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Updated MEWPs for Managers course

IPAF is to launch a revamped version of its MEWPs for Managers training course for those planning and supervising work at height using powered access equipment.

Training manager Paul Roddis said: "MEWPs for Managers has received a much awaited upgrade and will also be available as eLearning for the first time. This will make it easier for site managers and supervisors to fit the training into their schedule. The updated course contextualises the information making it far easier to directly apply the learning in the real world, and considers the whole process of work platform management, from selecting the right machine, training the appropriate team and providing the right protection through securing the unit, to organising its safe delivery and collection.

"The course is engaging, challenging and rewarding, utilising interactive 360 degree graphics and virtual scenarios that require candidates to put various pieces of risk assessment and technical and safety guidance together to identify and contextualise specific hazards in each scenario."



APPG report to Parliament delayed due to Brexit wrangling

As a result of the planned Brexit vote that was subsequently postponed, the planned publication of the findings of the All Party Parliamentary Group inquiry into falls from height in the workplace, led by Alison Thewliss MP, has been delayed. A new launch date has not been agreed, but it is likely to be February at the earliest.

PAL Card adds CSCS logo

IPAF's PAL Cards will now be able to carry the CSCS logo, affording all valid PAL Card holders' easy access to Build UK sites. There will be no additional cost for those wishing to add the logo to the card on completion of IPAF training, but IPAF



training candidates will need to demonstrate they have successfully completed a relevant CITB Health, Safety and Environment test.

There are four different versions of the HSE test, with a series of specialist sub variants. Subject to a digital check with the CITB that the training candidate has passed one of the relevant tests, and therefore has the minimum required level of health, safety and environmental awareness to go on site, the CSCS hologram can be applied to the PAL Card when processed. Existing PAL Card holders that can demonstrate they have passed the CITB HSE test can also request the CSCS logo to be added, for the same price as a replacement PAL Card. More details at www.ipaf.org/training



New standard requires mastclimber training

Members of the IPAF International Mast-Climbing Work Platform Committee have issued a reminder that, following the update to British Standard 7981:2017, operator training is now mandatory for all mast climber users in the UK. IPAF accredits operator training leading to a full PAL Card that can aid compliance.

IPAF MCWP rental member companies in the UK are working in compliance with the new standard, which is available free of charge as part of a wider suite of related standards made available to IPAF members by the British Standards Institute at www.ipaf.org/resources

Progress on trailblazer apprenticeships

The Hire Controller (Plant, Tools & Equipment) apprenticeship standard and end point assessment plan has now been approved by the Institute for Apprenticeships (IfA) and made available for delivery. Meanwhile, the Lift Truck and Powered Access Engineering Technician apprenticeship standard has also been approved and the IfA is reviewing the end point assessment plan. Once approved, the first intake of apprentices should take place shortly. Details can be found at www.instituteforapprenticeships.org

Strategic Open Meeting

A Strategic Forum Plant Safety Group MEWPs Open Meeting will be held on Tuesday 19 February at the Yew Lodge Hotel in Kegworth, Leicestershire. Speakers will cover numerous subjects, including accident reporting systems, operator competence, rescue of persons from platforms and secondary guarding.

The group, chaired by the CPA and administered and supported by IPAF, co-ordinates the production of safety guidance documents, the latest of which is 'Rescue of Persons from MEWPs' and provides guidance to put plans in place to rescue powered access users if they become stranded at height.

IPAF Summit

The IPAF Summit & IAPAs 2019 will be held on the 6th March in Dubai, UAE, with the early bird booking discount available until the end of January. Anyone planning to book is also reminded of a site visit to the Manlift depot in Dubai, open to those booking a place at the Summit. Numbers are limited and available on a first come, first served basis. See www.iapa-summit.info for further details.