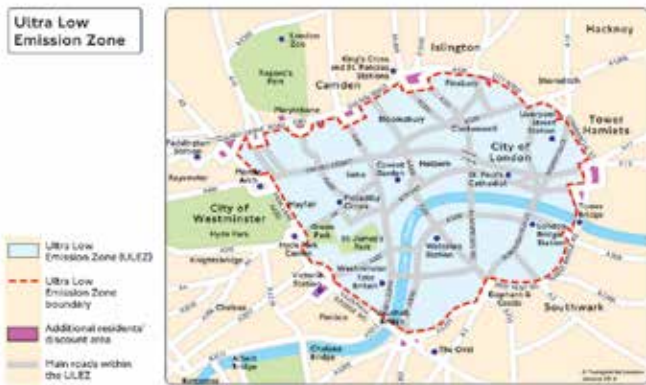


London's Ultra Low Emission Zone Expansion

The mayor of London Sadiq Khan has announced that London's Ultra-Low Emission Zone will come into force on 8th April 2019, but that expansion of the zone beyond central London will be delayed until 2020/2021 - subject to a further consultation expected at the end of this year. The expansion was originally due to take place in 2019. The zone will apply to motorbikes, cars, buses, vans and Heavy Goods Vehicles in the central zone. All non-compliant vans and motorbikes will have to pay £12.50 to drive through central London, while non-compliant buses, coaches and HGVs will pay £100.

A map which depicting the boundaries of the existing central zone can be found at <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/ultra-low-emission-zone>. If readers wish to respond to the consultation visit <https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/environment/air-quality-consultation-phase-2/?cid=airquality-consultation>



Central London's Ultra Low Emission zone.

New Safety Alert protocol

Over the years, serious incidents involving aerial work platforms have led to the emergence of a multitude of company safety bulletins or alerts. Health and safety managers often respond to serious incidents by quickly creating an alert to warn employees and others of an incident involving a specific platform that can lead to machines being stood down immediately.

In today's digital age such material can go viral within minutes spreading way beyond the intended audience. Although such alerts are issued with the best of intentions, they can sometimes omit key information and only be relevant to the organisation which created it. This can lead to speculation and over-reaction when they are received and ultimately have the opposite effect to that intended by the author. There have been several incidents where misinformation or misinterpretation has negatively affected confidence with a specific aerial work platform or manufacturer, potentially compromising safety in the workplace. It is vitally important to prevent such situations in order to maintain the highest levels of safety and eliminate unnecessary time and resources wasted trying to address outdated or unfounded concerns.

This is why the Strategic Forum Plant Safety Group Mewp Group issued a Safety Alert Protocol in order to provide clear, concise guidance and a template to those considering an alert, following an aerial lift related incident, it is worth downloading a copy from the CPA, IPAF or Vertikal.Net web sites and keeping a copy in the event that it is needed following a safety related incident.



CPA Plant Conference 2017

This year's CPA Construction Plant Conference is will be held on Tuesday 31st October at the Heart of England Conference and Events Centre between Birmingham and Coventry. Equipment tracking specialist AMI has been confirmed as the main sponsor and several companies have confirmed they will exhibit, including GenQuip, ECY Haulmark and Datatag. The theme this year is 'Understanding and Influencing the Future of Construction Plant Hire'.

Speakers and subjects will cover a cross section of topics, including major projects, client requirements, how the industry can tackle its future skills needs, the latest progress in health and safety, securing your assets and embracing new technology. Online registration will be available via the CPA website.

Changes to the Driver CPC

Following a review of the Driver Certificate of Professional Competence scheme in 2014, the European Commission has published proposals to change it. The key change is that the 35 hours mandatory training over a five-year period must cover different subjects, rather than repeating or focusing on the same area of training. This would prevent individuals completing refresher courses on the same subject, rather than improving on existing or developing new skill sets.

If changes could be implemented by the European Commission before Brexit takes place, they will then continue to apply to the UK unless otherwise amended.



London Emissions Surcharge

The London Emissions Surcharge will take effect on Monday 23rd October 2017. All Heavy Goods Vehicles (including mobile cranes) going into Greater London will have to meet the Euro IV engine standard for particulates. This is due to the London-wide Low Emission Zone (LEZ). Whilst vans must at least meet the Euro III standard.

The charge of £11.50 (or £10.50 for those registered on Autopay) will apply to those vehicles which are non-compliant, and will be managed as part of the current Congestion Charge scheme. Existing Congestion Charge Autopay customers will be charged automatically from 23rd October. Those operators who use vehicles which are non-compliant, will see their costs double when their vehicle enters the congestion charging zone.

Further information on which vehicles are compliant and on the Emissions Surcharge itself can be found on the Transport for London (TfL's) website at <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/driving/how-to-meet-air-quality-standards>

