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Nominations open for IAPAs 2020

Nominations for the International Awards for Powered Access (IAPAs) are now open. The awards will be presented at the IPAF Summit at the Millennium Gloucester Hotel in Kensington, London, on 23 April next year.



In the 2020 edition of the awards, categories range from new products and innovations to safety and training. The deadline for entries is 12th December. The awards are free to enter, companies and individuals can enter themselves or nominate others and entrants can submit entries for more than one award and more than one entry per category. The awards cover activities undertaken and products launched between September 2018 and September 2019. Entries can be submitted using the official entry form, available via www.iapa-summit.info

Technology will aid people, not replace them

At this year's Europlatform conference speakers emphasised that advances in technology will enhance safety and efficiency and aid people's work, rather than replace them.

Olivier Colleau of Kiloutou told delegates: "How will technology impact aerial work platform rental? It already is. We can track the machine, know whether it is switched on, and in future we can even robotise and automate machine use. My strong conviction is that technology will develop to help our people, our customers. In our business, technology and people get along very well."

Clotilde Jouette, of Avesco Rent added: "Our workforce is our most important asset, and this is why we value them and ensure they are properly trained. Technology adds value, it can be the biggest differentiator, it can change the whole ecosystem of our customer relationships."

Angus Kennard of Australia's Kennards Hire said telematics was helping his company create an "ecosystem" to service customer demand, with improved utilisation rates a clear benefit, but pointed out that there are many different systems and products on the market. Kennards has developed an in-house solution that dovetails with manufacturer's systems.



Olivier Colleau



Clotilde Jouette



Angus Kennard



Andrew Delahunt

The latest global accident report

The Europlatform conference also heard from IPAF director of technical & safety **Andrew Delahunt** who previewed the IPAF Safety Report, based on analysis of data gathered in IPAF's accident reporting project. The analysis continues to show that accidents with powered access equipment are relatively uncommon.

IPAF Rental+ members online

All UK rental members have now adopted IPAF Rental+ as their minimum standard. The IPAF UK Country Council mandated in 2017 that all UK rental members should meet the required standard within a two year transition period.

As part of the upgrade, IPAF has launched a new feature on its website that allows anyone seeking to rent an aerial work platform to find their nearest IPAF Rental+ accredited company quickly and easily with an online map.



Norty Turner takes over as IPAF president

Norty Turner of United Rentals has been named as the new president of IPAF, after Brad Boehler stepped down having left his role with IPAF member Skyjack. Turner was previously deputy president, he is replaced in that role by Karin Nars of Dinolift, with Karel Huijser of JLG taking over from her as vice president.



(L-R) Karin Nars, Norty Turner and Karel Huijser

IPAF interim chief executive Andy Studdert said: "I would like to thank Brad Boehler for his hard work, leadership and dedication to safety over many years in the industry. He had wanted to carry on as IPAF president, but it emerged on close reading of the IPAF operating regulations that he would not be able to do as hoped, so he did the honourable thing and stepped down."



The IPAF Elevation open meeting, conference and dinner will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton hotel, Coventry, on 27th November. Booking is open and the conference programme will feature contributions by Karl Baum of F-Tec, talking about the new Lift, Truck and Powered Access Technician Apprenticeship, and David Bishop of Build UK. Former IPAF board member Peter Douglas will give an update on the No Falls Foundation, of which he is a trustee. Ricky Gervais lookalike Tim Oliver will take care of the evening entertainment.

Cramo joins IPAF as group member

Finnish international rental group Cramo has joined IPAF as a group member, bolstering IPAF's membership in northern and eastern Europe.

