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**AN INDEPENDENT NEWS SERVICE COSTS MONEY AND
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FALL COSTS GLASS COMPANY £81,000

Glass manufacturing company NSG Pilkington (UK) has been fined £80,000 plus £767 of costs after a man fell around three metres, sustaining life changing injuries including a fractured lower back and right heel plus injuries to his shoulder and elbow forcing him into early retirement.

The fall occurred after he stepped from a load bearing to a fragile roof at Pilkington's premises in St Helens. The HSE investigation found that the company had not provided a safe system of work for working at height or to ensure its control measures were implemented.

COUNTERWEIGHT CRUSHING RISKS

A man, 32, lost his life while working alongside a mobile crane on a construction site in Singapore in June.

The slinger signaller was in the process of retrieving shackles from a tool box located on deck at the rear of the crane chassis when the crane operator slewed the crane superstructure clockwise, causing the counterweight to strike him from behind, and create a scissor effect which crushed him between the counterweight and the chassis. He died from his injuries on arrival at the hospital.

LIEBHERR GB TRAINING FACILITY GROWS

The training facility at Liebherr GB's Biggleswade location is being expanded, with a larger, dedicated area for crane training, to allow several courses to run simultaneously whilst remaining in accordance with CPCS guidelines.

The company's courses include: 'The safe management of lifting operations' which can be tailored to customers' needs with full Liebherr certification awarded on completion, while other courses range from A61 Appointed Person (lifting operations) to IPAF Harness training. Further courses are to be added including the new Liebherr Telescopic Crawler Crane training with practicals on a 60 tonne LTR 1060.



DIRECTOR SENTENCED

Kevin Bowie, sole director of Precision Decorating Services (Scotland) was sentenced to a community payback order requiring him to be under supervision for 18 months and to carry out 300 hours of unpaid work, after he was found guilty of a breach of the Working at Height Regulations 2005 following an incident in Doune, Scotland in September 2018, when employee Michael McArthur, 26, died after he was catapulted from a boom lift after its platform was struck by tour bus.

Bowie had failed to ensure that the work being carried out at height was properly planned, supervised, and carried out in a safe manner. The machine was not cordoned off from traffic, and McArthur had not been trained nor was he wearing a harness and lanyard.

Alistair Duncan, head of the Health and Safety Investigation Unit said: "This was a tragic incident that could have been avoided if Kevin Bowie had put in place appropriate protective measures to protect his employee, Michael McArthur. "Hopefully this prosecution will remind other employers that failure to fulfil their obligations can have severe and tragic consequences and that they will be held to account for their failings."

Last August McArthur's relatives were awarded £315,000 in damages against Timberbush Tours and its insurers ERS Syndicate Management.



'STEPPING UP TO LADDER SAFETY'

Access equipment specialist WernerCo has launched a new campaign to promote best practice when working at height. 'Stepping up to Ladder Safety' offers training to professionals and customers in the safe use of ladders and towers, covering Do's and Don'ts and how to inspect ladders correctly.



WHO TRAINED THEM THEN?

We have no idea where or when this occurred and think it may well be a fake - however we have seen similar cases that were most definitely real.



NEW LEEA TRAINING COURSES

Over the next six months, the Lifting Equipment Engineers Association (LEEA) will launch several new training courses including: The ILE (Introduction to Lifting Equipment), Lifting Accessories Diploma training, LAC (Global), which will replace the current 'Lifting Equipment General (LEG) Diploma' and the Foundation Certificate training course - FOU (Global) which will be available in English, Arabic, Bahasa, Brazilian, Portuguese and Simplified Chinese, with an Australian version also planned. Online examinations will be available for all versions. All courses will be available on LEEA's new e-Learning platform so that members can carry out the training when they want, how they want and for as long as they want.

