



## **Accident reporting mandate from IPAF UK Council**

### **Rationale**

As an industry we must be committed to improving safety. The main purpose of IPAF is to promote the “Safe & Effective” use of MEWPS worldwide! IPAF should be the vehicle to collate this data to analyse, look for common trends, major issues that cause accidents within our industry and create improved training and launch industry wide campaigns to improve these safety statistics. It is only through really understanding what the issues are that you are able to fix them. If we all as individual businesses pool our knowledge we can all learn from each other and benefit our individual companies and in turn the industry as a whole.

Other industry bodies such as FASET (Safety netting) & BCSA (Steel Erecting) IRATA (Rope Access) and NASC (Scaffolding) mandate & collect accident information from their members for the good of their industries & IPAF should do the same for ours. HSE, the UK CG & other bodies would & do see this as a positive step and this is an opportunity to further professionalise & improve the Powered Access industry in the UK in the eyes of our customers & government bodies.

### **Proposal**

- The initial proposal is to **mandate as a condition of membership** that all **“rental companies”** must supply their accident data confidentially to IPAF through the on line accident reporting system. The minimum requirement is to report the details on all lost time incidents (An incident / accident that has led to an employee / contractor being off work for at least one full day).
- Further reporting of near misses and first aid incidents of staff & contractors would be beneficial to understand from IPAF’s perspective but we propose to leave this as **optional** to report initially
- As above with any customer incidents involving MEWPS would be useful to know but initially this will be optional to report initially
- Even if there have been no accidents / incidents that need to be reported in the month a “Zero” return must be completed on line – Automated reminder to be generated after month end
- Other members including training companies, Manufacturers etc are encouraged to report but at this stage it will not be made mandatory

### **Possible Benefits**

- Individual reporting companies have access to own accident analysis – Dash board based on data submitted – automatically generated and updated within hours of submitting data
- Individual company and industry can measure/compare safety performance year on year
- IPAF can calculate/document average industry incident and frequency rates (IR/FR)



- Individual companies can benchmark themselves against industry IR and FR and industry can benchmark itself against other industries and other forms of access
- Extra benefit from being member of IPAF
- Information submitted will help focus IPAF resources in areas where most needed – training material, advice, information, support – for manufacturer, rental co or end user.
- Information from one of most developed markets can be used to help emerging markets and prevent unnecessary accidents
- Provide factual data for use in decision making of standards, best practice etc
- Once trialled/proven in UK can be used as template for other country councils to adopt

#### Failure to report / consequences

- It is my proposal that we adopt the same policy as for training centre compliance i.e. – 3 strikes and you are out
  - 1<sup>st</sup> non compliance – Letter from IPAF Operations Director reminding of condition of membership and given 7 days notice to supply all missing data
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> non compliance – Letter from IPAF CEO worded stronger, (Threatening suspension for future non compliance) and given 7 days to supply all missing data
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> non compliance – Letter from president / UK Council Chair inviting owner / MD of company to hearing with nominated members of UK Council
    - Suggested possible outcomes of hearing could be
      - Fine and / or Suspension from IPAF
      - Publication of suspension in minutes of UK Council meetings (available in members only section of IPAF website)

Appeals Procedure – to be same as currently documented in IPAF manual for training centres

#### Audit / Compliance

- All rental companies will be audited annually to assess their compliance to this initiative
- These will not be extra audits
  - Rental Plus Audit – Add extra line in audit sheet to measure accident reporting compliance, ask to see accident information
  - Training centre audits (Rental companies only) – Add extra line in audit sheet to measure accident reporting compliance, ask to see accident information. (In the case this is not the head office or where the accident information is stored companies need prior notice so they can bring it with them.
- Prioritisation should be on low / non reporters