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RELIABILITY IN ACTION

# New guidance on lifting IBC

The CPA's Tower Crane Interest Group has announced the publication of its latest Technical Information Note (TIN 052) on the lifting of Intermediate Bulk Containers (IBC). The TIN highlights the fact that containers or tanks - including IBC tote tanks or pallet tanks - are increasingly being used for the delivery of liquids to construction sites.

The lifting of IBCs by cranes can be hazardous as the fluid within the container can move as it is being lifted, changing the load's centre of gravity. The TIN states that if the IBC is not connected to the crane safely, it could fall. The risk can be reduced by following safe slinging techniques and being aware that when lifting partially filled IBCs there is an increased risk of fluid movement. The TIN also contains information on the different types of IBC, the precautions that should be taken when lifting them, and how they should and shouldn't be lifted. The TIN can be downloaded free of charge from [www.cpa.uk.net/tower-crane-interest-group-tcig-publications](http://www.cpa.uk.net/tower-crane-interest-group-tcig-publications)

## New safety publications catalogue

The CPA has released its safety publications catalogue for 2020, providing an overview of all the safety and technical publications produced by the association and its special interest groups. The catalogue also lists other publications available on the CPA website. Publications can be downloaded from [www.cpa.uk.net/safetytechnicalpublications](http://www.cpa.uk.net/safetytechnicalpublications).



## CPA Conference moves to April

The next CPA Conference will be held at the Heart of England Conference Centre in Fillongley near Coventry, on Wednesday 28th April 2021. The conference will focus on progress, recovery and rebuilding for the future. The event was originally scheduled for October, but in light of the uncertainty surrounding the Covid-19 pandemic, it was decided to postpone the conference until the Spring.

CPA chief executive Kevin Minton said: "We thought long and hard about whether we should postpone the conference and decided it was in the best interests of everyone if we moved it to the Spring. As the conference theme will be about preparing businesses for the future, it will be highly relevant in light of the current Coronavirus outbreak. We hope that CPA members and others in the construction sector will come away from the event with a great deal of knowledge about how they can better equip their businesses to deal with uncertainties and build for the future."



## New operator apprenticeship approved

A new Trailblazer Apprenticeship for construction equipment operators has been approved by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education and is being finalised for delivery.

The new apprenticeship provides the equivalent to the Lifting Technician apprenticeship for crane operators that was launched several years ago. The qualification is set at Level 2, with learning taking place over 15 months using four machine types: excavator, dump truck, forklift, and ride-on roller. The content includes operator level servicing and basic maintenance techniques, as well as equipment marshalling, providing apprentices with an overall understanding of operations and supporting activities. The majority of learning will be undertaken in the workplace, with at least 20 percent learning 'off the job'.

The chairman of the working group, Patrick Flannery said: "After many years of developing this apprenticeship, we are pleased to have passed the final hurdle in getting it approved. This means we can now prepare the apprenticeship course for delivery."

## New guidance for Coronavirus issues in the workplace

The Construction Leadership Council (CLC) has produced a Site Operating Procedures (SOP) publication for protecting the workforce during the Covid-19 pandemic. It includes information on minimising the risk of spreading infection and is based on Government social distancing recommendations.

The CPA has written a supplementary guidance publication for equipment related occupations, because most sites have now re-opened and social distancing requirements will be in force for the foreseeable future. The publication interprets the core requirements of the CLC procedures and outlines a tailored set of additional requirements for a range of equipment related occupations. These include operators and supporting personnel such as slinger/signallers, traffic marshals and maintenance staff, as well as delivery drivers. The guidance can be downloaded free of charge from [www.cpa.uk.net/news-events/cpasplantoccupationssop](http://www.cpa.uk.net/news-events/cpasplantoccupationssop)

The CPA has also released a technical document entitled 'Guidance for Enhanced Pre-Operational Checks on Plant Following Post COVID-19 Site Lockdowns'. This guide will be particularly useful for those restarting machines 'trapped' on locked down sites that were shut down abruptly and that may not have been sufficiently prepared for extended non-operational periods. The document can be downloaded free of charge from [www.cpa.uk.net/news-events/guidanceenhancedpre-operationalchecks](http://www.cpa.uk.net/news-events/guidanceenhancedpre-operationalchecks)

