

Operators' Forum A loader crane users group within ALLMI

The Association of Lorry Loader Manufacturers and Importers (ALLMI) is the only trade association devoted exclusively to the lorry loader industry and until now its membership has consisted of manufacturers, importers and independent service companies.

ALLMI is currently establishing an Operators' Forum, a new division of the Association dedicated specifically to owners of lorry loaders. The Forum will benefit its members by encouraging the communication of a wide range of opinions and by facilitating contact of a non-commercial nature between both operators and manufacturers/ service providers to the benefit of all concerned.

In addition, thanks to ALLMI's role as a consultative body for proposed changes to legislation affecting the industry, member companies will benefit from having the opportunity to express an opinion and possibly influence such issues and will be kept fully informed of any forthcoming changes in this area, as well as being given guidance on how to comply with such changes.

An inaugural meeting of the Operators' Forum has already been held with several interested parties. However, due to the level of interest from numerous companies representing a broad range of industries, the time is right to organise a meeting on a larger scale to give all interested parties the opportunity to become a founder member of the Forum. It is the intention that the forthcoming meeting will allow key issues to be identified, subscriptions to be agreed and an Executive Committee to be elected.

ALLMI is confident that as the Operators' Forum develops and members express their views, further needs will be identified and addressed. It has already been established that a Code of Practice needs to be developed by members, which will demonstrate Best Practice for the various applications of lorry loader use and associated activities.

The first meeting is set for February 9th

The first Operators' Forum Meeting will take place on the 9th February 2006 at the Strawberry Bank Hotel, Meriden, Coventry. Should you be interested and able to attend, or if you would like further information on the Operators' Forum and the benefits of becoming a member, you can call Tom Wakefield on 01249 659150, or email tom@allmi.com

New Guidance Notes

The ALLMI Technical Sub-Committee has produced two further Guidance notes, which are available for download, free of charge from the association's web site. The new Guidance notes cover the following subjects:

- Thorough Examination & Testing of Loader Cranes
 - In-Service Structural Inspections
- These are added to the nine existing guidance notes:-
- Life Expectancy of a Lorry Loader
 - Second Hand Lorry Loaders
 - Second Hand Lifting Attachments

- Regulations & Standards
- Installation & Operation
- Hiring Lorry Loaders
- Lorry Loader Purchase
- Bridge Bashing
- Trailer Mounted Knuckle Boom Cranes



The new Operators forum is targeted at companies that operate Loader cranes.

A single ALLMI

On the 1st February the Association of Lorry Loader Manufacturers and Importers (ALLMI) will merge with ALLMI Training Ltd to form a single limited company ALLMI Ltd. A new identity has been developed along with the change that includes a new logo and deeper blue colour scheme.

ALLMI was founded in 1978 at the request of the UK Health & Safety Executive and has been heavily involved in forming and influencing "Best Practice" within the lorry loader industry. The association has been successfully involved in a number of issues, but members were polled in 2003 with regard to their feelings towards their association, its activities and its overall profile. The overriding response was a call for a much higher profile and a call for the association to offer a number of additional services to its members.

The merger of ALLMI with ALLMI Training Ltd has arisen out of that survey and will simplify the association's identity with a single point contact, in addition to creating the opportunity for a stronger industry presence.

This change is just one part of a 24-month programme of implementing some major changes.

These include: -

- Replacing the Executive Committee of ALLMI and the Board of ALLMI Training Ltd with a management board for the newly merged organisation. All officers have been elected and include representatives from three of the biggest loader crane Manufacturers.
- Introducing a Buyers Co-operative to enable all Members, particularly the smaller ones, to buy core items such as steel, oil, hoses, insurance and so on, through collective bargaining.
- Introducing a certificated training scheme and ultimately a recognised qualification for people who carry out Examination & Testing of Lorry Loaders.
- Re-writing and updating the ALLMI Code of Practice to incorporate all the more recent product innovations and legislative requirements.
- Establishing a new division of the Association specifically for owners of Lorry Loaders.

ALLMI clearly has a very busy agenda. You can keep up to date with the changes and expansion of activities by visiting www.allmi.com

