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IPAF invites members to join International Safety Committee

IPAF has formed a new International Safety Committee to assist with the development and implementation of global standards as well as the promotion of safe practice within the industry.

The new committee is born out of the existing IPAF Accident Work Group of the IPAF UK Country Council, which has been instrumental in compiling and analysing incident statistics via IPAF's Accident Reporting Portal, leading to the annual IPAF Global Safety Report.

The current members of the Accident Work Group will form the core of the new committee, under chairman Mark Keily of Sunbelt Rentals UK. Following the first meeting, which was held during Vertical Days, IPAF is now inviting others to join the committee which will meet three to four times a year, mostly virtually, but with one physical meeting in conjunction with a major industry event.

IPAF's head of safety & technical Brian Parker, said: "The IPAF Accident Work Group has long worked hard behind the scenes to produce safety guidance based on the accident reporting data we have been collecting and analysing since 2013, with the vast majority of reporting coming from our UK membership. The accident reporting portal now receives reports from more than 20 countries, while IPAF prepares and promotes technical guidance and safety campaigns in almost 80 countries. We felt therefore that it was appropriate to expand the remit and outlook of the group, by creating the International Safety Committee."

Chief executive Peter Douglas, added: "It is clear from the latest IPAF Global Safety Report, and the new standards being developed and implemented in places such as the USA, Canada, the Middle East and South East Asia, that powered access as whole will benefit from clear, consistent and independent leadership in safety globally. If any IPAF member wishes to be represented on the new committee I urge them to get in touch. In the meantime, I urge people to review the latest online Global Safety Report and that all powered access operators, managers and users report any accidents and near misses in their businesses."



Mark Keily of Sunbelt Rentals UK

Two new Toolbox Talks and Andy Access posters

'Safe Workshop Servicing & Repair of MEWPs' and 'Travelling in a MEWP as an Occupant' are the latest additions to IPAF's Toolbox Talk series. Both are accompanied by a new Andy Access poster underlining the primary safety messages.

Moving, testing, servicing or repairing aerial platforms exposes workshop employees to hazards and risks depending on the machine type and service, or repair being carried out. The IPAF accident reporting portal has also highlighted a number of entrapment incidents involving occupants of scissor lifts in particular. The Toolbox Talks and posters are aimed at reminding operators of their responsibilities to safeguard all occupants and offer guidance to platform occupants to remain vigilant and not distract the operator.

Brian Parker, IPAF's head of safety & technical, said: "These two new messages continue to build on the range of safety briefings and Andy Access posters already produced and available free of charge."

For more details, visit:
www.ipaf.org/toolboxtalks and
www.ipaf.org/AndyAccess



IPAF appoints IPAF Rental+ manager

Martin Wraith has been appointed IPAF Rental+ manager, a new role at IPAF to oversee the development, implementation, and ongoing audit of the IPAF Rental+ standard.

Reporting to operations director Giles Councill, he is well known in the UK powered access industry, having served as an IPAF Auditor for a number of years and being a qualified IPAF senior instructor.

Martin Wraith said: "I have long had a close association in a variety of roles with IPAF and have supported the federation at events around the world, developing training, giving presentations online and in person, delivering the audit programme of IPAF training centres and instructors, and as a qualified IPAF instructor in my own right. When this new role within IPAF was advertised I knew it represented a really interesting challenge and felt it would be a great fit for me. I already know the IPAF team very well and also many of the members with whom I have had the pleasure of interacting over the years as an auditor or at industry events and the like."

"I really look forward to this next chapter of my career and can't wait to get out and about meeting members, helping them fulfil and maintain the requirements of the IPAF Rental+ audit and expanding awareness and engagement with the standard both in the UK and further afield."

Visit www.ipaf.org/rental for more details about the IPAF Rental+ standard.



Martin Wraith