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Tim Watson

Tim Watson Memorial Prize

In order to commemorate the sad premature passing of Tim Watson in April, the CPA has announced the Tim Watson Memorial Prize.

The aim is to support an engineering undergraduate in their final year thesis at an engineering university, the association has approached Brunel University London.

To be successful the candidate's choice of thesis would need to relate to construction equipment, preferably relating to lifting equipment. The thesis would need to have the potential to add to the shared industry knowledge on the subject, and the candidate would be asked to present their findings to the relevant Special Interest Groups.

The support might take the form of funding for costs outside their normal study, such as travel. It could also be professional support, such as mentoring, and access to contacts and expertise.

Watson was made aware of the plan for a memorial prize and was fully supportive of the concept. His family will be invited to participate. The panel aims to provide the same sort of experienced and helpful support to the candidate that Tim Watson was able to provide to many of his colleagues - and hopefully the prize winner would be encouraged to build their career in the sector.



Spring Conference 2021

The 2021 CPA Spring Conference will be held at the Heart of England Conference Centre near Coventry on Wednesday 28th April. The theme will cover progress, recovery and rebuilding for the future. The host will once again be former television newsreader, presenter and journalist Merryn Myatt. The Conference will bring together a number of speakers talking about key issues affecting the equipment rental sector and will include panel discussions.

Crane Safety 2020

The CPA is supporting the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE) Crane Safety 2020 seminar which will take place this year as a live online event on 15th September.

Speakers will be drawn from the HSE, Babcock, NOCN, Sir Robert McAlpine, EnerMech, LEEA, Laing O'Rourke and Select Plant Hire.



Stars of the Future 2020

Judging is underway for the CPA Stars of the Future 2020 apprenticeship and trainee awards programme for which 70 nominations were received. The awards recognise and reward outstanding apprentices and trainees who not only bring ability and commitment to their learning and their work, but also possess extra capabilities which mark them out as being not only the foundations of the future of the industry, but also potentially leaders - the Stars of the Future.

Last year the Operator of the Year and CPA Lifting Technician of the Year were introduced, this year a further category is CPA Hire Controller of the Year. The winners will be announced on Thursday 17th September.