

Bring back the **Magic!**★

Objects can be copied, but thankfully people are unique. When they work together as a team, the results can be magical.

Come and see for yourself how we deliver the **Magic here in the North East... there's a warm welcome waiting for you.**



Snorkel™ **Delivering the Magic!**★

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CONSTRUCTION SIMULATOR

UK crane and heavy equipment rental association, the CPA, has purchased a simulator that can realistically simulate the operation of telehandlers, tower cranes, excavators and dumpers, with realistic controls and three dimensional motion. The unit will predominately be used at schools, colleges and career events in order to generate interest in the equipment rental industry.

The unit features three LED screens providing real time simulation and can be used with a virtual reality (VR) headset providing a 360 degree view.

CPA chief executive Steve Mulholland said: "Our industry offers well paid jobs and careers, and it's important that we highlight the opportunities to young people before they leave school or college."



Steve Mulholland (L) with Brian Jones



NIFTYLIFT APPRENTICES WIN AUTOMATION CHALLENGE

Niftylift's apprentice team has won this year's IMechE Apprentice Automation Challenge, the company's second consecutive victory in the competition.

The finals, held at the Manufacturing Technology Centre in Coventry, were contested by 17 teams, which were challenged to design an automated product for home or garden use. Niftylift's team presented the 'Automated Stirrer', a kitchen utensil providing hands free stirring with adjustable speed settings.

The team included Paigan Huish, George Mott, Haydn Nixon, Ben Gillow and Ewan Bell. Huish and Gillow were members of Niftylift's 2024 winning team.

Niftylift's apprentice development manager Karl Digby said: "The team should be really proud. They have been excellent ambassadors for the company and the apprenticeship scheme."



Automated stirrer



(L-R) Ewan Bell, Ben Gillow, Paigan Huish, George Mott and Haydn Nixon

TADANO ADDS MORE TRAINEES

Tadano has taken on 39 new trainees across its two facilities in Germany, 23 at Zweibrücken and 16 at Lauf.

The trainees at the Lauf facility will focus on warehouse logistics, paint and production mechanics, while those at Zweibrücken will work on construction and industrial machinery mechanics, with both locations offering training in administration.

Tadano Europe's vice president of human resources Jürgen Lachmann said: "Our facilities in Zweibrücken and Lauf are of critical importance to the group, which is why we are focusing so much on the requirements of the future."



Trainees at the Zweibrücken facility

£87K FOR LADDER FALL

UK horticultural company Ball Colegrave has been fined £80,000 plus £7,061 in costs after an employee suffered serious injuries after falling from a ladder while checking an irrigation system at its Banbury site. The employee suffered five broken ribs and a partially collapsed lung.

HSE inspector Rebecca Gibson said: "This incident highlights the duty on employers to ensure that should do all they can to minimise the risk of working at height."

€650K FOR LACK OF TRAINING

Irish Packaging Recycling Unlimited Company was fined €650,000 following a fatal incident in 2021, in which a forklift operator died after his machine overturned.

The company pleaded guilty to failing to manage work activities to ensure the safety, health and welfare of an employee and the failure to prepare a report following the examination of equipment by a competent person.

The Irish Health and Safety Authority (HSA) also found that the operator was insufficiently trained and that "there was no supervision in place at the time of the incident, and the deceased was not wearing the seatbelt provided on the forklift truck."

HSA chief executive Mark Cullen said: "This tragic incident highlights the critical importance of appropriate training, supervision, and the use of safety equipment when operating machinery."

WHO TRAINED THEM THEN?

Spotted in Union Street, Aberdeen, Scotland earlier this year... two truck mounted platforms working on what appears to be an overhead display or lighting with no attempt to cordon off from traffic or pedestrians.

There was a person on the ground in a Hi-Viz coat, who we assume was responsible for keeping an eye out for people and traffic. However, when our correspondent took out his phone to take a photo he became angry, threatening and abusive. In his words: "Two platforms set up on either side of the street with no cordon, or warning for traffic, and then this guy started threatening me!"

