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European partner for CM Labs



Canadian Virtual Reality and training simulator specialist CM Labs has agreed a partnership with Europe's Antycip Simulation to provide training simulators in



select European countries. Antycip's offices in the UK, France and Italy will provide CM Labs simulators, set-up, training and support to clients in Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland.

Patrice Commune of CM Labs said: "This is an exciting partnership for both companies. It combines CM Labs' innovative training solutions with Antycip's more than two decades of leadership in providing simulation software across Europe."

CIS updates training course

US-based crane and rigging training company Crane Industry Services has launched an updated Lift Director training course. Designed to be more interactive, the three-day course features case studies and an emphasis on understanding load charts. Although there is no prerequisite, the class is best suited to someone with a good working knowledge of cranes and of rigging.

President Cliff Dickinson said: "A lift director is the person responsible at the moment of the lift. On small lifts, there can be overlapping responsibilities, and some people may wear more than one hat. For example, the crane operator may also be the lift director. But in larger companies there is the lift director, project manager, the site supervisor and the general contractor's representative - they are all individual jobs. A lift director, regardless of size or structure of the organisation, must have knowledge about cranes and rigging, setup and operation. We review and analyse load charts, rigging and angles, load weights and swing dynamics etc."

India live line event

US-based crane and aerial lift manufacturer Altec and Indian distribution and rental company Mtandt hosted India's first live line symposium at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.

Held in conjunction with the Gridtech International Exhibition and Conference, the event hosted experts from India's electric utility sector to discuss safe live line work practices and the benefits of using insulated aerial work platforms for live line work.



Altec AMT



Representatives at the symposium

£182k for schoolboy scaffold fall

UK contractor Westdale Services has been fined £160,000 plus costs of £22,310, following an incident in which a 12 year old boy slipped from a scaffold ladder, falling 10 metres to the ground. In May 2017, two boys were able to climb the ladders within scaffold erected by Westdale in Cwmbran, South Wales.

One of them climbed the highest ladder to a height of around 10 metres, but it slipped causing him to lose his balance and fall to the ground, resulting in life changing injuries requiring multiple operations. He now has no bladder or bowel control and is only able to walk short distances. An investigation found the security arrangements for preventing access to the scaffolding - especially by children from the nearby school - were inadequate.

£51,000 for telehandler injuries

UK potato processing company Braegate Produce has been fined £50,000 plus costs of £962 after employee Colin Smith, 62, was struck by a telehandler load in January 2018. Smith was walking across the yard to the maintenance workshop when he was struck by three potato boxes loaded on the forks of a telehandler operated by another employee. The impact knocked him to the ground and fractured his left leg.

An investigation found the company had insufficient measures to protect pedestrians from vehicle traffic and that a protected walkway was not provided on a key route between the production sheds and the workshops. A large number of boxes had also been stored in the yard reducing available operating space and forcing staff to walk further into the transport area. The company also failed to ensure forklift truck and telehandler operators were aware of site rules when moving potato boxes.

Who trained him then?

Spotted by a reader preparing to tee off on the third tee at La Torre golf resort in Murcia, Spain, a boom lift being used by two men working on one of the buildings of the five star resort. Rather than use the boom lift as intended - even though it had an articulated jib - they climbed out onto a narrow tile ledge without harnesses or anything to prevent them stepping back and falling from the ledge.

