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This is the first of a new Focus page covering the news from the UK-based Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme (CISRS) and National Access and Scaffolding Confederation (NASC). The CISRS has been the UK's industry recognised scaffold training scheme for more than 30 years, while the NASC is recognised as the national trade body for scaffolding in the UK.

Qualifying the workforce

The NASC has once again secured funding from the **Construction Industry Training** Board (CITB) for its Qualifying the Workforce (QTW) programme for 2015. In addition to the QTW programme, NASC has received additional funding to run a number of three-day **Basic Scaffold Inspection** Training Scheme (SITS) courses - which are also open to nonmember companies.

NASC director of training, Dave Mosley, said: "The CITB specialists department has been extremely helpful highlighting the possibilities of accessing additional funding for the development of new training programmes."



New CISRS training facility in South Korea

A new CISRS scaffold training facility has been opened in South Korea to provide CISRS Overseas Scaffolder Training Scheme courses. Established as a partnership between shipbuilding, offshore and wind energy company Samsung Heavy Industries and CISRS training provider Safety & Access, the new centre will provide scaffolder skills training, inspection and supervisory qualifications delivered by full time registered instructors. The addition follows the recent opening of centres in the UAE and Qatar.

CISRS scheme manager, Dave Mosley, who conducted a full, independent audit of the new centre, said: "We are delighted to be able to grant accreditation to Safety and Access. This centre demonstrates the growing

popularity and recognition of the CISRS scheme across the world. We are delighted that Samsung Heavy Industries chose to support and promote the overseas training scheme."

(I-r) Dave Mosley of CISRS and Sean Lee of Samsung Heavy Industry with Rick Statham, Gary Brown and Harry Koo of Safety & Access.



Apprentice of the year awards

NASC has launched its CITB and CISRS-sponsored Apprentice of the Year Award, aimed at apprentices currently employed with NASC member companies. The winning apprentice will be announced at the company's AGM on 21st November and will receive a trophy and £500 cash prize, while the apprentice's employer will also receive a trophy and £500 to be spent on CISRS training with an approved provider.

C_a NASC updates good practice guide

The National Access and **Scaffolding Confederation** has updated its TG20:13 good practice guidance and provided an eGuide software update for tube and coupler scaffolding. Available to download from the NASC website, the changes to the guidance, entitled 'Supplement 1', include:



- A specification for TG20:13 compliant 3.2mm wall thickness cold-formed high tensile steel tubes to BS EN 10219-1.
- An amendment to the sign off section of compliance sheets to state that illustrations are indicative.
- Clarification regarding ties to the inner face of the scaffold only.
- · Compliance sheets for sheeted scaffolds with transom units.
- · Compliance sheets for scaffolds of two, three or four metre heights.
- · Clarification regarding the horizontal spacing of ties for scaffolds with a maximum bay length less than two metres.

Robin James, NASC managing director said: "These updates to TG20:13 demonstrate the commitment of the NASC to the continual improvement of TG20:13 to meet the demands of the UK scaffolding industry. NASC advises all existing users of TG20:13 to download this new version of the TG20:13 eGuide together with the accompanying document Supplement 1."

For details on the guidance or to obtain a copy, visit: www.nasc.org.uk/tg20 13.

Apprentice challenge - update

NASC president, Kevin Ward's scheme to create a minimum of 400 new scaffolding apprentices during his two-year term is off to a good start,

with 153 apprentices successfully completing their induction training. The plan was unveiled at last November's AGM, with NASC members also donating £100 per apprentice to the Teenage Cancer Trust.

Ward said: "If we reach our target this will not only bring much needed new blood into our industry at a time when many members are experiencing problems with the supply of skilled labour, but will also result in a sizeable donation to a very worthy cause."



For more details visit: www.cisrs.org.uk or www.nasc.org.uk



