



Merry
Christmas
And



Happy New Year

From all of us at the

Vertical
Press

Thank you for your
Support

We would like to thank all of our readers, sponsors and contributors, for the fantastic support that you have given us throughout this very challenging year, all of which helps to make this and our other publications and activities a success.

Wishing you all a very safe and happy Holiday season and a happier, healthier and more prosperous year in 2021.





Accident analysis prompts revamp of load & unload training

Information gathered in a worldwide project to report accidents and near misses has informed a major update to the training course on how to load and unload work platforms and other equipment safely from trucks or trailers.

The latest analysis of global data gathered by IPAF via www.ipaf.org/accident shows most accidents resulting in lost time injuries and fatalities occur while loading or unloading. As a result, IPAF has overhauled its Load/Unload course, with new training materials unveiled to instructors.

Training manager Paul Roddis said: "The IPAF Load/Unload course has been reviewed off the back of the accident statistics showing that the people most likely to be harmed in aerial work platform related incidents are delivery drivers. I'd like to thank Martin Wraith and all who sat on the working group, along with the IPAF UK Country Council, Training Committee and our brilliant network of Training Centre staff and instructors, who I know will roll the new version of this valuable course out with enthusiasm and vigour, to assist candidates taking the course to understand and identify the risks involved."

IPAF's new head of finance

Amanda Beckett has been appointed IPAF head of finance. She joins from Nationwide Platforms, part of the Loxam group, where she spent more than 14 years in a variety of roles.

Chief executive Peter Douglas said: "Amanda has experience of managing the financial strategy for a complex multi-million pound powered access business. IPAF has so far weathered the storm of Covid-19 well and we are committed to helping our members and the industry at large come out of this pandemic in as healthy a shape as possible. We are also excited to progress the priorities that lie ahead, Amanda will be a tremendous asset for us in achieving these aims."



Amanda Beckett

Platform rental markets' pre-pandemic health will shape recovery

The healthy state of the aerial lift rental and positive economic trends to year end 2019 in Italy, the Netherlands, Germany and China should shape strong recoveries after the pandemic, according to the latest analysis, conducted for IPAF by DuckerFrontier.

The newly published Global Powered Access Rental Market Report 2020 shows that those countries least hard hit in the first wave of the pandemic are likely to recover well in 2021, the report also indicates Sweden and the USA will be among markets to recover strongly, after construction sites largely stayed open during the peak of the pandemic.

France, the UK, Spain and Finland were among those worst hit by the pandemic, owing to the impact of the disease and sustained national lockdowns, coupled with other underlying factors contributing to uncertainty, including Brexit. Outlooks are not favourable for a rapid recovery in these countries.

The Dutch and German platform rental markets reported strong growth up until the pandemic, increasing by seven percent in terms of annual revenue, while France saw sustained growth over three years, to overtake the UK market in terms of size and revenue at the end of 2019.

In the UK, the impact of Covid-19 and lockdowns are forecast to impact on construction, unemployment and overall GDP, coupled with the end of the transition period from the EU have done little to underpin confidence in a rapid recovery.

In the US, the market continues to grow and mature, boosted by strong construction output, but market evolution has been beset by a piecemeal approach to the pandemic in 2020, followed by uncertainty caused by the elections, and potential fallout.

The report also contains a special market focus on China, a rental market growing at unprecedented speed and set to keep surging in terms of fleet size and market penetration. In 2019 the work platform rental market grew by 38 percent and is set to rise by 10 percent in 2020.

The 2020 IPAF Global Powered Access Rental Market reports are available to order now at www.ipaf.org/reports, with a discount for IPAF members while 2019 & 2018

reports are available at half price and older reports are free to download.



2 million PAL Cards worldwide

The number of Powered Access Licence (PAL) Cards issued by IPAF worldwide has surpassed 2 million, with 800,000 valid cards currently in use on worksites around the globe.

IPAF began certifying training in 1993, with the yellow credit card sized PAL Card introduced at the end of 1998. At that time just over 11,000 operators had been certified, with the introduction of the PAL Card that figure doubled the following year. In 2014 IPAF marked 1 million PAL Cards issued, and in November 2017 1.5 million. Just three years on, IPAF has now certified more than 2 million operators.