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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.

# Suspended sentence for reckless scaffolding

Greg Pearson owner of UK based Pearsons Scaffolding has been given a 10 week prison sentence suspended for two years after repeatedly allowing unsafe work at height to be carried out on a busy street in London.

The HSE prosecuted Pearson after a member of public raised concerns about the work being carried out 15 metres above a street in Covent Garden. Pearson had previously ignored a prohibition notice after the HSE found the scaffold to be poorly erected and incomplete, while unsafe work practices were putting employees at risk. He also failed to respond when required to produce documents for inspection during the investigation.

The company's involvement at the site only came to an end after a second prohibition notice was



The HSE was alerted to the unsafe work after being sent photographs and videos from a member of public.

served and the project's principal contractor decided to replace it. HSE inspector Andrew Verrall-Withers, said: "Greg Pearson repeatedly put the lives of other workers and members of the public at risk. He blatantly disregarded all warnings and enforcement action taken against him and it was just good fortune that no one was killed. It is vital that law abiding scaffolders have confidence that they will not lose work to those who underquote due to shortcuts at the expense of safety."

# OSHA cites roofing firm

Pompano Beach-based Latite Roofing, one of South Florida's largest roofers, has been fined \$136,500 for three repeated and three serious safety violations.

Three inspections on a job the company was working on in Naples, revealed that employees were working on roofs up to six metres in height without any fall protection, as well as improperly using a step ladder. The company has also been cited nine times in the past five years, including one following a fatality.

OSHA's area director Condell Eastmond, said: "Residential roofing work can be deadly when safety measures are not enforced. Latite Roofing has an extensive OSHA inspection history, but continues to expose employees to life-threatening safety hazards. Latite must assess its work practices immediately to ensure workers are protected."



Latite Roofing has been cited nine times in five years for unsafe work at height

# LEEA introduces new training

The Lifting Equipment Engineers Association (LEEA) has launched a new learning management system that, it says, will transform the training of students preparing for the association's diploma qualification for testing, examining and maintenance of overhead lifting equipment.

Replacing its existing online courses, the LEEA Academy features a new e-learning service, which includes the latest 3D modelling and interactive techniques as well as instructor-led practical training. The course can be accessed with a PC or tablet, and features an extensive library of high quality, computer generated 3D images of equipment such as hoists and load lifting attachments, making it easy for students to relate to day-to-day working practices. In addition, fully interactive quizzes and revision assignments are used throughout each course, providing students with immediate feedback on progress and helping identify any gaps in their knowledge. Students are free to work at their own pace, and benefit from access to a dedicated tutor and technical helpdesk. Students can also communicate with others on the course.

The association's 'Part One Entrance Certificate' course is the first to use the new system, followed by its 'Lifting Equipment General Diploma' course. All remaining courses are scheduled to be added by March 2016.



The LEEA Academy uses an extensive library of high quality, computer generated 3D images

# Secondary guarding explained

AFI has hosted its second online interactive seminar covering secondary guarding systems and crushing risks, and how to select the most appropriate system for a range of situations.

The seminar will be hosted on the company's website ([www.afi-group.co.uk/webinars](http://www.afi-group.co.uk/webinars)) and available to access by those who missed it.



# Who trained them then?

Spotted in the UK, a man pressure washing the roof of a building while standing on a wooden pallet lifted five metres above the ground by a forklift truck.