

Are your staff properly trained?

Don't risk it call a certified local company today

National



Wakefield

Tel: 01924 383833 • Fax: 01924 383832

Email: info@upliftplatforms.co.uk

www.upliftplatforms.co.uk



North East



Hull

Tel: 01482 227333 • Fax: 01482 587710

Email: enquiries@peter-hird.co.uk

www.peter-hird.co.uk



National



Tel: 08707 787 1511

Email: info@afi-platforms.co.uk

www.afi-platforms.co.uk



National



Tel: 0845 601 1032 • Fax: 0116 286 9038

Email: training@nationwideaccess.co.uk

www.nationwideaccess.co.uk



England & Wales



Tel: 01793 766744

Email: training@hi-reach.co.uk

www.hi-reach.co.uk



National



Tel: 0141 309 5555 Fax: 0141 309 5436

Email: enquiries@turner-access.co.uk

www.turner-access.co.uk



National



Tel: +44 (0) 1291 421155 • Fax: +44 (0) 1291 423236

Mike Fen Mobile: +44 (0) 7980 764021

Email: training@accessplatforms.com

www.accessplatforms.com



National



Tel: +44 (0) 1480 891251 • Fax: +44 (0) 1480 891162

Email: sales@accessplatforms.co.uk

www.accessplatforms.co.uk



Scotland



active in training

Tel: 0845 27 ACTIVE(228483) • Fax: 01698 281 735

Email: andrewmccusker@activesafetytraining.co.uk

www.activerentals.co.uk



National



Freephone: 0800 0 28 18 00

Unit 22/23, Progress Business Park, Whittle Parkway,
Slough, Berkshire. SL1 6DQ.

www.platformcompany.co.uk



All training centres above offer IPAF approved and audited courses for Operators of Mobile aerial work platforms, European directives require that all staff are fully and adequately trained in the safe use of the equipment they operate. See www.ipaf.org for full listing

Finally Qualified

26 years after he first operated an aerial lift, Publisher, Leigh Sparrow has finally received proper training in their safe use and qualified for a PAL card, here he reports on the process.



It was late 1979 when I first operated an aerial work platform, an MZ66 built by Selma Manlift of California. I became an immediate convert to powered access, bowled over by the ability to step into a platform with all the equipment you need and at the push of a lever, go directly to the perfect height for the job. Not to mention the ability to relocate without returning to the ground.

Since then I have operated hundreds of lifts and dozens of different makes and types. Yet in all my years in the industry, including a spell as IPAF president, I have never received any formal training. IPAF was not around in those days, so a few minutes instruction from Manlift's Greg Hoskins and a read through a copy of the Manlift safety booklet (later) was as good as it got back then.

Taking time out to gain a PAL card never occurred to me, not even during my stint at IPAF and no one ever suggested it, so why now? If I am honest it is all down to Jane Lawrence at Facelift, who hearing that I had never been trained persistently badgered me, until I gave in and let her book me onto a course at Facelift's Hickstead facility.

This is like a scissor lift" practical instruction on a TM12



I arrived bright and early on the day of the course, having scabbled around for a hard hat and safety boots. I was on the course with five other trainees, all with a good level of experience, Facelift try to ensure each course has attendees with similar levels of experience so that "old hands" are not held back by absolute beginners and to ensure that beginners do not feel rushed by experienced operators.

We had two experienced trainers, Eddie Reast and Steve Hide, both of whom were professional operators before getting into training. The fact that we were covering both booms and scissors with one of our group doing vehicle mounts required two trainers. Rather than one.

We were told that the first half of the day would be taken up with theoretical safety training, including two written tests, one at the beginning and one at the end of the morning session. We were all jolted into reality when told that if we did not achieve 80 percent on the second written test, we would fail and not receive a PAL card. The first thought into my head was "how did I let myself get talked into this!"

I needn't have worried, it turned out that I knew more than I realised, but more importantly, the instruction was first class with the key points pushed home repeatedly and from several angles. By the end of the morning all of us had passed the written exam, and we were ready for the afternoon's practical training and tests.



C&a operator training

Concentrating on the written test, Facelifts classrooms are set up for six to eight trainees.

We were given detailed hands-on instruction in daily inspections, and checks, as well as what to do in the event of a machine failure and how to use emergency descents safely.

Finally we had to operate the equipment and go through a practical exam. We had a Haulotte HA16PX for the boom lift test and used Facelifts awkward U shaped training block façade as the course. Facelifts yard is highly congested, with constant traffic

lifts. The Skyjack performed perfectly, twice around the tight course without incident or emergency.

We all managed to keep the number of errors to a minimum and passed the practical stages. Then it was back to the classroom to wrap up and receive our pocket manual and log book, including instruction on how to keep an official record.



Practical instruction on boom lifts, everyone had all the PPE kit.



and activity, the test area is right in the thick of it, and you really need to watch out, just like a real site or large plant.

Then it was on to scissors, we had an Upright TM12 and a Skyjack SJIII 3019 for our instruction and practical test. I hoped to get the TM12, knowing how compact it is. I thought "I'll fly through the obstacle course with that". It was not to be, we all had to use the larger scissor

of operating hours, in order to maintain the IPAF qualification. It felt a bit like a pilots licence!

In spite of years of practical experience and an in depth knowledge of aerial lift regulations, I found the course to be very beneficial and learnt a great deal. The Facelift team was a credit to IPAF and to crown it all I now have a PAL card, so if Publishing fails me I have a practical qualification!

National

CAP
COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE



IPAF

Tel: 0115 945 9111 • Fax: 0115 945 8111
Email: training@central-access.co.uk
www.central-access.co.uk

Your Region

Place your training ad
HERE

Call: +44(0)8707 740436 • Fax: +44(0)1295 768223
or Email: info@vertikal.net

All training centres above offer IPAF approved and audited courses for Operators of Mobile aerial work platforms, European directives require that all staff are fully and adequately trained in the safe use of the equipment they operate.

See www.ipaf.org for full listing