

# Spread Joy, Share Hope: Our Christmas Gift Campaign for Ukrainian Children



Last Christmas, the Plant and Hire Aid Alliance delivered **20,000 Christmas gifts** to Ukrainian children displaced by war, bringing our total to an incredible 65,000 smiles shared.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who made this possible. Together, we brought joy and hope to children facing unimaginable hardships.



We're doing it again this year! Want to make a difference?

Stay tuned for details on how to get involved:

[www.aid-alliance.com](http://www.aid-alliance.com)

Let's spread joy and kindness where it's needed most. ✨



[hello@aid-alliance.com](mailto:hello@aid-alliance.com)

# FIRST IPAF RENTAL+ CERTIFICATION FOR HOISTS

UK based Southern Hoist Services - part of Claude Fenton Plant Hire - has become the first construction hoist division to achieve IPAF Rental+ certification.

The IPAF Rental+ accreditation sets and audits higher standards in safety, customer service and staff training, providing potential clients with the confidence that the supplier is a truly professional provider.

IPAF Rental+ scheme manager Martin Wraith said: "This marks a significant milestone and shows that IPAF Rental+ is of benefit to all sectors within the powered access industry."

Kirsty Archbold-Laming of Southern hoist and chairman of the Construction Hoist Industry Group added: "The audit is very thorough and encourages companies to



re-evaluate what they consider to be good practice, often identifying areas for improvement. There is always room to do better, and this process helps us continuously raise our standards. For us, being IPAF Rental+ certified shows we are serious about maintaining the highest standards in our industry."

## SHARE YOUR STORY - HELP IMPROVE SAFETY

At IPAF's Elevation UK event in Birmingham last November, Ben Hirst, a director of Horizon Platforms, delivered a frank and moving presentation highlighting the importance of sharing information to help improve safety and drive change. Inspired by IPAF president Karel Huijser's message on storytelling, Hirst shared information on an incident that occurred early one morning in Horizon's yard and was caught on CCTV. It shows how, in spite of all the training and experience, things can go wrong, emphasising how real life experiences can enhance training, boost safety awareness, and save lives even for the most experienced operators.



### A story that could have been a tragedy

The incident occurred in March 2021 at Horizon's facility in West Yorkshire. Hirst said: "At 5:15 a.m. a driver team was preparing a 26 tonne vehicle for delivery to Manchester. Despite proper training and procedures, a lapse occurred. A JLG Power Tower lift, weighing over 340kg, was incorrectly loaded without safety measures.



The lift is pushed up the ramp aided by the winch

The winch was detached early, leaving the lift unsecured on the ramp, relying only on the pedestrian brake. The brake failed to hold, and the lift rolled down the ramp and overturned. Had it collided with someone, the consequences could have been catastrophic."



The pedestrian brake is applied and winch detached



The Crew leave the truck

"What we don't see from the footage is that the platform was then lifted upright and reloaded without inspection by a qualified engineer, and the driver proceeded to site. It was only after another driver raised concerns to the transport manager that the delivery was stopped, preventing a potential chain reaction of negative events."

"Thankfully, this didn't become a major incident, and no laws prevent me from sharing this story. I see a big opportunity for our industry to embrace transparency, storytelling, and learning from mistakes to drive real cultural change."



The brake fails, and the lift rolls down the ramp...



...And overturns

### The Power of Learning from Real-Life Experiences

The story is now part of an animated video analysis created by IPAF to illustrate what went wrong and should have been done differently and offers a timely example of how storytelling can turn mistakes into valuable lessons.

### Join the ShareYourStory Campaign

This story is one of many that could inspire safety improvements across the powered access industry. IPAF's #ShareYourStory campaign invites professionals to share their own experiences - be it incidents, near misses or invaluable lessons learned. By doing so, contributors play a role in creating impactful safety and training materials that can resonate globally.

To share your story, visit IPAF's #ShareYourStory page. Simply provide details about your experience, including the key lessons learned. Your input could lead to the development of the next critical safety resource. Alternatively, visit IPAF's Accident Reporting Portal for worldwide anonymous reporting of incidents involving powered access equipment.

### A Future of Safety Through Storytelling

Hirst emphasised that safety goes beyond regulations, it's about culture, communication and understanding daily pressures. Watch the video and share your story to help turn today's lessons into tomorrow's prevention.

To go directly to the video simulation [www.ipaf.org/en-gb/resource-library/mewp-incident-review-push-around-vertical-pav-loading](http://www.ipaf.org/en-gb/resource-library/mewp-incident-review-push-around-vertical-pav-loading)