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Removal of exemptions from MOT tests

In late 2014 and early 2015 the Department for Transport (DfT) consulted industry about removing some of the current exemptions from roadworthiness testing. The CPA consulted members and responded on their behalf.

In May 2016 the CPA met representatives from the DfT to find out whether or not some of the current exemptions were to be removed and to clarify the position regarding mobile cranes. At the meeting the DfT stated that they were likely to remove the exemption from those previously exempt categories mounted on standard commercial vehicle chassis, but that the exemption would remain for those vehicles, such as All Terrain mobile cranes, which fall into the Special Types (STGO) category.

Since then CPA has been keeping in contact with the DfT and on the 14th September it published its response to the consultation which can be downloaded at www.gov.uk/government/consultations/hgv-periodic-testing-and-inspections-exemptions

The document confirms that current exemptions from MOT testing for certain categories of vehicle, where they are based on an HGV Chassis. These include:

- Mobile cranes
- Break-down vehicles
- Movable plant or equipment being a motor vehicle or trailer not constructed primarily to carry a load, especially designed and constructed for the special purposes of engineering operations



- Trailer type drying or mixing plants
- Tower wagons - truck mounted aerial work platforms
- Road construction vehicles based on an HGV chassis

The DfT document states: "Based on a HGV chassis' means vehicles that we would consider to be subject to European Community Whole Vehicle Type Approval (ECWVTA) (if brought to market today) as category N2, N3, O3 or O4 vehicles."

The above categories which are not based on an HGV chassis, such as most All Terrain cranes, continue to be exempt from MOT testing.

The planned date for implementation is May 2018, which would mean that any vehicle from which the current exemption is removed will have to have a valid test certificate by that date. The association has responded to the DfT requesting a longer transition period to allow vehicle owners to arrange testing in a timely manner. The CPA will continue to maintain the dialogue with DfT and will publish updated information as it becomes available.



C&A

CPA

Tower crane installer assessor programme



Tower crane erection

The CPA and CITB are working together to help employers overcome a shortage of skilled and accredited installers for tower cranes, construction hoists and

similar equipment. The long term aim of the programme is to have sufficient infrastructure in place for assessment to meet future demand for installers. The current problem is in part caused by a shortage of assessors, meaning that some installers have found it difficult to gain NVQ or SVQ qualification.

The CPA has secured CITB funding to help employers support members of the workforce to become assessors. The CITB will fund the assessor training and will ensure that participants are supported by both the CITB and the awarding organisation to achieve the assessor qualification. Funding is also available to help installers achieve an NVQ qualification at level 2 or 3. Sectors can work with an existing assessment centre, or develop their own centre.

E-mail rob.squires@cpa.uk.net if you are interested in this programme.

New President for CPA

At the Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA) Annual General Meeting in October, Brian Jones was elected as president of the association for the next five years. Jones has served as chairman for six years, at the same time Steve Cormack of Nationwide Platforms was elected as the new chairman.



Brian Jones

Jones said: "The CPA is the UK's leading trade association in this sector, and my first task as president will be to help prepare the association for the next phase in its development. Our chief executive Colin Wood has made a decision to step down from the position at the end of the first quarter of 2018, and we will begin the process of recruiting a new chief executive immediately. We intend to build on the excellent work that has been done by Colin and his team, and to continue to support our members and the sector to face the challenges that lie ahead."

Other changes at the AGM included: Steven Mulholland of Mulholland Plant Services being elected as vice chairman while long standing CPA Council member Danny Griffin was made a Life Member and Bob Collins of Stokey Plant moving onto the role of immediate past president.



Steve Cormack