THE EUROPEAN EQUIPMENT EXHIBITION SPECIALIZED IN HANDLING, ACCESS, TRANSPORT AND LIFTING





HSE & IPAF guidance on LOLER certificate renewals

New guidance has been issued by the UK Health & Safety Executive (HSE),



following lobbying from IPAF, clarifying what should happen to machines that require renewal of safety testing certificates while the country is still in partial lockdown.

A Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) inspection must be carried out at specified intervals by a recognised inspector to check equipment is safe for use. IPAF worked with the Hire Association of Europe (HAE) and Build UK to represent concerns about renewing or extending expiring LOLER certificates, during a shortage of inspection capability during lockdown.

HSE guidance has now been issued, while IPAF has also published specific guidance on continuing to meet inspection and thorough examination requirements for powered access operators during ongoing Covid-19 restrictions, along with a stringent pre-use inspection checklist. Both documents are available at www.ipaf.org/resources.

The HSE says it will adopt a pragmatic and proportionate approach for equipment used after a certificate has expired, as long as the reasons are related to the resulting backlog in testing. Operators are expected to mitigate any extensions, for example via enhanced regular inspections and maintenance by qualified persons until such time as the certification can be renewed.

IPAF Summit postponed

The IPAF Summit & IAPAs 2020 event, scheduled for October 8th has been postponed until March 18th, 2021 when it will be held at the original venue, the Millennium Gloucester Hotel in Kensington, London. The move is intended to allow attendees to plan with greater certainty and to minimise disruptions that might prevent people from travelling.

Chief executive Peter Douglas said: "While we hope that by October coronavirus is under control, it is fair to assume there may still be restrictions on large gatherings and international travel. It therefore makes sense to postpone until 2021, when hopefully there will be more clarity about how to manage the risk from this virus."

"Economies and companies around the world are starting to open up again, but it will not be an immediate return to business as usual. To ensure everyone hoping to attend the IPAF Summit can plan with maximum certainty, we have made this decision and hope the event will be a great success in 2021."

"Anyone who booked to join us will have their reservations honoured on

the alternative date in 2021. A full refund will be offered to anyone who is unable to attend the rescheduled event or who wishes to cancel. Anyone who has booked accommodation is advised to contact the Millennium Gloucester Hotel directly to reconfirm."





Facial recognition added to e-learning

IPAF has modified its eLearning operator theory module to include facial recognition which is already deployed as a security measure on its 'MEWPs for Managers' eLearning course. By utilising the camera on the candidate's device or computer, it ensures only the trainee being assessed is carrying out the course.



The extra security is intended to give all IPAF approved training centres additional confidence to offer distance learning as an alternative to classroom sessions, where maintaining distance between trainees and the instructor might be more difficult.

Training centres have the option of moving the theory element of their operator courses to online only, in order to increase the number of practical assessments they are able to carry out in a day and reducing the need for candidates to congregate in classrooms.

Candidates can complete the theory element of their training online, while the practical element can be conducted in well ventilated covered yards and outdoor compounds, to allow physical distancing and help comply with risk management measures. IPAF's Training Matrix has also been amended to allow training centres to conduct 12 practical assessments - rather than eight - a day for candidates who have successfully completed the eLearning theory module.

Chief executive Peter Douglas said: "Many of our members delivering training are eager to return to offering courses on the scale they were doing before the coronavirus pandemic, but they are equally keen to ensure this is done as safely as possible and in line with the best guidance available to minimise risk of candidates or training centre staff coming into contact with or spreading the virus."

"We think this new flexibility will be of benefit to our training providers as they look to reconfigure the way they work going forwards, and to bolster confidence that their staff and training candidates have the best range of options to allow them to undertake IPAF training with maximum confidence." For more information visit www.ipaf.org/training.

