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lift your image

Chris Blatern visited 67 PASMA training centres accompanied by Pudsey Bear



Tower power raises £5,250 for charity



As part of PASMA's Tower Week 2014, chairman Chris Blatern travelled 3,384 miles and visited 67 training centres throughout the UK, exceeding his £5,000 fundraising target for Children in Need. Assisting him on his journey to promote safety and best practice was Pudsey Bear, who was kitted

out in a PASMA hard hat.

Another major feature of Tower Week was the five-minute online Tower Test which focused on the most common tower-related issues identified by HSE inspectors on site. Hundreds of people took the test and in return were offered a free tower fact pack. For every test taken PASMA donated £1 to the fundraising total.

Over the course of the week the public were also invited to submit both good and bad examples of mobile access towers in actual use. 'Terrible or Terrific Towers' proved to be extremely popular, and PASMA already has plans to use these images in future safety-led campaigns.

Blatern said: "Every training centre I visited was keen to endorse the Tower Week safety message. Without exception I was made to feel extremely welcome and every visit resulted in a donation to Children in Need. It was an exhausting and challenging trip, not without some amusing incidents, but most importantly it allowed PASMA to emphasise the importance of staying safe when working at height - still the single biggest cause of deaths and injuries in the workplace."

The entire trip was tracked and monitored in real-time by a device supplied by RAM Tracking through its charitable RAM Foundation.

PASMA and AIF at IOSH Conference 2015



The AIF will deliver a conference paper at the IOSH Conference being held at ExCeL in London

Along with other members of the Access Industry Forum (AIF), PASMA will deliver a mainstream conference paper at the 2015 IOSH Conference at ExCeL in London in June.

The paper 'How leadership and innovation can drive change in the world's leading cause of death and injury in the workplace', will navigate the changing world of working at height by reflecting on the latest learning, thinking and ideas.



Please continue to send your images of 'Terrible or Terrific Towers' to michael.fern@asma.co.uk

Championing EN 1004 and PAS 250

Throughout 2015, PASMA will continue to warn of the dangers of using incomplete and unsafe tower scaffolds that do not comply with the European tower standard EN 1004. It follows in the wake of the HSE's growing concern about the number of incidents involving the use of sub-standard, poorly constructed and, in some cases, downright dangerous towers.

The association will also focus on PAS 250, the specification sponsored by PASMA and developed in collaboration with the British Standards Institution (BSI), which is expected to become a full standard by 2016. It introduces, for the first time, minimum safety and performance criteria for low level work platforms.

Those responsible for specifying - renting or purchasing - this type of equipment should not think that because podiums and pulpits are fitted with anti-surf devices, that it's 'job done'. There are many other safety issues that need to be addressed to comply with PAS 250, chief amongst which is resistance to overturning.



Richard Steele, 1949-2014



Richard Steele

It was with great sadness that PASMA council, head office and members of the association learnt of the death of Richard Steele, 65, after a long and brave battle with cancer. A former PASMA instructor and most recently the association's southern auditor, Richard was a well known and highly respected figure in the access industry.

Both PASMA and IPAF qualified, Richard was committed to maintaining the highest standards in height safety in general and training in particular. Training centres will remember him best for his knowledge, expertise and unstinting support.