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## GOING UP IN THE WORLD

A history of Simon Engineering, the development of the powered access industry and a lifetime as an engineer, by Denis Ashworth

Ashworth was a keen engineer and from an early age found himself in at the very start of the modern powered access industry.

His book is an unusual combination of autobiography and history of Simon Engineering Dudley, a pioneer of the powered access industry and at one time, the world's largest manufacturer of aerial lifts.

The coffee table sized book, is highly readable and includes around 150 photographs and drawings from the very beginning of the industry. It is a 'must read' for anyone who is interested in powered access, the hydraulic equipment industry or in comparing modern day engineering challenges with those of an entirely different era.

The book is available direct from the publishers at £19.50, plus £4.50 postage and packing.

- Continental Europe €23 plus €6.50 postage & packing
- Rest of world \$31 plus \$10 shipping



# New training course: Cta Towers with Cantilevers

PASMA has launched a new advanced training course: Towers with Cantilevers. It has been developed after extensive consultation with members and tower users, along with the enthusiastic support of manufacturers, who, together with the association's technical and training committees, have contributed to their wide-ranging expertise.

The course is the latest in a series of advanced courses that reflects the fast-growing use of towers in more complex and demanding applications. It is aimed at a diverse range of industry sectors - including construction, refurbishment, cleaning and facilities management - where access is required over fragile surfaces and large or awkward structures.

Developed specifically for the more experienced tower user, the course explains and illustrates

the principles of counterbalance calculations when using kentledge counterweighting in cantilever calculations.

It also interprets and explains the relevant sections of BS 1139-6: 2014, the standard that specifies the requirements for complex structures such as towers with cantilevers that are outside the scope of BS EN 1004, the European product standard for normal towers. The course focuses entirely on how to assemble and dismantle these



configurations - together with their limitations - based on standard equipment supported by the relevant manufacturer's instruction manual.

Available from PASMA approved training centres, the course is open to anyone with experience of assembling, dismantling, altering, moving and inspecting



mobile access towers and who has successfully completed the association's Towers for Users

#### Hopkins retires from **PASMA**

One of the access industry's acknowledged experts. Stuart Hopkins, has retired from his post as director of training at PASMA, after almost eight years in the job. He joined the association from the HSS Hire group in 2008 where he was group senior trainer, prior to which he held various positions including



branch manager, area manager and national training manager for the specialist lifting division. He holds the certificate in training practice from the Chartered Institute of Personnel Development, the RoSPA safety instructor's certificate and was chair of the IPAF training committee from 2004 to 2005.

Since joining PASMA he has been instrumental in developing and introducing a range of training courses now considered to be the industry standard - both in the UK and increasingly internationally. He has also overseen the growth of an approved training network which now issues over 70,000 PhotoCards annually, compared with 45,000 in 2008.

Speaking of his time with the association he said: "I have been fortunate enough to work for two of the leading organisations in the work at height sector. Over the years, the support and advice of my many colleagues has been invaluable in helping me to improve height safety and keep people safe. I must also acknowledge the many members who have contributed their knowledge and expertise through the various committees that it has been my pleasure to serve."

Managing director, Peter Bennett added: "Stuart has made a major contribution to the progress and expansion of the association and his training role has been pivotal to its success. On a personal note I would like to thank him for his commitment and dedication to the work of the association, its members, council and committees over many years. We will miss his wisdom and wit!"

PASMA currently offers nine training courses covering everything from the essentials of working at height and low level access, to advanced courses such as Towers on Stairs and Towers with Cantilevers - the latest course to join the portfolio.

#### Gillian Rutter elected vice chairman

**PASMA** has elected Gillian Rutter as vice chairman of council, the first time a woman has held the post in the association's 42 year history. She takes over from John Bungay who has retired from council. A member of the association's governing body and Hire Assembly Committee, she has been a member of the association for her entire career, having been one of the first women to successfully complete the **PASMA Towers for Users** course when just 17.

Speaking of her appointment she said: "As a fully qualified PASMA training instructor myself, I know and understand towers and speak the language. My entire career has been devoted to towers, safety and best practice, and I plan to put this knowledge and expertise to good use on behalf of the members and the industry at large in the weeks and months ahead "







For details of PASMA standards, guidance and training, including free PocketCards and posters, visit: www.pasma.co.uk