

## IPAF draft Code of Practice available to all

IPAF's draft Code of Practice, Work Platforms on Fork Lift Trucks, which is to form the basis of discussions with the HSE, has been made available to all those who need to work at height. It can be downloaded

from [www.ipaf.org](http://www.ipaf.org) and hard copies can be requested from the Administration Centre, (tel: 015395 62444).

The Code aims to establish minimum standards for the safe fitting and use of work platforms on forklifts.

### CE marking

The Code emphasises that the combination of the attachment and the machine requires Type Approval by a Notified Body to ensure complete conformity with a Harmonised Standard (EN280:2001) for CE marking of the machine for this function. CE marking of an attachment in isolation is meaningless.

The Code also examines the 'exceptional circumstances' referred to by LOLER (Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations) under which the use of goods lifting equipment may be used to lift people.

The HSE has reiterated that LOLER permits the use of goods lifting equipment to lift people only in "exceptional circumstances". This is

further qualified by: "where it is reasonably practical to obtain and use purpose designed equipment for lifting people then this should be used". These are two of the central issues that IPAF underlines in the Code.

### Defining 'exceptional'

'Exceptional' use is clearly justified in emergency situations or where alternative methods of lifting people would pose greater hazards, but 'exceptional' implies infrequency of such use, and for short durations.

When this platform attachment from Caterpillar is fitted to one of its telehandlers, the combined machine conforms to EN280:2001 to offer safe and effective access to elevated work areas. When attached, lock outs prevent the driver raising or extending the boom beyond the normal travel position, so travelling with the platform in the raised position is not possible. When positioned for work the operator transfers control

of the boom functions and engine start/stop to the platform, this also disables the remaining cab controls and transmission functions. Sensors also prevent the platform working unless the stabiliser legs are correctly deployed.



International Powered Access  
Federation,  
PO Box 16, Carnforth, Lancashire,  
LA6 1LB, UK  
Tel: 01524 781393  
Fax: 01524 781301  
E-mail: [mewp@ipaf.org](mailto:mewp@ipaf.org)  
Web Site: [www.ipaf.org](http://www.ipaf.org)