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# IPAF's ePAL app

Last month IPAF's new mobile app for operators went live as it aims to bring training certification into the digital era and reduce the environmental impact involved in issuing physical PAL Card and training certifications.

The new ePAL app is free to use and features the operator's digital IPAF PAL Card, logbook and safety guide. It also allows operators to receive the latest tips and safety information and for them to share qualifications with site managers quickly and easily. It also phases out paper certificates and the manual logging of operating hours and speeds up the processing time and resources required to issue training certificates and PAL cards.



Chief executive Peter Douglas said: "A typical year's output of IPAF PAL Cards and certificates amounts to a 130 metre stack of printed plastic and paper, shipped from supplier, to IPAF, to the IPAF training centre and on to candidates. After five years, the candidate repeats the whole thing again. The app helps reduce waste and cost. Its development has been a key priority since I came on board and when we teamed up with Trackunit to roll this out."

Trackunit chief executive Søren Brogaard, added: "This is a big step up for the industry when it comes to safety and efficiency. We know filling out logbooks and keeping them up to date can be a challenge. This app provides contractors and operators secure access to equipment and a convenient way to document machine activities. We can also use the app to encourage and make it easier to report accidents or near misses. My hope is we can all contribute to building a safer, digital future for operators."

The app is available now in the UK and Ireland in English, with other languages to follow.

# Reporting portal adds extra languages

IPAF has added additional languages to its worldwide accident reporting portal and a new interactive dashboard for members to access the latest available accident data. The reporting portal was updated last year to make it easier to report an accident or near miss, which are particularly useful in preventing more serious accidents. It also now allows multiple users per company and for members to register subsidiary companies. The new dashboard, available via the members area of the IPAF website, allows users to view charts and access configurable graphs covering accidents sorted by date, country and incident outcome - all of which have been anonymised.



# Members urged to support in-work service technician training

IPAF is encouraging members to embrace the options for in-work training to support and certify their technicians, as the first wave of candidates complete their level 2 and level 3 NVQs under the scheme.

IPAF's Richard Whiting, who led the development, said: "The first candidates have now completed their NVQs and are certified as service technicians. They now have a number of options open to them to continue training and are a step further along the route to IPAF Competent Assessed Person (CAP) status."

Jake Howard of Speedy Powered Access, one of the first candidates



to complete the six day course to attain his level 2 NVQ, added: "I'd recommend this course to anyone looking to get into this line of work who has little to no prior knowledge, because it breaks down all parts of the job in a way that's easy to understand. It is challenging, rewarding and interesting."

For more information visit: [www.ipaf.org/en-gb/industry-training](http://www.ipaf.org/en-gb/industry-training)

# Toolbox Talks on fall protection equipment

New Toolbox Talks, designed to share specific safety messages on work sites, are now available from IPAF. They consist of two short presentations aimed at explaining the use of personal fall prevention equipment and what to look for when checking the equipment before use.

Peter Douglas said: "These Toolbox Talks are a simple way for employers to get safety messages across. Complacency and overfamiliarity with a task can be a danger in every workplace, by introducing new topics you can ensure safety briefings stay fresh and help concentrate minds. Even experienced operators will benefit from being reminded of the safety basics that sometimes get forgotten or overlooked during a busy working day."

The Toolbox Talks can be downloaded from: [www.ipaf.org/toolboxtalks](http://www.ipaf.org/toolboxtalks)



# Have your say on red diesel

IPAF is to work with members over concerns about the planned end of UK tax relief on red diesel for construction machinery, which is due to come into effect next year. To share your views on this issue with IPAF, email: [Richard.Whiting@ipaf.org](mailto:Richard.Whiting@ipaf.org)