

TID HOD TO MISS

WEDNESDAY 11 & THURSDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2015 Ricoh Arena, Coventry

Wednesday 11 February 9.00am - 5.00pm Thursday 12 February 9.00am - 4.00pm

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Driver CPC requirements clarified

Following several enquiries from readers, IPAF has clarified its view

on whether the Drivers' Certificate of Professional Competence (CPC) requirements apply to vehicle mounted platform users.

The Driver CPC applies to all professional drivers of delivery trucks over 3.5 tonnes, buses, coaches and minibuses, and potentially applies to users of truck and van-mounted platforms, although this will depend on national interpretations.

In the UK, where most of the questions were raised, confusion surrounded a government exemption which states: "You don't need Driver CPC if you are carrying equipment or material that you will use in the course of your work, provided that driving the vehicle is not the main part of your job."

This has been interpreted by a number of industry professionals and associations as indicating that crane and vehicle mounted platform drivers, for example, are exempt from the CPC requirements. However as the exemption hinges on whether driving is the main occupational activity, it could also be argued in a test case that the driving of a vehicle mounted platform to a site is an integral part of the operator's job, as he needs the appropriate LGV class of licence to drive on the public highway. Therefore he should comply with the Driver CPC requirements.

IPAF technical & safety executive, Chris Wraith, explains: "There is a moral argument that drivers of vehicle mounted lifts and cranes should be CPC-compliant, especially as they are not required to complete tachograph records and often drive to a location to do a full day's work before driving back to the depot - meaning that they work long hours and are less regulated than delivery drivers driving a similar weight of vehicle. Vehicle mounted platform drivers should have training to raise their awareness of the hazards and risks of their job and driving on the public highway. Hence, IPAF recommends that truck mounted lift operators maintain their CPC qualifications in line with good practice and demonstrating a duty of care."

Platform management course gains momentum

More than 4,800 managers and supervisors have attended IPAF's MEWPs for Managers training course over the past 32 months. The course covers what managers need to know about using aerial work platforms on site, from planning the job and completing a risk assessment, to selecting the right equipment and mitigating all possible risks.

Targeted at project managers, foremen and supervisors working in a broad range of industries such as construction, facilities management, retail, airports and arboriculture, the one-day course includes topics on health and safety regulations, accident prevention and control, personal protection equipment, and pre-use checks and maintenance. Focused more on planning, supervising and effectively managing the use of powered access, rather than operating equipment, candidates must pass a written test in order to obtain a certificate.



To find an IPAF-approved training centre that offers the MEWPs for Managers course, use the locator at: www.ipaf.org or visit: www.ipaf.org/m4m.

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(L-R) A round table discussion between Jacco de Kluyver of Terex AWP, Matthew Hickin of Gardemann, Brad Boehler of Skyjack, Martin Vögtli of SkyAccess and owner of WS-Skyworker and Tim Whiteman of IPAF.

Exceptional content at Europlatform

More than 100 delegates attended the Europlatform access rental conference last month in Cologne, Germany. The line-up of speakers included Don Ahern, owner of Ahern Rentals and Xtreme Manufacturing which recently took majority ownership of Snorkel.



Ahern gave a presentation which included an entertaining history of his powered access career and his company, as well as exploring the crossover between the manufacturing and rental sides of the business. He highlighted the company's decision to become a manufacturer with the aim of preserving used equipment values in the market and re-introducing older, reliable product designs.

Grigory Grif, chief executive of Fortrent, the Cramo/Ramirent joint venture in Russia, discussed the strategy behind the company setup and some challenges that the company currently faces in the market, while Gordon McGruer, owner of Kardon Kontracts in the UK, examined the requirements of owning, managing and operating the latest booms in the 180-185 foot category.



Gordon McGruer

Middle East Convention

IPAF will hold its first Middle East Convention on 26th January 2015 in Dubai, UAE with a networking event on the evening of 25th January. Visit: www.ipaf.org/meconvention or email: uae@ipaf.org for more information.