# Are your staff properly trained?

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All training centres above offer **IPAF/PASMA/CPCS** or other approved and audited training courses. European directives and most national regulations require that staff are properly trained in the safe use of the equipment they operate. If you wish to become a sponsor of the Training & Safety page opposite by advertising, contact us on **info@vertikal.net** 



#### Apprenticeship award for A-Plant

UK-based rental company A-Plant has made it into the country's Top 100 Apprenticeship Employer List. The company established its apprenticeship programme in 2005 and now has 150 apprentices out of a total of 3,300 employees. Last year it received around 5,000 applications.

Head of training Bob Harper said: "It is a huge honour to be recognised nationally as a leading light in the development of apprentices. They play a vital role at A-Plant, helping us plan for the future, providing the right skill set to support the business as it grows."

### Four metre fall cost £400,000

UK contractor Kier Construction has been fined £400,000 plus costs of £1,534 after employee Jair Morales fell from a height of almost four metres, while covering holes in the third floor of the building with plywood panels. While doing so he fell through one of them to the floor below, sustaining fractures to his pelvis and arm. An investigation found that Kier failed to



ensure the work was properly planned or carried out in a safe manner.

HSE inspector Owen Rowley said: "This incident could have been a lot worse. The system that Kier Construction has in place to control the risk from installing the protection for openings was not implemented on site, ultimately resulting in the accident."

#### Suspended sentence for scaffolder

UK scaffolder Mark Kinsley has been fined £1,400 plus costs of £1,648, and sentenced to 16 weeks in jail, suspended for 12 months after a scaffold collapsed at a Co-op store in Loggerheads. Kinsley, a sole trader, erected the scaffold with two employees in November 2015, but failed to design the scaffold correctly or ensure that it was tied to the building in any way. Three weeks later it collapsed into a car park. An investigation confirmed that Kinsley had not properly designed or erected the scaffold and as a result put members of the public and workers at risk.

HSE inspector Katherine Blunt said: "This was a very serious incident and it is fortunate nobody was injured as a result. The case highlights the importance of following industry guidance and design and erect scaffolding in a safe manner, which does not raise risk to members of the public and those using the scaffold."

#### Cta training

## Fall costs decking company £105,000

UK-based Structural Metal Decks has been fined £105,000 after an employee was left paralysed following an accident at a building site in Kilsyth, Scotland.

The company had been contracted by John Graham Construction to lay metal decking at a new health centre. In April 2015, a scaffolder moving components stood on a section of the decking, which gave way causing him to fall over four metres to the ground, suffering injuries to his spinal cord. He is now paralysed from the neck down. An investigation found the decking sheets had not been secured properly and access to the first level was not adequately controlled.

HSE inspector Graeme McMinn said: "This is a tragic incident, which has had a devastating effect on a young man's life. The accident could have been avoided if the Structural Metal Decks had taken appropriate safety precautions and ensured the decking sheets were properly secured."

#### **Mammoet Korea trains clients**

Mammoet has developed a new course entitled Engineered Heavy Lift & Transport Academy to share heavy lifting and transport expertise with engineering procurement and construction companies and owners of industrial plants. Among the 150 attendees at the first three-day course were delegates from Daelim, Hyundai, SK, Panthos and Samsung. One attendee commented: "This is the first time something like this has been offered to us, it has helped increase our understanding of what is actually involved in mobilising large construction equipment."

Mammoet Korea managing director Chong Kook Cho added: "Opportunities can be identified and harnessed when information and knowledge are shared. We believe by sharing our expertise we create a better, mutual understanding with our partners and clients, helping them attain new levels in quality, efficiency and safety. Most importantly, it helps us to better understand our client's needs and how we can best serve them."



