advice and guidance that can be applied every day in the workplace by anyone involved in specifying, buying, using, or supervising the use of towers. The Toolbox Talk topics include:

- Frequently asked questions (FAQs);
- Managing tower specialists;
- Fall protection;
- Low level access;
- 3T and advance guardrail towers;
- PAS 250.

Recent round up

- The association's 'Not on your life!' campaign is attracting increasing attention, not only in the trade and professional press, but also from a wide cross section of companies and organisations involved in the work at height sector. It advocates using only those towers that satisfy the requirements of European tower standard EN1004.
- PASMA has launched its latest training course - Towers for Riggers - which explains and demonstrates how to assemble, use and dismantle complex towers in a variety of different configurations. It is currently available only to PASMA Hire and Assembly members.
- As part of the Access Industry Forum, the association recently took part in the UK's first ever Working at Height Twitter Symposium. Along with the other eight member organisations of the Forum, it fielded questions in the inaugural hour-long session. A second symposium is planned for later in the year.
- Earlier this month the association and its members were represented at the IOSH Conference and Expo at the ExCeL exhibition centre in London's Docklands. Key speakers included General The Lord Dannatt, former Chief of the General Staff, British Army, and Judith Hackitt, chairman of the health and safety executive.

Towers for Riggers is PASMA's latest training course designed for advanced tower configurations.



British Standards for Mobile Access Towers

BS EN 1004: Mobile access and working towers made of prefabricated elements - materials, dimensions, design loads, safety and performance requirements.

BS 1139 Part 6: Metal scaffolding - specification for prefabricated tower scaffolds outside the scope of BS EN 1004, but utilising components from such systems.

BS EN 1298: Mobile access and working towers - rules and guidelines for the preparation of an instruction manual.



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If you want your tower case study to appear on this page, please contact michael.fern@pasma.co.uk for details.