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TABS 2019

May 21, 2019

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PASMA Tower Safety Week

Now an established event in the PASMA calendar, Tower Safety Week took place from the 11th to the 18th of November and attracted considerable interest and engagement from PASMA members, along with a wide range of tower users and the work at height sector in general.

As part of the campaign the association created an innovative portfolio of graphics for members to share on social media, highlighting different aspects of 'best practice' when using mobile access towers. These featured advice and information such as the need to refer to the manufacturer's instruction manual, the imperative to use the correct size and quantity of stabilisers and the importance of double guardrails on both sides of the platform.

BS 1139-6 CPD open days also returned for 2018 giving PASMA training instructors the opportunity to maintain and enhance their skills and knowledge.

PASMA chairman Gillian Rutter said: "Our training scheme is the industry standard. It is the high quality of service our instructors provide through the PASMA network of training members that ensures its reputation for excellence."

Web based seminars have always been a traditional feature of Tower Safety Week and this year was no exception. Delivered by Brian Parker, AFI group business development manager and chairman of PASMA's training committee, 'The safe use of mobile access towers and low-

level podiums' covered a wide range of topics, in particular the forthcoming changes to tower product standard EN 1004 and the need to always inspect a mobile access tower and the things to record.

Parker also went on to address the changes to low-level access following the introduction of BS 8620 and to pinpoint the top five mistakes that people make when using towers and, most importantly, how to avoid them.

At the end of the week Gillian Rutter said: "Once again, PASMA Tower Safety Week afforded a unique opportunity for members to share their knowledge and expertise - not only with tower users, but with anyone responsible for specifying towers and overseeing their safe use in the workplace."



Gillian Rutter



All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG)

The All Party Parliamentary Group on Working at Height (APPG), sponsored by PASMA, was established in October 2017 and launched its first inquiry two months later chaired by Alison Thewliss, Member of Parliament for Glasgow Central.

In response to the submissions received from all sectors of industry, oral evidence sessions were held in March and July with a view to investigating why workers fall from height - leading to death and serious injury - and to produce a set of recommendations intended to reduce the overall number of falls.

The APPG has now completed its first report and produced a set of recommendations that will be announced in the Palace of Westminster in December.



Working at Height

PASMA on show

Throughout the year the association has actively promoted towers, their safe use and versatility, at a variety of events across the UK.

These include:

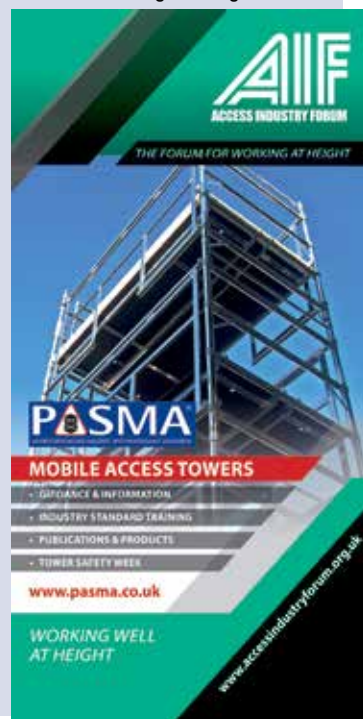
- The London Work at Height Seminar at The Guildhall, London.
- The Safety in Construction Show at the Roundhouse, Derby.
- The Health & Safety Show at the NEC, Birmingham.
- The Safety & Health Expo at ExCeL, Docklands.
- Health & Safety Scotland at the SEC, Glasgow.
- Health & Safety North at EventCity, Manchester.

Through the Access Industry Forum (AIF), PASMA has also contributed to a series of 'Working Well at Height' events in collaboration with Working Well Together, the HSE sponsored campaign intended to reduce death and injury in the construction industry.

The collaboration is actively supported by ATLAS, BSIF, EPF, FASET, IPAF, IRATA, Ladder Association, NASC, PASMA, SAEMA and WAHSA. Each of these organisations represents a different sector of the access industry and fosters and supports codes of good practice, equipment standards, training, education and knowledge.

Following the success of its Loughborough

event, the AIF has also announced the date of its second national conference on work at height. It will take place on Thursday, 14th November 2019, at the AJ Bell Stadium, Manchester. The programme will be announced early in the New Year.



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