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Vertical days

Thank you for all of you who exhibited or attended this year's Vertical Days event at Donington Park last month. The dates and location for Vertical Days 2020 will be announced later this summer.

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PASMA Conference 2019

Save the date! PASMA's 2019 conference will take place on Thursday 26th September at the Forest of Arden Marriott Hotel in Coventry. This event is where the mobile access tower industry comes together to learn, share and network, so it promises to be a fantastic day. Tickets will be available shortly and are free to all those individuals and organisations with an interest in towers. The PASMA Annual Members' Meeting will be held in the morning of the same day, with all members invited to attend.

IOSH Work at Height roundtable

PASMA managing director, Peter Bennett represented the Access Industry Forum in a discussion hosted by IOSH Magazine covering topical work at height issues, including the 'Staying Alive' Report published by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Working at Height. You can watch the roundtable online: ioshmagazine.com/work-at-height-round-table.



Westminster Hall debate on working at height

On 2nd May, Alison Thewliss member of parliament - who also chairs the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Working at Height - led a debate in Westminster Hall on preventing serious injuries and fatalities while working at height. The APPG published a report earlier this year, entitled 'Staying Alive: Preventing Serious Injury and Fatalities while Working at Height', recommending improved reporting and regulation aimed at preventing serious injuries and fatalities. The debate gave Thewliss an opportunity to discuss the group's findings and recommendations with her colleagues.

The government's response was delivered by Guy Opperman, the parliamentary undersecretary of state for Work and Pensions, who welcomed the report, calling it 'worthy and important'. He confirmed that the Health and Safety Executive intends to respond in full within 60 working days.

PASMA chairman Gillian Rutter said: "PASMA has been a big supporter of the APPG since it formed in 2018. Many of our members contributed evidence to the consultation which helped inform and shape the report. I know they join me in eagerly awaiting the HSE response and hoping that it moves us another step closer to the APPG's recommendations becoming reality."

Bookings open for 2019 AIF Conference

Delegates wishing to take advantage of the 'early bird' discount for this year's 'Working at height: Access for life' conference at the AJ Bell Stadium in Manchester on Thursday, 14 November can now do so by visiting accessindustryforum.org.uk/conference.

With 14 speakers from every aspect of the work at height sector, the conference will address the latest trends and developments in access and height safety. Speakers include representatives from the Health and Safety Executive, the Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS), the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) and Transport for London (TFL). A work at height exhibition will run alongside the conference, details are available from chriscen@aol.com.

PASMA's new marketeer



Rhona McCallum has joined PASMA as head of marketing and communications, bringing 12 years' experience to the role.

She will be responsible for keeping members updated on what's going on at PASMA using channels such as the PASMA website, social media and this column. PASMA's new marketeer will also be promoting the message that mobile access towers are a versatile, cost efficient and safe way to work at height.

No Falls Foundation charity ball

PASMA supports the No Falls Foundation, the only charity dedicated to preventing falls from height and helping people affected by the consequences of a fall.



The Foundation is holding a charity ball on Saturday 9th November at Coombe Abbey Hotel in Warwickshire. Tickets are £80 per person which includes dinner, dancing and entertainment. If you would like to attend this major fundraiser for the Foundation, contact gillian@skywardtraining.co.uk or sue@eurotowers.co.uk.

International events

PASMA recently held its first Qatar Symposium, providing an opportunity for over 50 delegates to hear from expert speakers on safety when working at height. PASMA also exhibited at A-OSH EXPO 2019, Africa's foremost occupational health and safety trade show in Johannesburg.



Abbi's story

Abbi Taylor, daughter of motivational and behavioural safety speaker Jason Anker has filmed a moving and thought provoking video talking about the life changing consequences that followed his fall from height that left him paralysed from the waist down and wheelchair bound when he was 24. She was only three years old when the accident occurred. Her message is clear: "Think of your loved ones at home. Don't risk it. Take it from me, the last 26 years have been a nightmare. I don't want you and your family to go through what we have endured." Watch online at [youtube.com/watch?v=cwhrMUEkdpo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cwhrMUEkdpo).



For more information about the Access Industry Forum (AIF) and the No Falls Foundation charity for working at height, please visit www.accessindustryforum.org.uk and www.nofallsfoundation.org