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All training centres above offer IPAF/PASMA approved and audited courses. European directives require that all staff are fully and adequately trained in the safe use of the equipment they operate.

Bronto's training simulator

Bronto has introduced a new compact training simulator developed to provide virtual training for its range of truck mounted lifts. Based on its F32 TLK fire fighting lift and designed to replicate the Bronto+ control panel with authentic movements and functions, it can also be used to train all Bronto models that use Bronto 3+ and 4+ control systems. A large LCD screen provides a realistic virtual environment of buildings, streets, trees and other urban obstacles.

The simulator offers three different exercises: Target Point, Path and Levelling. In the Target Point exercise operators must manoeuvre the platform from one target point to the next - passing through each target in order to complete the scenario. The Path exercise requires a greater level of skill as operators must follow a specific path while being graded on platform/boom movements, time and collisions.

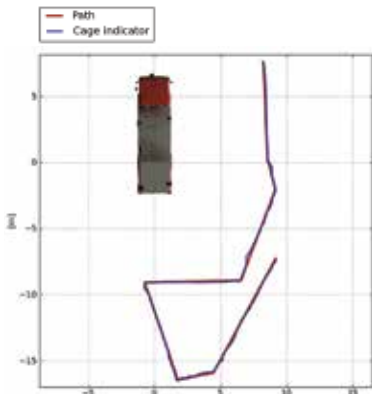
The Levelling exercise has been designed to assist operators setting up inside specified areas. The key factor for this exercise is time and safe operation. All scenarios are followed with a detailed feedback report with scores, times, and pictures of the set path compared with the operators path.

Henri Tuomisto, Bronto's simulator instructor, said: "The Bronto Simulator is a safe and cost efficient training tool with challenging scenarios. Availability and repeatability are key when compared with training with real platforms, because a simulator is always available and scenarios can be repeated with just one click. The feedback report also helps operators and the instructor to evaluate performances."

Bronto has also confirmed it is planning to extend the system to include its HLA and new XR ranges.



Bronto's truck mounted aerial lift simulator.



A visual report of how well the operator maintained the correct path following a training scenario.

£6,000 for sloppy scaffold

London, UK, based JOS Scaffolding has been fined £5,000 plus £734 in costs after constructing a dangerous scaffold in Covent Garden. The company was captured working from a five-storey scaffold in June last year with unsecured wooden platforms with no toe-boards or guard rails. There was nothing in place to prevent or mitigate falls or equipment drops, and two of the three men erecting the scaffold were lacking training and accreditation.

HSE inspector Andrew Verrall-Withers said: "Scaffolding work is fraught with risk and can be extremely dangerous if it isn't carried out properly. The standards here were sorely lacking and the photographic evidence speaks for itself in terms of the risks taken. Thankfully nobody was injured, but that doesn't detract from JOS Scaffolding failing to ensure the work at height was properly planned, managed and executed in a safe manner."



Sitting on a scaffold with no guard rails, harness or other measures in place.

Reckless access costs £15,000+

UK based Maintenance 24-7 and sub-contractor George Nicholls have been jointly fined £14,000 plus costs of £1,450, for reckless and unsafe work at height. In March 2013, Nicholls, who trades as Laser Roofing London and South East Roofing, was sub-contracted by Maintenance 24-7 of Kings Lynn, Norfolk, to paint the front of a shop on St Marys Road, Southampton.

He was photographed using a double extension ladder from the roof of a van in order to reach an eight metre high third floor façade. There was nothing to prevent vehicles or pedestrians from passing under or near the work area, and the van was parked over a bus stop on a busy road with double yellow lines. Maintenance 24-7 was fined £10,000 plus £784 in costs, while Nicholls was fined £4,000 plus £666 in costs.

HSE inspector Frank Flannery said: "George Nicholls blatantly and recklessly risked harming himself and others, and did so on behalf of Maintenance 24-7, who had clear duties of their own to ensure the work at height was properly planned, managed and executed in a safe manner. The standards of both parties fell far below those required, and I would like to thank



Nicholls' reckless exploits were captured on camera by a council environmental health officer

the concerned member of the public who brought the matter to our attention."

Who trained him then?

Somehow this man has managed to climb up onto the boom nose of an All Terrain crane and remained balanced while it was elevated and telescoped to the roof of what looks like a large industrial building.



He has then proceeded to apply some sort of coating or cleaner to the roof using a long handled brush...