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Revision of EN 1004 to go for comment



Following an internal ballot of its members, TC53 - the CEN technical committee for temporary works equipment including mobile towers - has confirmed that the draft of the revised EN 1004 standard should be sent out for official enquiry. The CEN members' national committees voted on whether the draft was ready. Their Yes decision was the result of the weighted majority voting in favour of taking the draft to the next stage in the standardisation process.

Each of the member states will now make the draft available to those involved and the public for comment, and then decide either to vote positively or negatively for publication of a revised EN 1004 standard. They may also submit comments which TC53 WG4, the working group tasked with the job of revising the standard, will need to consider and resolve.

In the UK, B514 the BSI national committee for temporary works equipment has directed its subcommittee, B514/24 mobile towers, to consider the draft and make a recommendation for the UK vote on the draft. As a member of that BSI committee, PASMA will put forward its views and the PASMA Technical Committee will meet shortly to discuss the draft.

PASMA adds team members

PASMA has appointed Michelle Beetge as regional representative for South Africa. A South African national, she has almost 10 years' experience in several work at height disciplines as well as having been an assessor. Over the next six months she will be building upon the adoption of EN 1004 (SANS 51004), progressing the adoption of BS 1139-6, as well as the revised Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute for Work at Height and developing the work at height theatre at A-OSH 2018. Now in its third year, the theatre is a focal point for sharing good practice and knowledge in the region.



Michelle Beetge

PASMA has also appointed Sophia Fuentes as member services trainee. As part of her role, she will be studying towards a Digital Applications Advanced Modern Apprenticeship.



Sophia Fuentes

Middle East training co-operation

The International Institute of Risk and Safety Management (IIRSM) and PASMA have reported a successful outcome to a joint initiative in the Middle East. In an effort to share good practices relating to safe working at height in the UAE, members of the Institute were offered free placements on 'Towers for Managers' - a course designed to ensure that work from mobile access towers is properly planned and organised and that those involved on site are competent and properly trained.

This is the first of several workshops and other safety led initiatives designed to exchange information, knowledge and skills following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Institute in 2017. IIRSM is also supporting PASMA's upcoming Middle East Conference.



PASMA conference in Abu Dhabi

PASMA is to host its second conference in the Middle East dedicated entirely to the mobile access tower market. It will take place on Wednesday, March 14th at the Marriott Hotel Al Forsan, Abu Dhabi, and is set to be a landmark event in the development of tower safety and good practice across the region.

The event - open to PASMA members and non members alike - will address a wide variety of topics. Delegates will hear from recognised experts with unrivalled knowledge and expertise, get clarity on the latest standards and guidance, and gain insights into the opportunities and challenges facing the industry. Aimed at access equipment suppliers, companies who work at height, health and safety professionals, government departments and legislators, key topics will include:

- The value of getting it right
- Standardisation - does it support or suppress innovation?
- Changing attitudes for the better

The chairman of the PASMA Middle East Safety at Height Advisory Panel, Mike Palmer said: "This exciting event will help shape the future of the work at height industry in general, and the mobile access tower industry in particular. It is a must-attend conference for anyone involved, either directly or indirectly, in working at height and height safety, especially those companies and individuals wanting to expand their activities and keep people safe at the same time."

The conference is preceded by a special award ceremony and networking dinner on the night of Tuesday, March 13th.



Delegates on the Towers for Managers course



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