JLG president calls for use of smart technology

Imagine a work environment where smart vests can communicate with mobile elevating work platforms (MEWPs) to warn operators that their harness lanyards are not connected to the anchor points. Or picture a world where smart machines equipped with sensors can contribute to collision avoidance and detection.

The 250-strong audience at the IPAF Summit on 26 March 2015 in Washington, DC, USA, got a glimpse of how the technology explosion can be used to enhance safety. Keynote speaker Frank Nerenhausen, president of JLG, showed how wearables, augmented reality and remote operation could be harnessed in a powerful system of prevention and control.

At the same time, Nerenhausen underlined the value of human education and intervention: "Training must continue to play a prominent role as our industry advances," he said.

During the discussion following Nerenhausen's presentation, IPAF CEO Tim Whiteman revealed that prompted by discussions with JLG, a new category for Innovative Technology would be introduced at the next International Awards for Powered Access (IAPAs), to be held with the IPAF Summit on 17 March 2016 in Madrid, Spain. Watch for event details at www.iapa-summit.info.

Presentations from the IPAF Summit are available at the Resources section of www.ipaf.org.

More than 1.1 million MEWPs in worldwide rental fleet

The worldwide MEWP rental fleet has grown to 1,120,000 units, an increase of 8% over the previous year. This and other vital facts and figures are featured in the 2015 IPAF Powered Access Rental Market Reports for Europe and the US. Get your copies now at www.ipaf.org/reports.

- The US MEWP rental market chalked up high growth in 2014 (10%).
- The US MEWP rental fleet kept expanding (5 to 10%) in 2014.
- The European MEWP rental market registered slight improvement in 2014, after a few years of remaining flat.
Operator training becomes legal requirement in Italy

Training is now compulsory for operators of mobile elevating work platforms (MEWPs) in Italy, following the 12 March 2015 deadline for the adoption of and compliance to regulations on the safe use of work equipment passed by the regional authorities on 22 February 2012.

The agreement of the regional authorities dated 22 February 2012 on the safe use of work equipment went into force on 12 March 2013. This introduced specific rules for training on the safe use of machines considered by the authorities as potentially dangerous. The list includes MEWPs, tower cranes, mobile cranes, truck cranes, forklifts, agricultural and forestry tractors, and heavy and concrete pumps.

The regulations specify the level and content of the training, the procedures for delivering that training, and the qualifications of individuals who may provide such training. The industry was given a two-year period to adapt to the new rules and this deadline passed on 12 March 2015.

IPAF has worked with its members, training centres and partner associations in Italy to ensure that the IPAF MEWP operator training programme complies with the new regulations of the regional authorities. Now that these regulations are in full force, the industry can benefit from the positive effects in preventing accidents and promoting safety in the workplace.

Andy Studdert of NES Rentals elected IPAF president; AGM results point to steady growth

Andy Studdert, chairman and CEO of US-based NES Rentals, was elected as the new president of IPAF at the Federation’s annual general meeting (AGM) on 26 March 2015 in Washington, DC. He succeeds Steve Couling, managing director of the IAPS Group.

Nick Selley, group business development of AFI-Uplift, was elected deputy president, and Brad Boehler, president of Skyjack, was elected vice president of IPAF.

The strength and stability of the Federation was highlighted in its annual results presented at the AGM by outgoing IPAF president Steve Couling and IPAF CEO Tim Whiteman.

IPAF achieved a 9.4% increase in turnover, reaching €46.65 million (approximately $66.1 million or £47 million) in 2014, up by £0.4 million over 2013. This turnover produced a surplus of 3.2%.

All surpluses are re-invested in safety, membership and training activities in line with the aims of the not-for-profit Federation.

The accounts and financial statement audited by CLB Coopers show IPAF closing 2014 slightly above budget set by members of the IPAF Council, the Federation’s governing body, as well as the gradual accumulation of reserves to meet the target set by Council.

Membership increased by 6.1% from 1,037 to 1,109 in 2014. A record number of 137,429 people were trained by IPAF-approved training centres in 2014. This is an increase of 7.9% over the 127,365 people trained in 2013. Further details are in IPAF’s annual report 2014, available at the Publications section of www.ipaf.org.

Incoming IPAF president Andy Studdert paid tribute to his predecessor: “I would like to thank Steve Couling for his commitment to and leadership of IPAF during the past two years,” he said. “Steve is a difficult act to follow. His leadership and vision have been remarkable and inspiring.”

“The ongoing push to eLearning will be a major theme of IPAF’s activities in the next several years,” continued Studdert. “This new technology will change the learning experience for operators and

Save the date: UK member event

The IPAF UK member event will be held on 15 October 2015. Don’t miss this event which combines discussions on safety and good practice with networking in a relaxed setting. Details at www.ipaf.org/events

At the handover of the IPAF presidency (left to right): IPAF CEO Tim Whiteman, outgoing IPAF president Steve Couling of the IAPS Group, and new IPAF president Andy Studdert of NES Rentals.
OSHA official challenges access industry

"Safety is not a luxury; it’s a necessity that every worker deserves," said Jordan Barab, US Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, speaking to an audience of about 250 at the IPAF Summit on 26 March 2015 in Washington, DC, USA.

Falls from height remain the leading cause of occupational fatalities in the US and many other countries. Preliminary data for 2013 show 574 fatal falls across all industries in the US, with 284 in construction and 88 in residential, revealed Mr Barab in his presentation.

He commended the powered access industry for its commitment to providing safe equipment for work at height, and commended IPAF for providing training in multiple languages, including Spanish and Chinese, thus enabling training in languages that workers can understand.

Mr Barab announced that OSHA would be turning its attention to aerial lift use in residential construction and also called on IPAF and its members to support OSHA’s National Safety Stand-Down which runs from 4 to 15 May 2015. This is a major effort to prevent falls in construction through education and awareness that will involve some three million workers across the US. Details are at www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown

IPAF CEO Tim Whiteman confirmed that IPAF would give OSHA’s Safety Stand-Down its full support, calling on resources from IPAF’s accident reporting project and other safety campaigns.

The next IPAF Summit will be held with the International Awards for Powered Access (IAPAs) on 17 March 2016 in Madrid, Spain. Watch for event details at www.iapa-summit.info

Presentations from the IPAF Summit are available at the Resources section of www.ipaf.org

New operating rules adopted

Members of the IPAF Council have agreed to adopt new operating rules aimed at placing more autonomy and responsibility with the IPAF Country and Regional Councils, and refocusing the mandate of the main Council on providing the longer term strategy and direction for the Federation. Under the new rules, the main Council will comprise the chairpersons of the Country and Regional Councils, the chairpersons of the International Committees, the Board members, and five elected members. The rules take effect immediately and can be viewed at the members only section of www.ipaf.org

Professional Development Seminars draw 720 IPAF instructors

More than 720 instructors and training centre staff attended IPAF Professional Development Seminars (PDS) covering 25 countries and 8 languages in the last few months.

The PDS is the annual event for IPAF certified instructors and ensures that they remain up-to-date with legislation and training. Through attending the event, instructors gain Continuing Professional Development (CPD) points, necessary to maintain their IPAF instructor status. This commitment to continuous learning is one of the unique features of the IPAF training programme.

“The 2015 PDS was one of the best ever,” said IPAF instructor Roberto Catana from Setif in Italy. “It was precise, timely, well-planned, dynamic, capturing technical excellence, legislation and teaching. The PDS provided answers to questions, and gave clarity to uncertainties. It was done with the heart and goodwill of all those who work to keep this industry safe.”

“It was a successful PDS on all counts,” said IPAF instructor Beat Schütz from Regiomech in Switzerland. “Always exciting are the discussions among fellow instructors, who don’t meet very often. The presentation by guest speaker Christoph Kunz was very moving. He made clear what it means to find new goals after an accident and to fight your way back in life.”
IPAF Diary 2015

IPAF events:

- **29 April**: North East Regional Meeting, UK
- **5 May**: Houston Regional Meeting, Pasadena, TX, USA
- **6 – 7 May**: FELOC Expo Rental, Alitalia/SP, Brazil
- **13 – 14 May**: Vertical Days, Merseyside, UK
- **13 May**: Joint Meeting of the IPAF Manufacturers’ Technical Committee and the CEM MEWP Product Group, at Vertical Days
- **14 May**: IPAF Rental+ Meeting, at Vertical Days
- **14 May**: IPAF North American Training Committee Meeting, Chicago, IL, USA
- **26 May**: IPAF Asia Conference, Hong Kong
- **2 – 4 June**: Plantworx, Leicestershire, UK
- **9 – 13 June**: M&T Expo, São Paulo, Brazil
- **10:00 – 12:00**, Room 704-706:
  - IPAF Vehicle Mounted Manufacturers’ Technical Committee Meeting (members only)
- **22 April**
  - **10:30 – 14:30**, Room 703: IPAF International Training Advisory Group Meeting (members only)
- **16:00 – 18:00**, IPAF stand E5 G005

Save the dates for these special events that IPAF has created with its partners:

- **IPAF Asia Conference**
  - 26 May in Hong Kong
  - www.ipaf.org/asiaconference

- **TABS**
  - 11 June in Hamburg, Germany
  - www.tagung-tabs.eu

- **Europplatform**
  - 8 October in Copenhagen, Denmark
  - www.europplatform.info

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- **New Members**

  - **Hirer/Rental**
    - Manlift Qatar LLC, Qatar
    - Rose Access Solutions Ltd, UK

  - **Hirer/Rental/Training**
    - One Call, UAE

  - **Independent Instructors**
    - Michael Bessel, Germany
    - Andy Clements, UK
    - Kevin Vale Cooper, UK
    - Scott Grant, UK
    - Timothy Jenkinson, UK
    - James R Palmer, UK
    - Wicienycław Paszko, Germany
    - David Suder, UK

  - **Industry Associates**
    - Bidy Ding, Malaysia
    - Russell Wong, Malaysia

  - **Manufacturer**
    - Nagano Industry Co Ltd, Japan

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M&T Expo
Low level access at M&T Expo

IPAF will be promoting low level access at the construction and mining equipment show M&T Expo from 9 to 13 June 2015 in São Paulo, Brazil. The use of low level access equipment is currently not widespread in Latin America and IPAF is focusing on this category of equipment as a safe and effective way to perform temporary work at height.

To support its members in Brazil and Latin America, IPAF will be present with a booth in the outdoor area close to its manufacturer members. IPAF will promote its safety campaigns and training programme as part of its collaboration with Sobratema, the association which organises M&T Expo.

“M&T Expo is one of the highlights of the construction and mining industry in Brazil and IPAF thanks Sobratema for its support in making IPAF’s presence possible,” said Antonio Barbosa, IPAF Latin America manager.