



CPA BULLETIN

MAY 2024 | WWW.CPA.UK.NET



FEATURES

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To submit news for consideration for future issues of the CPA Bulletin,
please email lisa@lisacollinscommunications.co.uk

CONTACT INFO

Editor: **Adam Godwin**

The Construction Plant-hire Association
27/28 Newbury Street, Barbican, London,
EC1A 7HU

Telephone: **(020) 7796 3366**

Email: enquiries@cpa.uk.net

Website: www.cpa.uk.net



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President: Brian Jones

Chair: Steven Mulholland

Communications Manager:

Adam Godwin, adam.godwin@cpa.uk.net

Legal Manager:

David Smith, david.smith@cpa.uk.net

Training & Safety Manager:

Rob Squires, rob.squires@cpa.uk.net

Technical Development Manager:

Peter Brown, peter.brown@cpa.uk.net

Technical & Development Officer:

Katie Kelleher, katie@cpa.uk.net

Policy Manager:

Chris Cassley, chris.cassley@cpa.uk.net

Membership Manager:

Lisa Godwin, lisa.godwin@cpa.uk.net

Membership Support:

Jenny Lupton, jenny.lupton@cpa.uk.net

Finance Manager:

Siva Subramaniam, siva@cpa.uk.net

Designed and printed by: HD Print

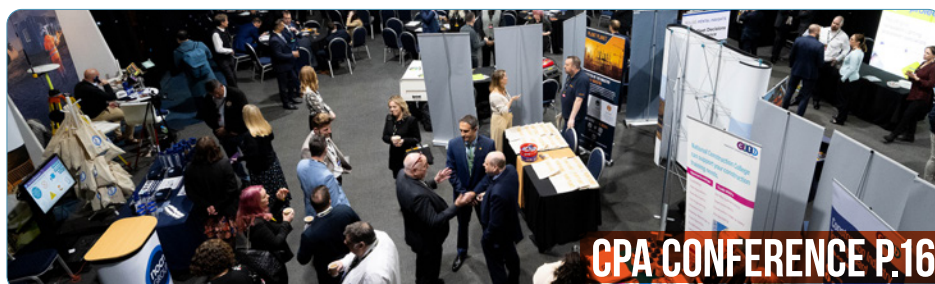
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Advertising Enquiries:

Lisa Collins, lisa@lisacollinscommunications.co.uk

Telephone: 07968 840390

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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Brian Jones

EVENTS SEASON UNDERWAY

It's certainly been a busy few months, and there is lots to look forward to over the months ahead. As this issue of the CPA Bulletin went to press, the CPA were represented at various events - at ScotPlant in Edinburgh and the INTERMAT show in Paris. It has been a real privilege being the UK judge for the INTERMAT Innovation Awards, and I would like to thank the INTERMAT organisers for a fantastic event and for inviting me to be part of the judging panel.

At the CPA, we've got our own two flagship events coming up - **Stars of the Future** and the **CPA Conference**. Nominations for the Stars of the Future Apprentice Awards are currently being sifted through by the internal and external judging panel and we look forward to announcing the winners at the awards ceremony on 11th July near Coventry.

There are some amazing prizes for Plant Mechanics, Plant Technicians, Hire Controllers, Plant Operatives, Apprentice

Mentors and more. Stars of the Future has been running for over 10 years now and we're extremely proud that it's widely recognised as the premier awards event for apprentices and trainees in the construction plant sector. It's really crucial that we recognise and reward the talent coming through in our industry.

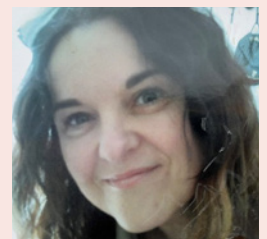
The CPA Conference will take place on 7th November 2024 and the theme for this year's event is '**Shaping the Future: Insights for the Plant-hire Sector**'. If you've attended the CPA Conference before, you'll be familiar with our host - Merryn Myatt who is a former television presenter, newsreader and journalist. This year, Merryn will be joined by co-host Peter Haddock who many of you will be familiar with. You can read more on page 16.

We'll also look forward to catching up with members at a number of industry events. The CPA team will be exhibiting at **Hillhead** in Derbyshire and **Rail Live** in Stratford-upon-Avon, so please do come and say hello on our stands where you will receive a warm CPA welcome.



MARIA REID

It is with deepest regret that we inform members that our CPA colleague **Maria Reid** very sadly passed away at



the beginning of April, following a brave battle with a brain tumour. Maria joined CPA in August 2017 and was an extremely valued member of the CPA membership team. She was the first point of contact for many members when calling the CPA office.

Our thoughts are with Maria's family at this very difficult and sad time.

Chaos



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ASSOCIATION NEWS

CPA ANNUAL GOLF DAY 2024



The CPA Annual Golf Day will be held on Thursday 18th July 2024 at Rutland Water Golf Course in Oakham, Rutland. Proceeds from the event will be donated to the construction industry charity, the Lighthouse Club.

Held on the Normanton 18 hole championship course, Rutland Water Golf

Course is one of the country's finest new golf courses. The venue was introduced for the first time at last year's CPA Golf Day and it was very well received.

The cost of the day is £125 per person plus VAT and includes coffee and bacon rolls, 18 holes of golf, a two course dinner and an awards ceremony with prizes. The competition will be an individual stableford, together with a team stableford competition. Prizes will be awarded for the winning individual and team, as well as nearest the pin and the longest drive.

Places for the CPA Annual Golf Day are limited and are available on a first come, first served basis. To book your places, please contact **David Smith** on 07837 468523 or email: david@cpa.uk.net, or **Chris Cassley** on 07399 490322 or email: chris@cpa.uk.net.

CPA members can also get involved in this charity fundraising event by way of sponsorship. For more details, please contact **Lisa Collins** on 07968 840390 or email: lisa@lisacollinscommunications.co.uk



CPA MEMBER WEBINAR IN CONJUNCTION WITH SUPPLY CHAIN SUSTAINABILITY SCHOOL

The CPA is a partner member of the Supply Chain Sustainability School (SCSS) and is an active member of SCSS's Plant Group. As an SCSS partner, this allows CPA members to access the school's training workshops and other support packages. SCSS staff have been very proactive in engaging with CPA staff in order to fully utilise the benefits that come with partner status.

Although a number of CPA members are members of the school in their own right, in discussion with the SCSS it was felt that CPA should provide a support package for all members, making them aware of what and how they can access SCSS's many workshops and support packages.

To introduce CPA members to the school and highlight the opportunities, a joint CPA/SCSS webinar is being organised for **Wednesday 5th June**

2024. Further information and registration details will be forwarded to CPA members nearer the time.



CONNECT WITH US

If you're on social media, connect with the CPA. We now have social media accounts across six channels - **LinkedIn, Twitter X, Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and YouTube.**

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STARS OF THE FUTURE AWARDS 2024

Stars of the Future is the CPA's awards programme for apprentices and trainees in the construction plant sector and since it was established 11 years ago, it has become firmly rooted as the industry's premier event for recognising and rewarding apprentices who are earmarked as future leaders of the industry.



National winners from the CPA Stars of the Future Awards 2023

As this issue of the CPA Bulletin went to press, the judges had starting going through over 80 impressive nominations for the Stars of the Future 2024 awards programme. Awards will be made for Plant Mechanic of the Year (Level 2), Plant Technician of the Year (Level 3), Plant Operative of the Year, Young Plant Operative of the Year, Plant Installer of the Year, Lifting Technician of the Year, Hire Controller of the Year, Apprentice Mentor of the Year and College of the Year. All nominees are also eligible for special awards including the Judges' Special Award and the Best Personal Statement Award.

The 2024 winners will be announced at a prestigious awards ceremony at the Heart of England Conference and Events Centre in Fillongley, near Coventry, on 11th July 2024. This year, the prizes on offer are more impressive than ever before.

Winners will receive national recognition and the prizes will include Snap-on tool boxes and kits, iPads, backhoe loader training courses and CPCS cards courtesy of sponsor ACOP Group, VIP trips to JCB's World Headquarters in Staffordshire and overnight stays at the JCB Golf and Country Club, an overseas trip to visit a Liebherr

crane manufacturing plant in Germany courtesy of sponsor Liebherr and a trip to one of Wolffkran's manufacturing facilities in Luckau, Germany for a winner and their guest, courtesy of sponsor Wolffkran.

The national winners for Stars of the Future 2023 were John Murray of John Maciver & Sons and National Construction College Scotland (Plant Mechanic of the Year), Bradley Baker of GGR Group and The Growth Company (Plant Technician of the Year), Roksana Przybylska of L Lynch Plant Hire & Haulage (Plant Operative of the Year),

Chloe Jones of Flannery Plant Hire and Harnoorpreet Singh Gill of L Lynch Plant Hire & Haulage (Joint Winners of Young Plant Operative of the Year), Spencer Bond of Wolffkran (Plant Installer of the Year), Lee Tanner of Wolffkran (Lifting Technician of the Year), Teah Stapleton of Kilnbridge Construction Services (Hire Controller of the Year), Dean Duru of Boels Rental (Individual Apprentice Mentor of the Year), Gez Bonner of L Lynch Plant Hire & Haulage (Group Apprentice Mentor of the Year), Shannon Bristow of Speedy Services and Askham Bryan College (Best Personal Statement Award) and Sean Palmer of Gorrel Equipment Solutions and Bridgend College (Judges' Special Award).

The CPA Stars of the Future Awards 2024 are being held in association with event sponsors **GAP Group** and **L Lynch Plant Hire & Haulage**, award sponsors **ACOP Group**, **Liebherr**, **L Lynch Plant Hire & Haulage**, **M O'Brien Plant Hire**, **NOCN Group**, **Southern Hoist Services**, **Wolffkran** and lunch sponsor **Plant Planet**. The event is also being supported by **JCB**.

Limited sponsorship and involvement opportunities are still available for Stars of the Future 2024. For further information, please contact **Lisa Collins** on **07968 840390** or email: **lisa@lisacollinscommunications.co.uk**



STARS OF THE FUTURE 2024 JUDGING

CPA Selection Panel



Rob Squires



Katie Kelleher



Lisa Collins



Peter Brown

External Judging Panel



Kirsty Archbold-Laming



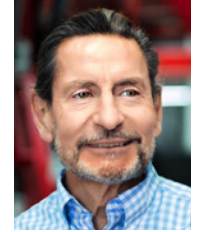
Siôn Morgan Jones



Arran Willis



Tim Brownbridge



Leigh Sparrow



Graham Black



Rob Allen



Georgina Williams



Sean Scarah

With the nominations process for the 2024 Stars of the Future programme now officially closed, the important judging process to decide the winners and highly commended nominees for all of the categories is now underway.

The first stage is the internal judging process undertaken by the CPA selection panel and consists of CPA staff **Rob Squires**, **Katie Kelleher**, **Lisa Collins** and **Peter Brown**, going through the nominations to produce, dependant on the number of entries, a shortlist for each of the categories.

For the Plant Mechanic and Plant Technician of the Year categories, the selection panel choose a regional winner and any highly commended nominees for the regions of North, Midlands, South, Wales and Scotland. The panel also judges the Apprentice Mentor of the Year category, which is proving very popular and recognises the work of mentors who undertake this important function of providing guidance, help and support to apprentices.

There are three parts to the nomination form to be looked at: the employer's statement, the training provider's statement and the apprentice's statement. The last one being the most important as nominees do, and in fact are encouraged to, provide a video statement of themselves. This makes a real difference to the judges, as they are able to see and hear the nominees presenting themselves.

All video entries are also eligible for the Personal Statement of the Year Award, which is given to the nominee who the judges feel provides the most inspiring, enthusiastic, genuine and well conveyed personal statement about their journey on their apprenticeship, what it means to them and what they hope to achieve. In past years, even some of the homemade videos of the apprentice talking about themselves whilst in their bedroom have been winners of the award, as well as those who've been taking tips from Hollywood.

Once the finalists in all categories have been identified by the selection panel, they are passed onto the external judging panel from mid-May, who will then determine the national winner for each of the categories. The judges also present their own award to a nominee who they feel deserves special recognition of some form or another, such

as overcoming some form of adversity or who has shown particular initiative, achievement, progression, enthusiasm or life-altering decision to enter the sector.

The regular Stars of the Future judges are **Kirsty Archbold-Laming** from Southern Hoist Services, **Siôn Morgan Jones** of ACOP Group, **Arran Willis** from Liebherr-GB, **Tim Brownbridge** from BAM Nuttall, **Leigh Sparrow** from the trade magazine Cranes and Access, **Graham Black** from the popular Earthmovers magazine and **Rob Allen**, as an independent judge but having a lifetime in the plant sector. For 2024, two new judges join the panel and we welcome **Georgina Williams** from JCB and **Sean Scarah** from Balfour Beatty. The CPA are grateful for the time, energy and effort the judges make in choosing the winners and making the Stars programme the success it is.



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VIP DIG EXPERIENCE FOR 2023 PLANT OPERATIVE OF THE YEAR WINNERS

National Apprenticeship Week marked the perfect opportunity to reward some of the CPA's 2023 Stars of the Future award winners.



Roksana Przybylska

Two of the winners from the CPA Stars of the Future Awards 2023 were **Roksana Przybylska** of L Lynch Plant Hire & Haulage who won Plant Operative of the Year and **Chloe Jones** of Flannery Plant Hire who was awarded the Young Plant Operative of the Year accolade.

As part of their prize, Roksana and Chloe were welcomed to JCB's World Headquarters in Staffordshire to enjoy a VIP JCB Experience comprising a tour of the Story of JCB and a visit to the Backhoe Loader production line, before transferring over to JCB's test and demonstration quarry to try out the JCB 3CX Pro and 4CX Pro as part of a Backhoe Loader Dig Experience. The visit also included an overnight stay at the JCB Golf and Country Club.

Prior to the visit, Chloe had already completed a week-long training course at ACOP Group's training facility - another part of her Star of the Future prize - enabling her to gain her 180° Excavator ticket. Chloe completed the training course alongside joint Young Plant Operative of the Year winner Harnoorpreet Singh Gill of L Lynch Plant Hire & Haulage.

The VIP JCB Experience was organised by Georgina Williams, JCB Application and Training Manager - Backhoe Loader who said: "It really has been inspiring to



spend time with some of the CPA Stars of the Future winners. This visit has allowed Roksana and Chloe to try out our Backhoe Loader - our flagship product that JCB began with some 70 years ago.

"It's important for us to engage with the next generation of Plant Operators and keep the product moving forward with new technologies. Over the last 12 months, there has been a 20% increase in Backhoe Loader Operators which is very encouraging. Stars of the Future is a great awards scheme which recognises tomorrow's leaders of the



Chloe Jones



industry and anyone nominated for an award gives us great hope about the future.”

Roksana has been operating plant for almost four years now and came into the industry by chance, having previously been a florist. Her fiancé’s brother knew how much Roksana enjoyed driving and suggested that plant operating might be a good career choice moving forward. Such was her passion for getting into the sector that Roksana self-funded her 360° Excavator course and considered it a Christmas present to herself!

The Lynch team recognised Roksana’s passion and determination to succeed and she was offered a place on the company’s ‘Careers in Plant’ training programme. She jumped at the chance and hasn’t looked back since, having worked on prestigious projects such as HS2. She has now got several different tickets including 360 Excavator, Lift Option, 56B-ADT, A09A-Tipping Dumper, A57D-Dump Truck/Tracked and A31-Roller.

Roksana said: “I have been so impressed during the visit to JCB. The tour was like going to a mini museum and it was so interesting learning about the Bamford family setting up JCB and the evolution of the plant machinery. I think Lord Bamford is like the Einstein of Construction!

“I was so excited to try out the Backhoe Loader for the first time. It’s very comfortable and it’s so versatile because it does the job of a Dumper, Excavator and Telehandler all in one. You can use the digger and the shovel on just the one machine.

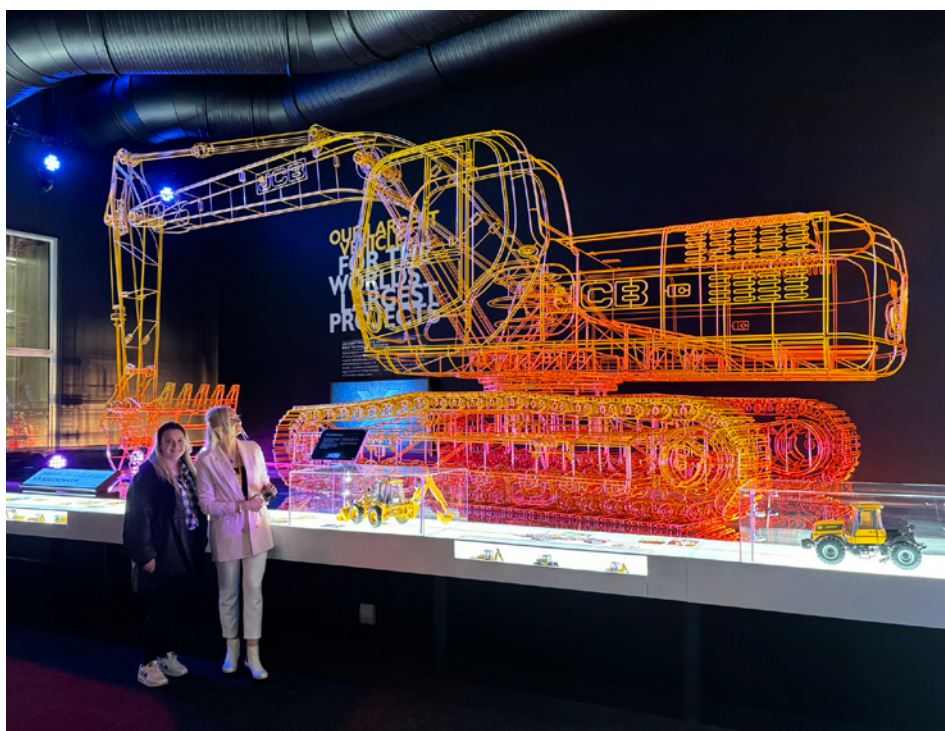
“When I was at the Stars of the Future awards last year, my blood pressure went sky high when they were announcing the

winners. It was brilliant to win the award and all my friends and colleagues were so happy for me. This has been a fantastic prize and I absolutely love working in this industry. I love going to new sites and meeting new people and I’d like to progress my career further, maybe becoming a Site Assessor in the future.

“Seeing how far I have come and the skills I have learnt has driven me to see how far I can go. I am at an exciting point where I feel I understand the value I can add. Having the right attitude is what has got me here so far, and ambition and determination are what will take me further than I thought possible. I have had the opportunity to work on some fantastic projects and continue to grow daily

both personally and professionally. I hope one day to be the reason someone else finds this amazing career path,” she added.

Chloe has also been plant operating for almost four years and when she first finished school, she originally set her sights on becoming a Veterinary Nurse, but this didn’t go to plan and she was in and out of various jobs until COVID hit.





Chloe's Dad has worked at Flannery Plant Hire for over 10 years as a Plant Operator, and it was he who encouraged Chloe to apply for a Plant Operative Apprenticeship position. It was definitely the right choice, as Chloe has already worked on flagship projects such as Fawley Refinery in Hampshire, participated in several Flannery Women in Construction events to encourage more women to enter the sector and she has received recognition industry-wide in her short time in the sector.

As well as winning the Stars of the Future award, Chloe has secured a 12-month mentoring programme as part of Balfour Beatty's 5% Club. Chloe was one of just 10 successful apprentices from across Balfour Beatty and its supply chain to be chosen for the coveted Founder's Pledge Award. Balfour Beatty Group Chief Executive Leo Quinn launched the Founder's Pledge to commemorate the 10th anniversary of The 5% Club, which he founded in 2013 to tackle the UK's national skills shortage. For the next year, Chloe will be personally mentored by Flannery Managing Director Patrick Flannery.

Chloe said: "I'm so glad that my Dad encouraged me to enter the construction plant sector. I've already had so many amazing opportunities - I've worked on lots of different sites in places such as Southampton, Aylesbury and Norfolk, as well as those closer to home such as Dover and Folkstone. There's such a variety of work and no two sites are the same."

"There are so many different career choices in the industry and I'd love to work my way up to management level at Flannery. Winning the Young Plant Operative of the Year award has opened up so many new opportunities for me already."

"I was excited to go back on the Backhoe Loader again, as I completed the training course at ACOP Group last year as part of the Stars of the Future prize so it was nice to get back in the seat. My first impressions of the JCB 3CX were how versatile it is, as you can do nearly all jobs with just one machine. The cab is very comfortable, with a lot of storage space and everything is so smooth. On the sites that I work on, Backhoe Loaders always seem to be busy and I can see why. It's a good ticket to have and overall the visit to JCB has been amazing - it's an experience that I'll treasure forever."

Peter Brown, CPA Technical and Development Manager, who chairs the Stars of the Future judging panel added: "We're very grateful to JCB for providing such an impressive prize that'll create memories that will last a lifetime, and we also pass on our thanks to our award sponsors ACOP Group, L Lynch Plant Hire & Haulage and NOCN Group."

“The Stars of the Future awards programme is all about encouraging new blood into the industry who will become tomorrow’s leaders of the industry, and it’s been heartening to spend time with Roksana and Chloe who have such a passion for the industry. It’s an exciting industry to be in and the trip to JCB has allowed them to have a much greater understanding of how plant is both designed and built and to try out their skills on the Backhoe Loader. It’s certainly advantageous for Plant Operators to have gain extra categories on their cards as they become more adaptable, being able to operate a greater range of machines.”



CPA CONFERENCE 2024

Held in
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This year's CPA Conference will be hosted on **Thursday 7th November 2024** and the theme will be **'Shaping the Future: Insights for the Plant-hire Sector'**. The one-day event will be held at the Heart of England Conference and Events Centre in Fillongley near Coventry.

Merryn Myatt will be hosting the CPA Conference 2024. Merryn - a former television presenter, newsreader and journalist who previously worked with the BBC, ITV and Channel 4 - has hosted the CPA Conference for several years. This year Merryn will have a co-host - **Peter Haddock** - who is well known throughout the plant-hire industry as a content, social media and PR specialist, journalist and vlogger.

The CPA Conference 2024 will bring together a number of panel speakers discussing how organisations can shape the future of the plant-hire sector. Merryn Myatt and Peter Haddock will lead a number of interactive panel debates discussing key topics such as

innovation, decarbonisation, digitalisation, skills, business growth, succession planning and mental health and wellbeing in the construction sector. Last year's CPA Conference theme was 'Facing the Challenges' and the CPA Conference 2024 has moved on to discussing how attendees can help shape the future of the industry and provide solutions.

As well as attending the Conference, delegates will also have the opportunity to visit a number of exhibitors. The CPA Conference 2024 will be held in association with headline sponsor **MHM Group** and exhibitors already confirmed include **CITB**, **Capja**, **Conquip**, **GGR Group**, **Genquip**

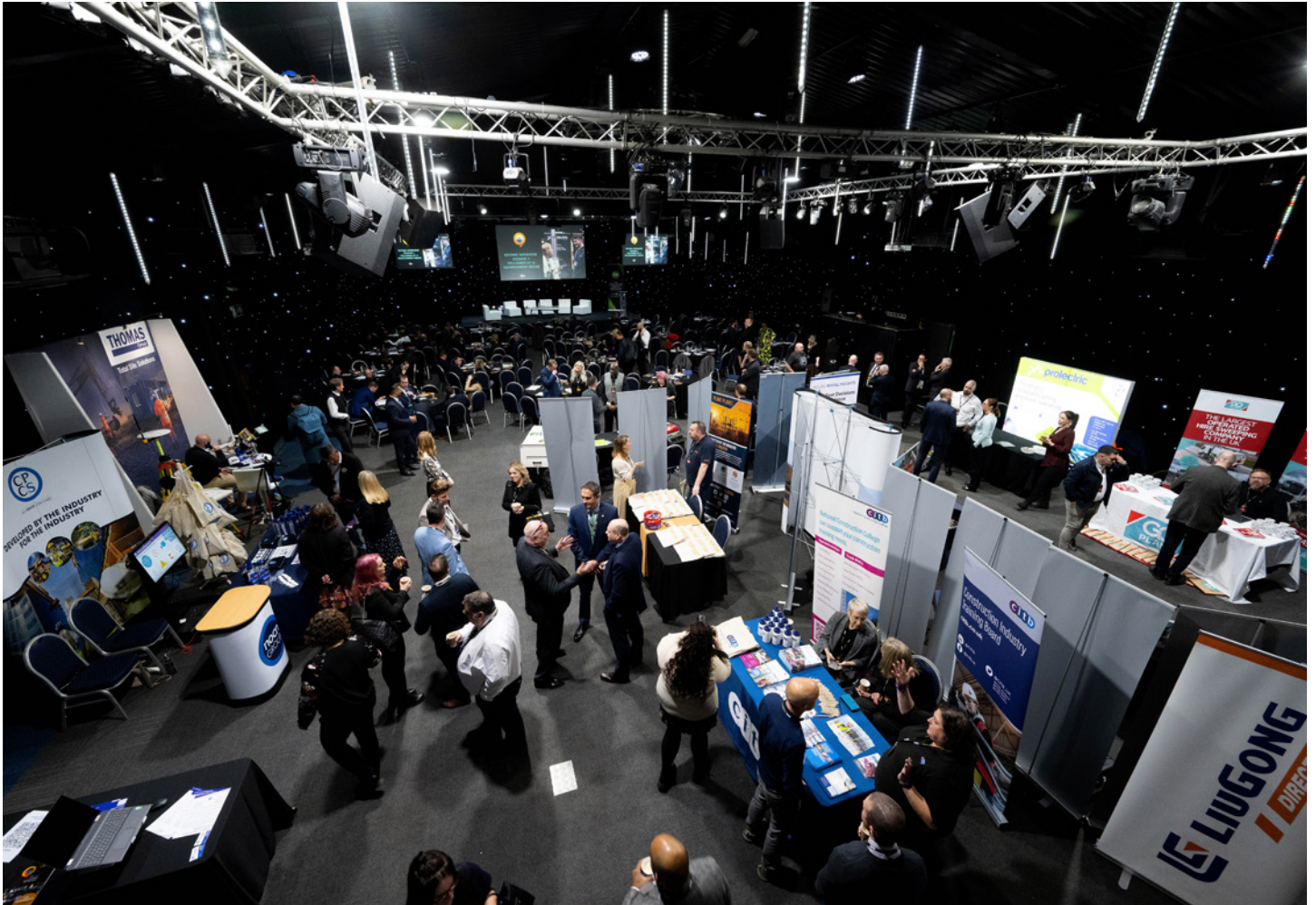


Groundhog, Plant Planet, Point of Rental Software, Prolectric, Rouse Services, Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA), Spartan Solutions and Thomas Group. A limited number of exhibition spaces are still available. For further information, please contact **Lisa Collins** on **07968 840390** or email: lisa@lisacollinscommunications.co.uk



PLANT PLANET





PANEL SESSIONS

We are in the process of confirming the panel speakers participating in the event and there will be a total of five panel debates throughout the day, notably:

PANEL SESSION 1: The Plant-hire Sector in 2024 - Where the Industry Currently Sits in the Wider Economic and Political Context - An opportunity to hear first-hand on how the sector is currently performing, the wider political and economic context, and what we can expect to see moving forward.

PANEL SESSION 2: The Innovative Plant-hire Company - Insights into Current and Future Developments and Innovations in the Sector - The plant-hire sector is experiencing a period of huge change and developments as the challenge of decarbonisation and the impact of digitalisation and AI become increasingly a feature of the sector.

PANEL SESSION 3: Expanding the Skills Base - Where do we Stand in the Battle for Skills, What Progress is Being Made in Attracting New People to the Industry - Especially Women? - The fight for skills remains as important as ever, with construction competing against a range of other industries. This session will explore what progress is being made in the plant-hire sector, and what more needs to be overcome, both in attracting but also retaining talent.

PANEL SESSION 4: Growing your Business - What Next? The Challenge of Growth and Succession Planning - The plant-hire sector remains an attractive place for growth and investment. This session will explore the growth strategies that firms are deploying, plus how companies can approach the challenge of succession planning.

PANEL SESSION 5: Focus on Mental Health and Wellbeing in the Construction Sector - Construction remains one of the most vulnerable sectors to ill health, both physical and mental. This session will hear directly on the work the Lighthouse Club engage in and hear the practical steps companies are taking to help their workforce.

BOOK YOUR CONFERENCE TICKETS TODAY

50% off the Standard Delegate Ticket Price for CPA Members

Delegate tickets can now be booked online at <https://www.cpa.uk.net/events/cpa-conference-2024>. The standard delegate ticket price to attend the conference is £80 plus VAT (£96) and CPA members can take advantage of a 50% discount, paying £40 plus VAT (£48).

All CPA members have been emailed a discount code. Please email enquiries@cpa.uk.net if you have not received this.



HILLHEAD

THE UK'S LARGEST QUARRYING, CONSTRUCTION AND RECYCLING EXHIBITION



Hillhead 2024 builds on a record-breaking 2022 show which hosted over 600 exhibiting companies, enjoyed by 18,500 unique visitors.

Held in a limestone quarry, Hillhead has maintained its reputation as the UK's largest quarrying exhibition, welcoming visitors from across the world who come to experience the show's unique atmosphere, meet suppliers and see the latest equipment, products and services on offer.

This year the newly renamed Showground Pavilion has been extended to accommodate even more indoor exhibits, alongside an exciting new refreshments area and networking hub, whilst additional outdoor space for exhibitors has been created adjacent to the Registration Pavilion. Please feel free to drop in to say hello to the CPA team on stand **RD9** in the Registration Pavilion.

And Hillhead wouldn't be complete without its live demonstrations. The Quarry Face, Crusher Alley, Recycling and Registration Demonstration Areas will once again showcase a host of plant and equipment, all being put through its paces in a live quarry environment.

Hillhead 2024 takes place at **Tarmac's Hillhead Quarry**, near Buxton, Derbyshire, from **25th -27th June 2024**.

Sign up for your free visitor ticket at www.hillhead.com/register.

Opening times:

Tuesday 25th June 2024 - 9am - 5pm

Wednesday 26th June 2024 - 9am - 5pm

Thursday 27th June 2024 - 9am - 4pm

All New at Takeuchi

Takeuchi will arrive at Hillhead 2024 with new 3-Series Takeuchi excavators and a long awaited new electric mini.

The new wheeled 10-tonne TB395W is now available with 4-wheel steer with crab-mode. It's a machine that has been on everyone's waiting list since its launch last year. Across the UK Takeuchi rubber ducks have always been a popular choice, and the latest 3-Series model moves on with more in-cab automotive styling and impressive larger cab size.

It will be joined at Hillhead with the first UK showing of the new 7-tonne wheeled excavator, the TB370W. A new

weight class for a wheeled excavator, the new model is expected to be a very popular plant-hire option.

Hillhead will also be the venue for the launch of the very latest 2-tonne Takeuchi TB320. It is the very latest of the growing number of 3-series models now available, the TB325R, TB335R and TB350R, all with short tail. Unique to the Takeuchi 3-Series are many enhanced operating features offered as standard. A high-definition monitor with greater functionality and auto styled interior with jog dial control are part of an improved cab design for comfortable all-day operating.

A brand-new Electric Takeuchi has been one of the most highly anticipated electric mini excavators for the UK. The new 100% battery powered TB20e is Takeuchi's first electric mini excavator launched following extensive two-year field testing.

The TB20e is a 100% battery powered mini that delivers 8 hours of continuous working time at 65% load. That is a significant output that matches the typical work-rate of its equivalent diesel TB216. The TB20e matches for dig depth, dump height, travel and slew speed. It features electro-hydraulic controls, 24.7kW lithium-ion battery and 3 charging options: onboard, offboard and tethered. It is available with a portable fast charger that securely rests on the blade when transporting.

The Electric Takeuchi has been in the United Rentals fleet for 2 years in the USA and Takeuchi are confident of its performance credentials. It delivers a quieter zero emission model that can get to work anywhere.

Ulrich Goes B, C and F at Hillhead 2024

Attachments manufacturer Ulrich will showcase buckets, couplers and forks at Hillhead 2024.

Ulrich Attachments will showcase its heavy-duty buckets, ISO hydraulic quick couplers and specialist XL pallet forks at Hillhead 2024 on stand W18.

Ulrich's portfolio, which includes heavy-duty rock buckets, rock forks and Simplex 4in1 buckets, all available with a range of set-ups, with and without teeth, and with specialist spill guards, was specifically designed to increase the versatility of plant equipment.





The Aylesbury-based company has been at the forefront of the design and manufacture of High Tip high discharge buckets for loading waste and light material into high-sided walking floor trucks and hoppers, and a 11m³ wood waste High Tip showcase of this will take centre stage on a wheeled loader on Ulrich's stand at the show.

Also on W18 will be hydraulic quick couplers, general purpose and refuse clamp buckets, which feature a heavy-duty clamp assembly specially designed to withstand the rigours of waste transfer duties, and specialist pallet forks.

Hill Engineering to Debut Two New Products at Hillhead

A new super-quick coupler and coupler display will launch at Hillhead for Hill Engineering.

Specialist plant machinery attachments manufacturer Hill Engineering will debut two new products at Hillhead 2024.

Hill's stand (W20) will showcase its new version 20-tonne Tefra Connect coupler and Tefra Connect display unit as well as a Tefra quick hitch for a JCB 3CX, a 20-tonne Tefra Tilt coupler, a 35-tonne Tefra, and a 13-tonne bucket and thumb combination.

The Tefra Connect is the new way to connect hydraulic tools automatically, while retaining the ability to also use standard attachments when required - a revolutionary new coupler that can connect any hydraulic work tool safely and automatically from the operator's seat.

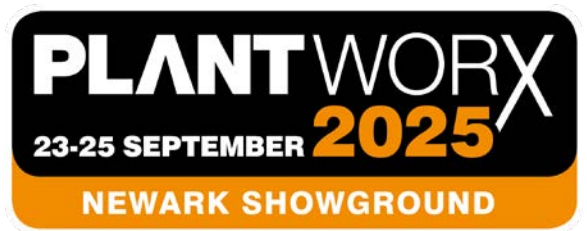
Combining the versatility and functionality of the Tefra pin grabber coupler, and manufactured in high strength SSAB Strenx steel, the next-generation Tefra Connect is said to set new standards in on-site efficiency.

Sites such as demolition projects, where hydraulic excavators are used with dedicated hydraulic tools, often also need an excavator to dig trenches or load out loose materials, using a pinned, non-hydraulic tool.

With a Tefra Connect-equipped excavator, operators can maximise machine use and reduce or eliminate the need for other machines on-site, reducing machine costs, fuel consumption and transport movements - particularly beneficial on inner city or congested sites.

The new Tefra Connect display unit is designed to provide the operator with visual indication of the status of the Tefra Connect coupler. The device can also be used to provide the operator with other information, such as utilising a QR code to give access to the operator's manual.





NEW LOCATION AND NEW DATE FOR PLANTWORX

The construction machinery exhibition Plantworx will be returning on 23rd - 25th September 2025 at a new location - Newark Showground.

Traditionally, Plantworx has been held every two years in June, but the 2025 event marks a brand new chapter for the event. The need for relocation was prompted by repurposing the previous venue in Peterborough for housing developments, making the move to Newark necessary for Plantworx's continued success and growth.

Following a comprehensive search for a location that meets the unique needs of this large-scale event, Newark Showground was chosen due to its excellent infrastructure, permanent walkways and impressive communication facilities. Plantworx is owned and delivered by the CEA (Construction Equipment Association).

Simon Frere-Cook, Plantworx Event Director said: "As we gear up for Plantworx 2025, our focus has been on building upon the success of the previous events. The thorough selection process led us to Newark, which excels in infrastructure flexibility, accessibility, and the reliability of its outdoor spaces, which are crucial for hosting an event of Plantworx's scale.

"While we can't guarantee the weather, Newark is highly regarded for its grounds' quality and reliability, ensuring events run smoothly regardless of weather conditions. This new venue promises not only a continuation of the event's legacy but also an expansion of its impact and reach within the construction industry," Simon concluded.



Key features of the Newark Showground venue for Plantworx 2025 include 126 acres of versatile indoor and outdoor exhibition space, complimentary car parking for all attendees, a strategic location just off the A1 for easy road access, and convenient transport links – Newark Showground is a short five-minute taxi ride from Newark Northgate station.

Plantworx 2025 expects to accommodate more than 400 exhibitors and will continue to offer live demonstration areas with opportunities for visitors to gain hands-on experience with equipment. More information is available at www.plantworx.co.uk



PLANT THEFT

FUNDING HELPS LEAD TO THE RECOVERY OF STOLEN PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Funding by the CPA and other organisations is having a direct impact on the successful recovery of stolen plant equipment, says Police Superintendent Andy Huddleston who heads up the National Rural Crime Unit and the National Construction & Agriculture Theft Team (NCATT).

Late last year, the CPA made a three-year commitment to fund £90,000 to help fight plant equipment theft and fraud, which is costing the construction plant industry millions every year. With additional funding from the Construction Equipment Association (CEA), CESAR donors and insurers, a total of £650,000 is being contributed collectively to help fund NCATT – a specialist team of police officers that cover the whole of the country to help tackle the theft of construction plant and equipment by organised criminal groups.

Police Superintendent Andy Huddleston said: “Just one example of what we do was the excellent work to identify a lorry load of stolen plant and through police contacts stop it before it was loaded onto a ferry to be taken out of the country late one night. Eight stolen machines were found, including six that were taken from an auction site in Yorkshire. This comes directly on the back of the funding given to us by the CPA, CEA, CESAR donors and insurers.

“The newly created NCATT is already making a huge difference in helping recover stolen plant which is becoming even more prevalent. In this calendar year up to April, we have successfully recovered stolen plant and equipment

worth over £1.7m, and the total value of the unit’s recoveries in 2023 was over £6.1m. We are a small unit and whilst we can’t support every theft investigation, what we are able to do is making a tangible difference and I thank the industry for its crucial support in helping us do this,” he added.

Global events such as the conflict in Ukraine are driving up demand for stolen goods, with a 200% increase in the theft of construction plant and agricultural equipment in the UK. Prior to the war in Ukraine, between 40-70 high value machines were typically stolen in one month. But in a single month last year, over 200 machines were stolen nationwide and for the last 18 months thefts have been over 110 machines every month.

The CPA is also helping its members to recover stolen equipment by sharing information amongst its 1,900+ members. In a recent instance, all CPA members were

notified of the theft of a low loader full of kit. Within 24 hours of the information being shared, the stolen equipment was found by a fellow CPA member, leading to its successful recovery and return to its rightful owner.

CPA President Brian Jones said: “It’s excellent news that our funding is helping lead to the recovery of stolen plant, which is a massive problem costing our industry huge amounts of money, stress and lost revenue. We have over 1,900 members at the CPA and we feel it’s very important that the membership funds go back towards helping them.

“Theft and fraud have a significant and increasingly damaging effect on our members’ businesses and our £90,000 contribution to the work of NCATT will bring immediate, tangible benefits to our members in preventing and detecting criminal activity and the recovery of illegally obtained plant-hire equipment.”



David Smith
david.smith@cpa.uk.net



EQUIPMENT THEFT (PREVENTION) BILL

In an effort to understand the nature of the industry, and therefore draft secondary legislation which correctly reflects the needs of industry, the Home Office has been in contact with the CPA.

At the time of writing, the Home Office is trying to obtain a better understanding of

the range of plant and equipment which may be found on a construction site, and the average length the member would own them. In addition, they are trying to understand which classes of plant would likely be fitted with an immobiliser and/or is forensically marked. They were also

interested in how many were being stolen each year.

Further meetings are likely to be held with the Home Office before any further developments on the secondary legislation will occur. Members will be informed of any developments.

NCATT'S IMPACT UNVEILED

Key to Rising Success in Construction and Agricultural Equipment Recovery

In a significant development for the CESAR Security Marking & Registration Scheme, a recent gathering hosted by Construction Equipment Association (CEA) member Nylacast in Leicester brought together key stakeholders, including police units, NCATT and new donors. They discussed the initiative's current status and its future direction.

The involvement of NCATT significantly strengthens the CESAR scheme's operational and strategic capabilities. Spearheaded by Superintendent Andy Huddleston, the team brings together dedicated officers from across the country, each with specialised knowledge and skills in combating theft within the construction and agricultural sectors. NCATT DC Chris Piggott from Thames Valley, NCATT PC Ashley Tether from Cheshire, along with Police Investigators Gavin Hughes from South Wales and Adam Bush from Devon and Cornwall, form a formidable team.

Their collective efforts are crucial in driving forward the initiative's goals, from the recovery of stolen assets to the implementation of preventative measures. The diverse geographical representation within NCATT ensures a comprehensive approach to addressing equipment theft nationwide, reflecting the collaborative spirit that is vital for the scheme's ongoing success and impact.

The gathering, marked by the participation of the Police Units that support the scheme, focused on presenting recent activities, notable successes, and strategic plans moving forward. Superintendent Andy Huddleston and DCI Lee Newman-West led the presentations, outlining the concerted efforts in combating equipment theft and promoting a secure environment for the construction and agricultural sectors.

A highlight of the meeting was the introduction of new donors to the scheme, signalling a broadening of support beyond the traditional backing from insurance companies. Among the first-time attendees was CPA Legal Manager David Smith, who discussed organising CITS training for the Police; Mark Bradshaw from Hire Association Europe (HAE), focusing on tools and small equipment; and John Mussett from CanTrack alongside Clive Wain and Steve Whittaker from Tracker, both companies specialising in tracking devices and systems.

This expanded support base comes against the backdrop of a significant increase in the recovery of stolen assets, as detailed in the NCATT figures for 2023. The total value of recoveries for the year stood at £6,212,875 across 499 instances, a significant rise from £2,303,000 in 2022. The data highlighted the recovery of agricultural and construction plant, ATVs/UTVs, cars, vans, caravans, and trailers, alongside the execution of 22 specialist vehicle examinations across the UK, support for 21 pre-planned policing and



multi-agency operations, and engagement in 4 ports operations over 6 days.

Additionally, the meeting covered the scheme's educational impact, with 11 days of training provided to 593 officers, participation in 5 national industry shows, and the facilitation of a ministerial briefing in Parliament, culminating in 6 hours of parliamentary debate.

The figures also shed light on the success of international recoveries since the EU Exit, with 2023 marking £921,200 in recoveries across 28 instances, demonstrating the scheme's growing effectiveness and reach in combating equipment theft both domestically and internationally.

The CESAR scheme's recent meeting not only highlights the collaborative efforts between the police, industry stakeholders, and new donors but also sets a promising path for the initiative's continued expansion and impact in safeguarding assets within the construction and agricultural sectors.

THEFTS AND FRAUDS REPORTED BY MEMBERS

- 15th February - Eagle Platforms had a **Haulotte HTL4014 telehandler** stolen from a site in Leeds.
- 16th February - NCATT circulated a warning about **Tazeem Khan** who was fraudulently hiring plant, then moving out of the UK.
- 17th February - SSE reported thefts of two **Takeuchi TB216 mini excavators** stolen in December. One was taken from Salisbury, Wiltshire, and the other from Lyndhurst, Hampshire.
- 11th March - MW Digger Hire had a **JCB 3CX** stolen from a site in Norwich.
- 18th March - Channel Plant Hire had three machines stolen from a farm in Thornbury, South Gloucestershire. They were a **JCB 140X excavator**, a **JCB 8026 excavator**, and a **JCB 531-70 telehandler**.
- 4th April - True Plant was a victim of fraud, which resulted in the loss of a **Frost TR8 woodchipper** from a site in Mill Green Lane, Widnes. The machine's serial number is **SA9TR800000283766**. There are suspicions that the hirer claimed to be Anthony William



Cavanagh, and the email addressed used was **cavanaghs1176@gmail.com**. The contact phone number used was **07399 149970**, but the contact number given by their insurance company was **07852 980028**. True Plant were made aware by the insurance company that the insurance policy was cancelled in February 2024.

- 12th April - GT Access had a **Skyjack SJ6826 scissor lift** stolen from a site off Alan Turing Way in Manchester. The machine's serial number is **37005788**.

You can reach CPA members by advertising in the CPA Bulletin - the official quarterly magazine of the CPA

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The CPA Bulletin is produced by a small team who are closely involved with CPA activities. It typically contains 48 pages of original material written by CPA staff and industry experts. The Bulletin is available in both print and digital formats.

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SKILLS & TECHNICAL

REVISED DESIGN STANDARDS AND DUMPER CAB FITMENT



Peter Brown
peter.brown@cpa.uk.net

The European CEN designs standards for earthmoving machinery - EN 474 - went through an update during 2022 and come into effect from February 2025. The updates include a requirement for the operator's station of all seated ride-on machines, including forward tipping dumpers, to be fitted with a cab.

However, there are some variations which require additional clarification as this requirement does not apply to compact dumpers - which are machines up to and including 4.5 tonnes operating mass. The definition of operating mass (OM) being the base or unladen weight of the machine plus 75kg to account for an operator and filled with relevant fluids and fuel.

Dumpers however are marketed (and hired) by payload and this means that some commonly-hired dumpers of up to and including a 6 tonne payload can fall within the definition of a compact dumper and therefore technically do not to be fitted with a cab under EN 474. Within part 6 of the standard that is specific to dumpers however, machines between 3.5 and 4.5 tonnes OM need to be fitted with a restraint system that in essence prevents the operator from being ejected from the overall dimensions of the machine in the event of a roll-over. In discussion with dumper manufacturers, they see that the only feasible method of compliance will be the fitment of a cab.

A CEN standard is a technical document designed to be used as a rule, guideline or definition and in essence, are created by bringing together interested parties such as manufacturers, consumers and regulators of a particular product, material, process or service. The benefits of standardisation should be understood within our sector and include increased product safety, quality and harmonisation,

etc. with many CEN standards applied though the British Standards Institute (BSI).

CPA has representation on both earthmoving and lifting equipment-based working groups. However, some parts of the media described the change to the design standard as a legislative requirement - this is not the case and the legislative requirements for correct selection of equipment rests with the user under PUWER.

Irrespective, the Construction Industry Plant Safety Group, managed and chaired by CPA, fully advocates the use of cabbed dumpers for operator protection and welfare and continues to liaise with the manufacturers to devise a 'cab-strike' standard to allow the operator to remain seated during the loading activity.

Human Form Recognition and Human Detection Systems

Issues around the subject of human form recognition (HFR) and human detection systems (HDS) was raised at the recent CPA Council Meeting from which it was agreed that CPA should seek to devise industry-wide guidance in order to highlight a number of operational aspects, as well as providing consistency and clarity on the application and management of these systems.

An exploratory online meeting consisting of CPA Council Members and representatives from several Tier 1 contractors, along with the HSE, was held to define what

the issues were, what needs to be done, who to involve and what the intended outcome is in a bid to scope and plan the project. A number of issues were raised and the attendees at the meeting felt that guidance should include topics such as fitment specifications, what the systems do, and how information is reported and interrogated.

All agreed that the main function of these systems is to enhance safety but was noted that with different systems entering the market, that operators of plant would need further information on the function and uses of the various systems they may come across.

The need to involve OEMs, third-party HDS suppliers, plant hirers - especially SME-type organisations - and clients, as well as Tier 1 contractors was recommended from which it was agreed to undertake this project through the Construction Industry Plant Safety Group - chaired by CPA in co-operation of the HSE - to allow greater ownership of the issue across the sector.

If any CPA Member - especially from SME-type organisations - wishes to be involved in this project, please contact **Peter Brown** at **peter@cpa.uk.net**

Apprenticeship Developments

The new apprenticeship for Plant Technicians continues its development through the industry-led group and facilitated by CPA, with the skills, knowledge and behaviours for the

occupation now determined and from which the end point assessment (EPA) is being devised.

The existing apprenticeships for Plant Operatives, Plant Mechanics, Hire Controllers and Lifting Technicians are under revision as part of the renewal cycle, however there are recent changes to the assessment process from the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education (IfATE) that may affect the work of most of the working groups.

An apprenticeship consists of two core components; the learning period with the employer and led by the training provider and then the end point assessment. It is this that determines whether the apprentice has attained, after several years of learning, all of the required skills, knowledge and behaviours and who requires no further training.

To ensure that this is the case, the assessment process needs to be both

comprehensive and thorough as well as being achievable, pragmatic and cost effective and is a balance that can challenge the working groups to ensure that all those requirements are met. For all of the listed apprenticeships except Hire Controller, the EPA traditionally consists of a three well-understood methodologies:

- a professional interview which is supported by a portfolio of workplace evidence;
- the undertaking of a range of practical activities - either in the workplace or at the training provider's premises;
- a set of multi-choice questions that allows an effective method of checking a range of knowledge.

For 2024 onwards however, IfATE have decreed that only a maximum of two assessment methods are allowed in a bid, they say, to reduce the burden on the apprentice and further minimise costs and timescales of the assessment. For the

working groups, this has a big impact upon their current revision process and, they believe, makes the assessment process longer and far more onerous in that, for example, the knowledge questions would need to be absorbed into both the interview and practical activities, extending the time and resources required to complete the EPA.

IfATE have indicated that whereas previously, all elements of the knowledge, skills and behaviours needed to be assessed, the guidance now indicates that partial assessment via a sampling approach should be taken instead. However, the working groups believe that this could lead to inconsistencies across the various EPA organisations. Each of the affected working groups is looking into the impact of these changes and in some cases, may make an appeal with IfATE to maintain the three assessment methods for our apprenticeships based on the safety critical nature of the roles and sector.

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PUBLICATIONS

NEW TCIG GUIDANCE ON THE TENDERING, MANAGEMENT AND OPERATIONS OF TOWER CRANES



Katie Kelleher
katie.kelleher@cpa.uk.net

The Tower Crane Interest Group (TCIG) have produced good practice guidance on suggested minimum standards on the tendering, management and operating of tower cranes. It covers legal requirements along with industry good practice and directs readers to further relevant guidance material and aims to raise standards and encourage sourcing from responsible tower crane suppliers.

The guidance indicates that the employing organisation should consider the amount of assistance required from the tower crane supplier and whether it would be appropriate to enter into a pre-construction service agreement with the supplier. This ensures that decisions are made by the most appropriate parties and that they are made in a timely manner, plus that assumptions can be avoided by the early engagement and employment of a competent supplier, minimising unnecessary delays and cost overruns.

The guidance also encourages tower crane suppliers to undertake an audit of their crane fleet and operational procedures to identify areas of strength and areas where improvements can be made. By following the guidance, tower crane suppliers are able to demonstrate that they can provide tower cranes and personnel to undertake lifting operations safely in compliance with good practice guidelines and statutory requirements.

Users of tower cranes are encouraged to adopt the guide when selecting potential tower crane suppliers to ensure that the supplier has the necessary competence and procedures in place and indicates where additional information can be found if the user organisation is unclear on any of their requirements.

There is additional guidance for travelling on public highways, which closely follows the requirements of the Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme (FORS) and strongly recommends that tower crane suppliers demonstrate that their delivery vehicles and any attendant mobile cranes have a minimum achievement of FORS Bronze standard.

The TCIG guidance also refers to the Crane Interest Group's Guidance recent publication on the Tendering, Management and Operations of Mobile Cranes, that may be used to erect and dismantle a tower crane. This is a vital sub-set of the tower crane strategy for the project during the construction phase, especially when considering the size and weight of the mobile crane that will arrive via the public highway as projects can incur costs and delays

where they fail to properly prepare for or manage the arrival and use of mobile cranes.

Updated TCIG Guidance on Tower Crane Erection Team Composition

TCIG have updated their technical Information Note (TIN) on the Tower Crane Erection Team Composition (TIN 030) to reflect some changes to the roles and for certification and carding requirements. The safe erection, alteration, climbing and dismantling (installation) of tower cranes relies on the competence of the occupational team carrying out the various tasks on site and it is essential that each erection team is made up of the correct minimum number of personnel with the appropriate combination of skills, experience, supervision and training to enable them to work effectively and safely as a team.

The table that shows the minimum competency requirements has been updated to recognise the focus on CSCS-logged card schemes for the relevant occupations and determines the training and competency qualifications for each carded occupations including supervisor, erector and electrical installer roles.

The table also lists the progression activities to allow an individual to move up to the next role including carding and skill requirements along with new suggested training courses for all roles such as site environmental awareness, first aid at height and lifting accessory.

Guidance on Battery Energy Storage Systems and Fire Risks

The potential dangers in the event of a runaway fire on the larger Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) units - from 250kw/h plus - have been raised from a number of sources in relation to the increasing use of these energy systems to power tower crane and hoists units and the potential impacts if sited next to a tower crane or hoist base.

From further discussions and investigations, many of the new-generation BESS units now have high levels of thermal control and inbuilt fire suppression systems, but there is collective agreement that some form of guidance on good practice with BESS specifications and positioning should be devised.

The Construction Industry Advisory Committee (CONIAC) - chaired by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) - have already produced draft guidance - 'Safety of Alternatives to Onsite Diesel: Things to

Consider - Onsite Li-ion batteries (BESS)'. This has been produced as a result of the Construction Leadership Council asking the HSE to work with industry to develop guidance on alternatives to diesel as part of their ZeroDiesel initiatives.

Although generic in content, the intention is to use the CONIAC publication as the basis for a CPA plant-based guidance publication, initially for tower crane and hoist owners/users who specify /buy BESS units. Support has also been attained from the National Fire Chiefs Council, from various BESS suppliers and the HSE.

CPA Safety Publications Catalogue 2024/2025

The Safety Publications Catalogue has been updated for 2024/2025 and lists all of the CPA's safety-related publications including those produced by the Special Interest Groups and the Plant Safety Group, as well as CPA badged publications.

This and all the publications listed can be downloaded free of charge at www.cpa.uk.net



POLICY

DECIPHERING NRMM DECARBONISATION AND GOVERNMENT POLICY



Chris Cassley
chris.cassley@cpa.uk.net

In my last Bulletin article, I outlined my thoughts on what the government's potential plans were for NRMM (Non-Road Mobile Machinery) policy across the course of this year, and how it would impact on CPA members. In the intervening two months, we have seen some of my predictions come true, and while I am not yet ready to buy a lottery ticket, there has been progress in terms of what we have been calling for from government.

The March Budget saw the Treasury commit to extending the Full Expensing Allowance to the leasing and rental industries (this Treasury terminology includes hire industries) albeit with the caveat of 'when fiscal conditions allow'.

While the CPA welcomed this change in policy that would allow all CPA members to claim the allowance when investing in new equipment, however, we have called for clarity in what the Treasury means in this open-ended language. The economy is slowly improving, with construction itself returning to growth following several months of stagnation. Business investment helps drive economic growth – ultimately you cannot have one without the other.

Waiting for a currently undefined future scenario that will eventually allow the plant-hire industry to take advantage of an allowance that the rest of the business community can claim, is not exactly going to build confidence. The CPA, as part of its work with the Treasury's Leasing Working Group, will be pressing the case for further clarity on this key policy measure.

Towards the end of last year, the government published its long-awaited consultation on NRMM decarbonisation. This was an opportunity for construction equipment users and manufacturers, to outline their thoughts on how the NRMM sector can reduce the use of diesel, and take the steps needed to reach the government's 2050 net zero target.

The CPA consulted extensively with members ahead of the March 2024 deadline, as well as taking part in several industry workshops with stakeholders such as the Supply Chain Sustainability School, and the Construction Leadership Council.

The main parts of our submission call for the government to work with our members, recognising that they are already taking active steps to decarbonise, but that the process will take time. The industry must remain competitive; the government cannot force companies to invest in diesel free equipment, market forces and using public procurement as a driver of change must be at the heart of this.

We also call for one single government department to take responsibility for NRMM decarbonisation. To date, three separate government departments have each taken responsibility for this work in some form or another. The second-hand market in electric kit is immature and this is, for many companies, a factor in whether they commit to investing in electric kit and making the switch from diesel.

The government must learn from overseas (in particular Norway who offers up to 40% grants on electric equipment in exchange for diesel plant), reintroduce the HVO rebate on a limited basis, and explore the potential of a scrappage scheme for NRMM diesel kit. These are all separate measures members have called for in recent policy announcements – the consultation was an opportunity to reinforce these actions.

The consultation was run by three government departments, with DESNZ, the Department of Business and Trade, and the Department for Transport, all involved. While it was encouraging to see such levels of cross governmental department interaction, the proof will be in what comes next and what the government's proposals will be. Although the response and next steps are meant to be published later this year, we have been waiting over two years for the Low Carbon Fuels Strategy to be released – which, incidentally, is now meant to be released in May.

It is a cliché but like London buses and their frequency, the end of March saw yet another consultation on NRMM decarbonisation, this time a short Department of Transport consultation on the road use of hydrogen powered equipment. The consultation itself only runs for a month but the CPA will be responding accordingly. Hydrogen has been cited as a key fuel of the future – especially in construction equipment. Legislators need to improve their understanding around what this means and the ramifications from both a legislative, and regulatory perspective.

The safe use and transportation and storage (whether on site or in hire depots) of hydrogen, is critical in its future widespread adoption. Amending existing roadworthiness legislation needs looking at in more detail, especially when other legislative mechanisms need to be clarified to the benefit of all parties concerned.

Ahead of the general election, whether it is this year or early in 2025, it is encouraging that the government and policy makers are listening to the plant-hire community and taking forward our concerns and views. The challenge now is to keep up this momentum and translate warm words and sentiment, into actual tangible policies that have a genuine impact. The hire industry is watching.

NEWS FROM CPA MEMBERS

To submit news for consideration for future issues of the CPA Bulletin, please email lisa@lisacollinscommunications.co.uk

JCB Lands Electric Machine Deal for Manchester Airport Refurbishment

Four JCB electric machines have landed at Manchester Airport to help deliver a £1.3 billion transformation of Terminal 2.

Purchased by Preston-based Bradley Group, the new machines – two 19C-1E electric mini excavators and two 1TE electric site dumpers – are working inside on the project, carrying out internal dismantling and strip out work as part of the £1.3bn transformation programme set for completion in 2025.

Supplied by dealer Gunn JCB, leading demolition and asbestos removal contractor, Bradley Group chose the new electric machines as part of its commitment to environmentally conscious practices as it aims to use electric equipment for the majority of its internal demolition projects. Their roles include the demolition of walls, breakout out of screeds, loading dump trucks and moving hard-core.

Bradley Group's Director, Andrew Hill said: "The initial order was for one electric mini excavator but the second followed soon after as we were so impressed with the performance of our first. We have had some great operator feedback with the electric machines surpassing expectations. They noted the machines' even smoother tracking, distinguishing them from their diesel counterparts. They have also highlighted the added convenience of simply plugging in a machine, as opposed to the traditional process of refuelling with diesel, and the ability to carry out a full shift on a single charge."



The four machines are part of the JCB E-Tech range of electric equipment which is zero emissions at the point of use and enables contractors to work in emissions and noise sensitive environments – including indoors, underground and in urban areas. The 19C-1E was the world's first fully electric excavator when JCB launched the innovative model.

Steve Ryan Joins Expanding Anglian Plant



Steve Ryan has joined Norfolk-based Anglian Plant as General Manager - a new role within the expanding business. Steve has a wealth of experience in the plant-hire sector, having joined Anglian Plant from Travis Perkins where he worked for over 36 years.

Formed in 2009 by Managing Director Joe Paterson, Anglian Plant initially started with two mini excavators, comprising of a 1.5 tonne model and a 3-tonne machine. These machines were added to as demand grew at a rapid pace.

Anglian Plant now has an extensive fleet of plant machinery, attachments and tools available to hire to construction, industrial and agricultural sectors throughout the East Anglian region. The company has been a CPA member for over 10 years, during which time it has experienced substantial growth.

WHC Hire Services Launches New Digital Support System

WHC Hire Services has launched a new digital support system known as 'QR Enabled'. Designed to increase productivity and operator throughout a customer's hire, it ensures that clients get the most of the equipment they have on hire whilst getting the job done safely.

The new digital support system is available to all through WHC Hire Services' online resource vault. It requires no login, email address, or sign-up, and is easy to use from all UK mobile devices.

The vault contains over 50 step-by-step, machinery-specific tutorial videos to help operators when using their equipment. Operators can troubleshoot over 90% of the most common errors themselves with all of WHC's enabled machinery. From how to change buckets, to entering keycodes and more - all from the safety of the operator's cabin, without leaving site.

Each tutorial video ranges between 2-7 minutes long and is produced by the in-house WHC Hire team. The new digital support system can be accessed by scanning the QR code on the enabled WHC Hire machinery.

MD James Clutterbuck said, "We are always looking for ways to inspire and enhance our client's ability to get the job done. Our 'QR Enabled' service is built to increase customers' safety and efficiency when dealing with WHC Hire. It is very often that digital support like this is normally hidden behind layers of terms and



conditions in the new modern era of technology. However, with safety for all at the forefront of everything we do, we believe that everyone should have access to support like this. Whether you are hiring machinery from WHC Hire or not, the more we all share, the more people we can guarantee to return safely to their families every night.

"In addition, we understand that customers want to be as efficient as possible when hiring machinery. Therefore, we have structured our QR Enabled support to be easy to use and problem-specific to produce better results. We are excited to see the difference this new system will have on all of our clients. Just another way WHC is leading the way."

Prolectric Goes Transatlantic with USA Expansion

Prolectric, the off-grid, renewable lighting, and power specialist, has announced the launch of the company's first transatlantic business, with an office opening in Garland, Texas, USA.

The new US office based at Prolectric's parent company, Hill & Smith, Texas, is headed up by Ben Odell, Business Development Lead, Prolectric USA. The new operation will focus primarily on the distribution of Prolectric's market leading 'Smart' tower lights and hybrid generators.

As a solar-first business, Prolectric is a British manufacturer of sustainable solar lighting and solar hybrid power generators, serving a wide range of industries from construction, housebuilding and rail to major infrastructure.

The company is said to lead the way in smart, clean, renewable technology, and is focused on setting new engineering standards in AI and advanced telematics software, as part of its lighting and power technology product portfolio.



Rachel Preen, Managing Director, Prolectric, said: "The US market for solar is extremely buoyant. With expected growth in new solar capacity, Texas has tremendous potential for us. We warmly welcome Ben Odell, our business development lead in the US, to Prolectric. His wealth of experience in the construction sector is perfectly placed to support businesses looking to save on their fleet running costs and transition away from diesel to solar power. This market opportunity provides a natural progression for us to scale the business, building on our rapid UK growth ambition, Prolectric's robust solar credentials, award-winning product standards for British engineering and CSR."

Hirer Marks 50th Birthday with £68 Million Order

Morris Leslie Plant Hire kicked off its 50th birthday celebrations in style by placing an order for a huge fleet of new JCB machines worth £68 million.



The machines are being supplied throughout 2024 in an expression of confidence in the UK's housebuilding and construction market.

The substantial order - to be supplied by dealer Scot JCB - includes Loadall telescopic handlers, X Series excavators, mini excavators, compaction rollers and site dumpers. Significantly, the deal also includes 50 JCB backhoe loaders - one for every year Morris Leslie Plant Hire has been in business and a product on which the success of the company was built.

JCB Chairman Anthony Bamford handed over the keys to one of the backhoes to Founder Morris Leslie - a special Platinum Edition machine produced to mark the JCB backhoe's 70th birthday. Lord Bamford said: "We are very proud of our long association with

Morris Leslie Plant Hire. Like many of our customers, the company has grown from very small beginnings into a force to be reckoned with in the plant hire sector. From one family company to another, we wish Morris Leslie Plant Hire a very happy 50th birthday."

Morris Leslie said: "Over the years we have bought more than 7,000 JCB machines, so our success over the past half century is very much intertwined with that of JCB and we look forward to building on our partnership in the years to come."

Perth-based Morris Leslie has 15 depots across the UK with nationwide coverage, and prides itself in having one of the youngest fleets of machines available. The deal comes less than a year after Morris Leslie Plant Hire ordered £87.5 million worth of JCB machines. Morris Leslie founded his company on his parents' farm in 1974 in the Carse of Gowrie, near Perth, where he began buying and selling construction equipment. Today the company has a fleet of more than 5,000 machines.



Recent Changes Within the CEA

The Construction Equipment Association (CEA) has experienced a change in leadership. After nearly three years at the helm as Chief Executive, Suneeta Johal has departed from the organisation. The CEA extends its best wishes to Johal for her future endeavours.

In the interim, as the CEA embarks on the search for a new Chief Executive, the Association has announced that Viki Bell has been appointed as Director of Operations and Beth Abbott has been appointed Head of Marketing and Communications.

CEA members can meet Viki and Beth and reconnect with the rest of the CEA team during the upcoming Members' Forum scheduled for 17th July 2024 in Worksop (subject to confirmation). This event, exclusive to CEA members, promises valuable networking opportunities, updates on the latest technical and regulatory developments, and a chance to influence the future direction of the CEA. Members interested in attending or learning more are encouraged to contact info@thecea.org.uk



Mabey Hire Welcomes Select as STEM Programme Partner

Recognising the need to inspire the next generation of engineers and help combat the skills shortage, Mabey Hire has announced that Select, a subsidiary of Laing O'Rourke, is joining its STEM Education Programme as a Programme Partner.

First launched in 2018, Mabey Hire's STEM Education Programme was developed as a means of proactively tackling the engineering skills shortage. Targeted at school children aged 10-13 and designed with fun at its core, the programme aims to change perceptions around and raise awareness of the engineering sector, through the use of LEGO® Education materials.



Mabey Hire now welcomes Select to the programme as a Programme Partner, joining a number of Tier One contractors to help expand its reach and delivery. Select's 10-strong team of STEM Ambassadors will be delivering the STEM Education Programme in local schools. Starting initially with single topic sessions, focusing on core engineering principles such as levers,

pulleys, pneumatics and structures, Select plans to progress to delivering the full 16-week programme in the new school year.

Alex Warrington, Select Business Unit Leader, said: "At Select, we are committed to fostering innovation and investing in the future and we recognise the critical importance of supporting STEM education initiatives. By partnering on the Mabey Hire STEM programme, we aspire to nurture the development of the next generation to promote diversity and inclusion in STEM fields, collaborating with emerging talents through an immersive initiative.

"Throughout the onboarding process, the Mabey Hire team has offered continuous support and guidance and we commend the team for developing such a pioneering programme to shape the future of the construction industry."

Andrew Gascoine, Digital Engineering Manager at Mabey Hire, added: "It's been great to see the development and evolution of the STEM Education Programme since we first launched it in 2018. It really is growing from strength to strength, and a key part of this is having the support of the wider industry and partners, such as Select.

"The skills shortage is a very real problem facing the engineering industry and it's important that we all do our bit to engage with and support the younger generation. We're absolutely thrilled to have Select on board as a Programme Partner and we

look forward to working with them over the coming months and years on helping to push the message of our programme out to even more schools and students."

The programme is predominantly delivered as a 16-week course in after school clubs but has also been successfully adapted for other delivery options. With support from Mabey Hire's own STEM Ambassadors and Programme Partners, the focus is on encouraging students to think like an engineer, allowing them to learn and explore core engineering principles in a fun and hands-on way. Recognising the technological advances of the industry, the programme also incorporates digital technology, with students entering a LEGO® VR World through virtual reality headsets.

In other news, Mabey Hire has achieved a 12th consecutive Gold Award at the 2024 RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) Awards, leading to the company winning the President's Award for the third year in a row.



Syrinx 365 Now Available

Point of Rental Software has announced that its next generation Syrinx 365 software is now available. The new software features a global search bar, a public API allowing for integrations to accounting software, ecommerce solutions, and customisable dashboards while building on Syrinx's industry-leading functionality.

Mark Goodrum, UK Managing Director at Point of Rental Software said: "Syrinx 365 provides Syrinx's proven back-end tools with a modern, easy-to-use front-end interface that hire businesses and their customers expect. The response from our early adopters has been overwhelmingly positive."

Beyond the global search bar, Syrinx 365's customisable dashboards provide an improved user experience, allowing each user to bring to the forefront the widgets they need to easily conduct their business. Point of Rental's payment processing allows for realtime payments at the hire counter or online, while mobile apps for operators, workshop engineers, and drivers consolidate data and cut down errors that come with paper-based processes.

Syrinx 365 also gives users the ability to become Cyber Essentials accredited, helping users mitigate risks from common cyber-attacks. The Government-backed



scheme assures customers that organisations are securely conducting online business. It also allows hire companies to bid for central government contracts requiring handling of sensitive and personal information.

MCS Rental Software Becomes a Carbon Neutral Supplier

MCS Rental Software has confirmed it is now a carbon-neutral business, marking a significant milestone in the company's commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility.

By calculating greenhouse gas emissions, MCS Rental Software gained a thorough understanding of its environmental impact, laying the groundwork for strategic initiatives to minimise and offset these emissions.

MCS Rental Software has implemented innovative solutions to reduce carbon emissions within the equipment rental industry. The company has demonstrated its proactive approach through a series of initiatives, including paperless processes, enhancing asset utilisation, and empowering hire businesses to lower their CO2 emissions.

Guy van der Knaap, MCS Managing Director, said: "This achievement is a testament to our unwavering commitment to driving sustainability within the rental industry. It requires coordinated efforts across nations, industries, and communities to mitigate the causes of climate change and adapt to its impacts. We recognise the importance of environmental responsibility and are proud to take this significant step toward mitigating our environmental impact."

In other news, MCS has launched a mobile app known as 'Resource Mobile' which is now available on iOS and Android. It gives engineers and drivers out on the road



the ability to complete their tasks all via a mobile app, giving instant feedback to Hire Controllers in the back office. Hire Controllers now not only know when a job has been started, but can also keep track of job progress including when their colleagues are actively driving, or when they have arrived on site.

JCB Cuts into Electric Drive Scissor Market with 200 Machine Deal

One of the UK's leading access equipment firms has bought the first fleet of JCB's brand new electric drive scissor lifts in a massive deal for 200 of the new machines.

Already one of the largest global users of JCB Access equipment, Bromsgrove-based GT Access has become the first to order the recently unveiled electric drive scissor lifts.

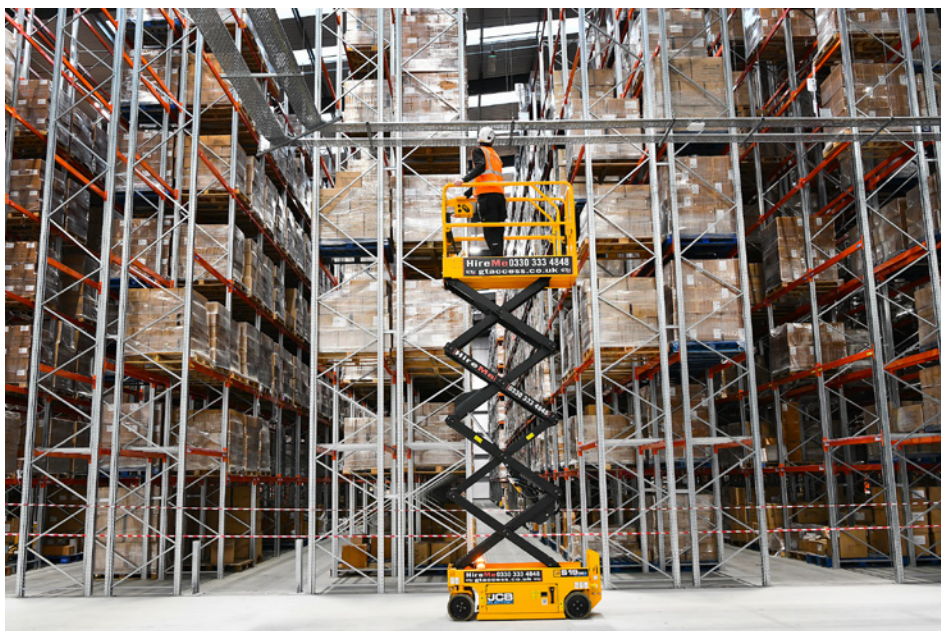
Supplied by dealer Gunn JCB, GT Access's new fleet includes S1932E, S2632E, S2646E, S3246E, S4046E and S4550E models with platform heights spanning from 5.71m to 13.8m.

GT Access Sales Director, Steve Moody said: "JCB's development of these new direct electric drive models gives our customers

multiple benefits over hydraulic motor machines. Customers prefer the electric drive models mainly due to two factors; increased productivity during the day along with enhanced gradeability when driving up slopes - so we are confident the new machines will prove very popular.

"We also chose to order these new JCB scissor lifts based on the reliability and resale values of the original JCB hydraulic drive machines we purchased 5 years ago, as well as the excellent brand name that JCB have in the UK. The older machines have also given us excellent ROI as well as being very reliable and looking in good condition for their age."

Electric drive motors replace the hydraulic drive motors on the new JCB models, with up to 53% longer run time on a single battery charge. This reduces overall charging cost, lowering total cost of ownership for the customer. The electric motors also deliver increased torque to the wheels and up to 25% gradeability, making it easier to drive on inclines and to load up truck ramps.



To submit news for consideration for future issues of the CPA Bulletin, please email: lisa@lisacollinscommunications.co.uk

LEGAL NEWS

POLICE TRIAL MOBILE CAMERAS

Ten police forces are trialling a new mobile camera system in an effort to tackle those drivers who fail to wear a seat belt or use a mobile phone whilst driving.

The police forces taking part in the trial are Durham, Greater Manchester, Humberside, Norfolk, Northamptonshire, Staffordshire, Sussex, Thames Valley, West Mercia, and Wiltshire. The trial began in mid-February 2024, and will run until March 2025.

The new camera system can be mounted to a vehicle or trailer and has multiple cameras giving differing views of the driver and their passengers. The images are then processed

with the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to establish whether the driver could be using a handheld mobile phone, or the driver (and/or their passengers) may not be wearing a seatbelt. This information is then passed on to police for their decision to take any action against the driver.

When the trial was first launched by National Highways in 2021, offending drivers received a warning letter informing them of the dangers of their behaviour.

Research showed that drivers were four times more likely to be involved in an accident whilst using a mobile phone, and

twice as likely to die in a crash if not wearing a seatbelt.

Subject to the success of the trial, this may be rolled-out nationwide to the other 33 police forces. It has also been suggested that there are plans to have this technology fitted to road gantries, thereby giving a clear view of all passing vehicles.

Currently, drivers can be fined up to £500 for not wearing a seatbelt in addition to penalty points, and using a mobile phone while driving can result in a fine of up to £1,000 and six penalty points.



David Smith
david.smith@cpa.uk.net

DIRECT VISION STANDARD (DVS) UPDATE

As an update to February's CPA Bulletin article, Transport for London (TfL) is still planning to proceed with phase 2 of the Direct Vision Standard - the introduction of the Progressive Safe System - which takes effect from 26th October 2024, whereby vehicles must attain the 3-star safety system to be able to run on London's roads.

A meeting was held between industry representatives and TfL's Walking and Cycling Commissioner, Will Norman, and other senior TfL executives, where

the results of an industry survey was presented. The survey detailed operators' concerns that their fleet would not be compliant by October, due to the ongoing confusion from TfL regarding the technical specifications required for vehicles to comply with phase 2. Industry's particular concerns centred on whether the Blind Spot Information System (BSIS), and the Moving Off Information System (MOIS) would meet the new specifications.

As a consequence, industry asked TfL to extend the current three-month 'grace

period' to not only allow fleet owners sufficient time to retrofit their vehicles, but for TfL to liaise with equipment manufacturers, to ensure that any equipment supplied and fitted would be phase 2 compliant.

TfL confirmed at the meeting that the 'look up tool' for both individual vehicles and fleets would on-line by the time Phase 2 begins. Members will be informed of any developments as they occur.

GOVERNMENT ENHANCES EMPLOYEE REDUNDANCY PROTECTION

From 6th April, the Government has introduced new protection rights for employees taking parental leave, under the Protection from Redundancy (Pregnancy and Family) Leave Act 2023.

The Act will cover all employees already on leave - due to maternity, adoption, or shared parental leave, and will also include employees who have recently returned

to work from maternity leave - up to 18 months after the birth of their child. It will also cover those who are pregnant, or who have notified their employer of their pregnancy on or after 6th April, as well as for any statutory family leave ending on or after 6th April.

This Act means that if the employee's role is made redundant, then their employer

must give them the first option on whether to accept or reject any other vacancy. However, the employee can still be made redundant if no appropriate vacancy is available.

Previously, employees only had this protection during their period of maternity, adoption, or shared parental leave.



CONGESTION ZONE FOR CARDIFF

Cardiff Council have started the consultation process in creating a similar Congestion Zone to that of London, as part of their new 'transport vision'.

Although this is at the consultation stage, a decision on whether to implement the scheme is unlikely to take place before the end of the year.

The intention, similar to London's politicians, is to reduce traffic, improve air quality and promote the use of public transport.

Details are still being discussed on how similar the Cardiff scheme will mirror London's, but reports indicate that it could take up to five years to implement these proposals.

EMPLOYMENT CHANGES COMING IN LATER IN THE YEAR

'Fire and Re-hire' Code of Practice

The Government is planning to publish a new Code of Practice for employers on the dismissal and re-engagement - more widely known as 'Fire and Re-hire' - for employees, in the summer.

A draft copy is available from Government's assets publishing service at <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/draft-statutory-code-of-practice-on-dismissal-and-re-engagement.pdf>

For more information on this subject, go to <https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research.briefings/cbp-9556/>

More Predictable Work Patterns

The Workers (Predictable Terms and Conditions) Act 2023 - which is expected to come into effect in September - will amend the Employment Rights Act 1996, and give workers and agency workers the right to request a predictable work pattern, if the following criteria is reached:

- The individual must have at least 26 weeks service with the company.
- Those on zero hours contracts, who do not have a guaranteed minimum number of hours - and this would include those on a fixed-term contract of 12-months or less.
- The worker's requested change relates to their 'work pattern', which can cover the number of hours they work, including which hours, the days of the week they work, and the length of their contract.

- The worker can only submit two requests each year - and includes any flexible working applications as part of those requests.

Any request received must be handled by the 'employer', which can cover the agency, or the 'hirer' under whose supervision and direction they are working too.

A worker has a right of redress and can bring a claim if the 'employer' fails to follow procedural requirements, and/or, if the worker suffers a detriment or is dismissed as a result of their request.

Reasonable Steps to Prevent Sexual Harassment

Worker Protection (Amendment of Equality Act 2010) Act 2023 is expected to take effect from 26th October and places a significant responsibility on employers to stop sexual harassment in the workplace.

The onus is moved from the victim to report and raise an issue, and instead placed on employers to take reasonable steps to prevent sexual harassment. The Equalities and Human Rights Commission will be able to take action against firms who breach their duties. Compensation in such cases can be increased by a 25% uplift, possibly due to a firm's 'inaction' on this matter.

Further information on these forthcoming employment rights will be outlined in future issues of the CPA Bulletin.

COMPENSATION LIMIT INCREASED

The Government has increased the compensation payment limits used for statutory payment including unfair dismissal and redundancy.

For basic awards and statutory redundancy payments a week's pay will be now capped at £700 per week.

Statutory Maternity/Paternity/Sick Pay Increases

From 2nd April, the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) have confirmed that rates will increase for statutory maternity, paternity, adoption, shared parental, and parental bereavement pay will increase to £172.48 per week.

Statutory sick pay will increase to £109.40 per week.

Employment Reference Document (ERD)

The CPA's Employment Reference Document for April 2024 is available to download from the CPA's website at www.cpa.uk.net/legal-insurance-plant-theft/legal/employment

MORE FLEXIBILITY FOR PATERNITY LEAVE

The Paternity Leave (Amendment) Regulations 2024, which came into effect from 6th April, will allow employees taking statutory paternity leave to separate their two-week entitlement into two separate one-week entitlements. In addition, the employee may take their leave at any time within the first year of the child's birth.

Previously, the employee had to take a single two-week absence, and this had to be taken within the first 8 weeks of the birth.

Employees now only have to give their employer 28 days' notice for each week of leave they intend to take, which is far shorter than the 15-week notice previously required.

However, they still need to give notice of their upcoming entitlement 15 weeks before the expected date of birth.

NATIONAL MINIMUM AND LIVING WAGE RATES

From 1st April, the new Minimum and Living Wage rates are as follows:

For those aged 21 and over	£11.44
For those aged 18 to 20	£8.60
For those under 18	£6.40
Apprentices	£6.40

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HOW EFFICIENCY IN CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS CAN DIRECTLY IMPACT SUSTAINABILITY TARGETS FOR THE SECTOR

In response to the pressing global issue of climate change, the United Kingdom and the European Union have set a challenging yet necessary objective - to attain 'net zero' CO2 emissions by 2050. The construction industry, traditionally known for its substantial environmental footprint, is now in the spotlight to significantly contribute towards achieving this goal.



Richard Clement, Deputy General Manager at Smart Construction shares his take on how civil construction can evolve through technology to meet the growing demand for sustainable construction.

Under the increasing demands from government bodies, local authorities, and broader communities for more sustainable practices, there's a clear onus on project developers and owners. The paradigm for new projects is shifting. More efficient buildings, more community and green spaces, and lower carbon emissions are just some of the criteria popping up around new projects.

Acknowledging this shift, construction Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) are focusing their efforts on electrification, seeking to replace fossil fuels with greener,

less polluting alternatives. Concurrently, companies are exploring technologies that promote operational efficiency, limit rework, and support informed decision-making, all with the aim of reducing their overall carbon footprint.

What technology can be used to boost efficiency?

The wave of construction technology that has popped up in the last decade or so gives contractors a way to save time and money while being more competitive in the eyes of sustainability-minded GCs and owners. Smart Construction's portfolio of solutions features these different technologies and applies them to each individual project to make planning and process more efficient.

Some of the ways contractors can use construction tech to boost efficiency include:

- **GPS-enabled machinery:** 3D machine guidance and control help even inexperienced operators get their work done right in one go.
- **Equipment tracking and optimisation:** GPS tracking, and other telematics data can help contractors monitor their equipment in real-time. This can reduce fuel consumption and unnecessary wear on vehicles and fleet, while helping them identify ways to do the same work in a faster, more efficient manner.
- **Drones:** These can be used for site surveying and project monitoring. The use of drones can minimise human error in design or estimation and dramatically decrease the time needed to measure quantities and make critical decisions about projects. Drones are especially valuable

for large sites. Once a time consuming and inefficient task, surveying has become a quicker job for site managers to review progress and make decisions, relaying data to remote teams where required.

- **Digital twins:** 3D modelling can make planning easier and more accurate, reducing the risk of rework and wasted materials. Digital twins also streamline communication between everyone involved in a project.

How can technology enable the construction sector to unlock sustainability gains?

In earthwork, efficiency is sustainability. As owners and developers start focusing more and more on the sustainability of their projects, earthwork contractors can position themselves as 'sustainable' partners by becoming more efficient. It doesn't require huge investment in new electric fleets and machinery, or spending an inordinate amount of time tracking your carbon emissions. Sustainability milestones can be achieved as a by-product of becoming more efficient in daily operations.

For more information, please visit www.smartconstruction.io



ESTA

EUROPEAN DOUBLE SUCCESS FOR AINSCOUGH

CPA member Ainscough has taken two of the top prizes at this year's ESTA Awards, the leading European event for heavy lifting and transport. The winners were announced at a special dinner held on 25th April at the Hilton Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport.



In total, there were 37 finalists across the ten categories from 12 different countries. Over 400 dinner guests celebrated what ESTA believes was the strongest ever shortlist.

Ainscough won the category for telescopic

cranes over 120t capacity for its work at the Rugby Cement plant in the UK, where it carried out several complex lifting operations over a 6-day period working 24 hours.

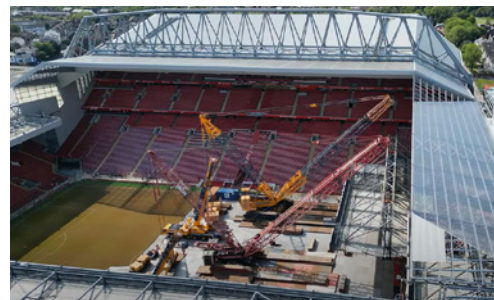
It followed that with victory in the Cranes Lattice Boom category for its work on the upgrade of Liverpool's Anfield football stadium, where it removed an existing stand structure using an ingenious tandem lift operation by two crawler cranes.

In a strong showing from ESTA's UK membership, transport specialists Allelys won the Combined Techniques award, while Ainscough was also a finalist in the training category.

ESTA Director Ton Klijn said: "Everyone at ESTA is delighted and honoured that our awards receive such excellent support. Of course we congratulate the winners, but we would also like to thank all of the finalists and all those who entered."



"It is your commitment and effort that enables us to show the world, including our clients and political leaders, the important and professional work that our industry delivers day in, day out."



"We look forward to seeing everyone in Munich next year for the 2025 edition."

Further details of all the finalists are on the ESTA website.

ESTA'S CRANE RISK AND WINCH GEARBOX RESEARCH NEARS CONCLUSION

Two important crane industry reports have moved closer to publication following the latest ESTA meetings in Paris.

ESTA's Spring meetings heard from the experts behind both projects, each of which is aimed at contributing to improved safety and efficiency.

The ESTA crane risk management working group is producing new guidelines to help companies assess the risks involved in different types of work and give them advice on how to protect themselves using properly drafted terms and conditions.

The work will especially be aimed at smaller companies but will also contain information for clients.

ESTA's approach is to act as a focal point for available best practice by steering users towards reliable sources of information - and so avoid replicating work already carried out by other organisations.

Meanwhile a second expert group - led by ESTA's crane expert Klaus Meissner along with Mammoet's Hermen Kamp and Gerrit van Hove from Sarens - has produced its initial draft of proposals for new and enhanced maintenance regimes for mobile crane winch gearboxes.

The requirement to calculate the remaining life of a winch is a crucial safety consideration because if the crane winch gearbox fails the crane's load comes down.

The current regime involves a major overhaul after ten years to check that the winch gearbox is still in good condition, but many experts argue that the ten-year threshold is an arbitrary deadline and does not reflect the equipment's actual usage.

ESTA's expert group is trying to come up with a maintenance regime that is based on technical analysis, for example by implementing regular oil analyses, and will provide detailed information for other inspections.

This might both improve safety by catching unexpected problems earlier and, in some cases, might save money by prolonging the use of the winches beyond current time frames and preventing unnecessary oil changes.

Both reports will be available free to ESTA members - and their members - from ESTA's website.

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT BACKS HARMONISATION OF RULES ON ABNORMAL TRANSPORT

Members of the European Parliament have backed moves to harmonise the numerous and complex national rules governing abnormal transport.

The vote to revise the EU's Weights and Dimensions Directive (96/53) is an important step in a long campaign led by ESTA, the European association of abnormal road transport and mobile cranes.

While the new regulations will only apply directly to members of the European Union, they are expected to influence regulators in other non-EU nations - such as Turkey, Switzerland and the UK - who will want to ensure that their road transport operators can trade with the EU as efficiently as possible.

Now that they have received the full backing of MEPs, they enter a process of consultation between the Council and the Parliament.

ESTA Director Ton Klijn said: "Abnormal transport companies are crucial for the prosperity of European economy through their work in the renewable energy, infrastructure, oil and gas, heavy industry and power generation sectors.

"This is why ESTA has been active during the revision process of the directive and we strongly welcome the European Parliament's decision to harmonise national rules and remove administrative and operational bottlenecks."

The revision includes the long-awaited Europe-wide adoption of the standard SERT documentation for abnormal load vehicle registration - a move that ESTA has supported for many years.

Other proposals adopted by MEPs include:

- **a 'one stop shop' per country for permits**
- **standardised permit application forms**
- **use of electronic permits**
- **harmonisation of escorting rules and vehicle markings**
- **a ban on language requirements for drivers**
- **permitting systems to be available in all EU languages.**

The Weights and Dimensions Directive sets maximum authorised dimensions and weights of heavy-duty vehicles (HDVs) used in national and international commercial transport. This ensures fair competition as member states cannot restrict the circulation of vehicles.



**ESTA Director
Ton Klijn**

MEISSNER TAKES ECTOL CHAIR AS WORK GETS UNDERWAY

Work on ESTA's new European Crane and Transport Operators Licence (ECTOL) scheme is accelerating as the structure of the new organisation is created and approved.



ECTOL will be an umbrella body that will oversee both the existing European Crane Operators Licence (ECOL) and the new European Transport Operators Licence (ETOL) which will initially focus on training for SPMT operators.

The three-person ECTOL Supervisory Board will be chaired by Klaus Meissner, ESTA's Subject Matter Expert Cranes.

ESTA decided to develop the ETOL licence scheme using the operational and management structure of the existing European Crane Operators Licence (ECOL) - a move that will be simpler and more efficient than creating a completely new organisation from scratch.

Klaus Meissner said: "ECTOL underlines ESTA's commitment to improving safety and raising the standards of operator training right across Europe to the benefit of the heavy lifting and transport industry as a whole, and our clients."

NEW MEMBER FROM SERBIA

ESTA has acquired a new member from Serbia - the mobile crane and construction equipment rental company Tenge doo.

Tenge doo is based outside the capital Belgrade and has agreed to join ESTA as a Special Member, the category that applies when there is no national association in ESTA membership.

The company also provides transportation and heavy load handling services and works both within Serbia and internationally.

ESTA Director Ton Klijn said: "We are delighted to welcome Tenge doo into the ESTA family and we look forward to learning about the issues they face in their markets - and how ESTA can support their work."

ESTA ANNUAL REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

ESTA's 2023 Annual Report is available in a new electronic format on its website at www.estaeurope.eu. The report brings together in one place all of the work that ESTA has been involved in since the start of last year.

Q&As

Whilst every care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the answers given within this section of the CPA Bulletin, no liability for any damage, liability, cost, loss and/or expense which the reader has incurred can be accepted by the Construction Plant-hire Association (CPA). The reader should obtain independent legal advice on any issue reported within the CPA Bulletin, before proceeding with a course of action.

Q We supplied a machine for a one day hire to a customer under the Model Conditions. We tried to collect it a week later and found that some equipment we supplied with the machine is now missing. Our customer is disputing the charges for the lost item, as they believe they are not responsible due to the length of hire, and the timeframe in our collection. Can you please can you advise?

A Where there can be some confusion is if the hire is for a fixed period, i.e., a specific start and end date, then the contract begins and ends on that day; when compared with an indeterminate hire, which has a specific start date, but no end date. Once it has been off-hired for an indeterminate hire, then the customer is responsible for the machine (as well as any other equipment supplied) for the next seven working days, as per clause 24(a) of the Model Conditions. Responsibility under a fixed hire would end when the contract ended.

With this hire, the hire was agreed to be for one day, and so the machine and equipment should have been collected on the same day it was delivered, or with agreement of the customer, possibly the next day. The fact that the collection was a week later, would in this case mean that the customer is not liable for the missing equipment - unless it can be shown that it went missing during that one day's hire.

If it can be shown that the equipment was lost during that day, then the customer is charged under clause 13(b) at the two-third's rate until settlement has been agreed. I hope that clarifies the position.

Q For many years whenever we have been unfortunate to have an item of plant stolen whilst on hire to a customer, we have always invoiced the customer with zero VAT, as that is what we advised to do at the time. Can you advise whether this is still correct?

A Previously, HMRC had a policy where VAT was not charged to the customer for the repairs or replacement of damaged or stolen items of plant. However, that has changed in the last two years, where HMRC has updated their guidance on VAT supply and Consideration which can be accessed from <https://www.gov.uk/hmrc-internal-manuals/vat-supply-and-consideration/vatsc05910>.

In short, if the original supply of the plant was subject to VAT, then any charges relating to repairs/replacement, would also be subject to VAT. I hope that answers your question, but should you wish to discuss this further, then please get in touch.

Q We have a dispute with a customer on the interpretation of clause 29 of the CPA's Model Conditions. We had hired an excavator to a customer, and due to site conditions, the bucket teeth have worn out within eight weeks and require replacing. The customer is challenging the charges and are refusing to pay/accept the charge for replacement parts. Can you confirm who the Hirer is within clause 29, as this would answer who is liable for these costs.

A Within clause 1 - Definitions - of the CPA's 2021 Model Conditions, it clearly states within clauses 1(c) and 1(f) who the Hirer (the customer) is, and who the Owner is. Within clause 29, it states that if the bucket teeth have to be re-sharpened or replaced at the end of the hire, then that cost has to be paid by the Hirer (the customer), and not the Owner. I hope this answers your question.

Q I am trying to explain to one of my customers the importance of them having 'hired-in plant' insurance cover, as they are confused why it is required. Can you provide some guidance which would help both them and us.

A When a customer hires a machine from a CPA member, then the machine (and operator if applicable) will be supplied under the CPA's Model Conditions - which is used for business-to-business agreements. Within those terms - specifically clause 13 - Hirer's Responsibilities for Loss and Damage - it states that the customer will be liable for all loss and damage to the machine during the hire period. If damage does occur, and the customer is held responsible/liable then those damages/losses, then these would be covered under the customer's 'hired-in plant' insurance policy.

Just to be clear, the customer does not need to have that policy in place; but most plant owners are unlikely to supply to a customer who does not have this policy in place. If the plant owner does supply to a customer without the policy in place, and something happens to the machine, for which they are liable for, then the customer must pay for the repairs/replacement from their own funds. I hope this helps clarify the position.

Q I have been trying to find within the CPA's Model Conditions, where it states that we, the Owner, are not responsible the customer's loss of productivity as a result of a machine's 'downtime' due to a breakdown. Can you highlight the right clause for me.

A The clause you may be thinking of is clause 12 - Limitation of Liability. In this instance, the Owner will have no liability for any loss the customer suffers - whether it is loss of productivity or other consequential loss, as a result of the machine breaking down, provided the breakdown is beyond the Owner's reasonable control - as per clause 12(a).
Should the breakdown be beyond the Owner's reasonable control, then the Owner is not liable for the customer's consequential or other losses - as per clause 12(b). Should that be the case, then under clause 12(c), the customer's only redress would be the fact that they are not charged for the period whilst the machine is not operational.
I hope that helps clarify the position, but if you have any further questions, then please get in touch.

Q Are there any bank/public holidays which could qualify the hire being suspended on those days?

A It would very much depend on what is being supplied to the customer to decide if hire charges are suspended or not.
If the plant is not being used by the customer on any particular bank/public holiday, then the suspension could apply on that day, but that may still depend on what was agreed between the customer and owner during any negotiations before the hire began. There will be eight bank/public holidays in 2024.

Q I have supplied a machine to a customer which is already on site and would like to increase the rate. Can I just implement this, or are there other steps I must take?

A Once a hire has begun, then the charge rate for that machine is set for the duration of the contract/hire period and cannot be arbitrarily increased.
To change the rate during the contract, you would either require the written agreement of the customer. Once that agreement is received, then the new rate will begin from that agreed date. The other option is, if it is for an indeterminate hire, i.e. a specific start date but no end date, then you can off-hire it by giving the correct notice, as per clause 24(a). Once off hired, then you could hire it to them under a new hire agreement at the revised rate.

Q Can you provide me with the contact details of an insurance broker/company which offers favourable rates for commercial insurance cover.

A The CPA itself does not have any particular insurance broker or company it recommends, but instead has a list of insurance brokers and companies which are CPA members. Each of their contact details can be found within the Insurance section of the CPA website at www.cpa.uk.net and any one of them will be able to provide you with a competitive quote.

Q We had hired a machine to a customer under the Model Conditions, and when we went to collect it at the end of the hire period, we found the site had closed earlier than told. Who is responsible for the machine - the customer, or the owner?

A As the site had shut earlier than agreed, under clause 23(c), the machine will be deemed to be back on hire, and the customer will be responsible for the machine's safekeeping. The customer will also be liable for the aborted collection costs too.

Q We had hired a machine to a customer under the Model Conditions and have tried to charge the customer the on-going two-thirds rate as a result of damage to the machine, but my customer is disputing that they are liable for that charge under the terms. I cannot find it within the terms and wonder if you can highlight the relevant clause(s).

A If the customer has accepted the Model Conditions for this hire, then you can refer them to clause 13(b), where you will find the following wording:
...In the event of loss of or damage to the Plant, hire charges shall be continued at idle time (two-thirds) rates as defined in clause 25 until the settlement has been agreed. Payment of the settlement must be made within 21 calendar days of the date of the agreement or idle time charges can be reinstated from the date of that agreement. Should idle time charges be re-instated, the agreed settlement figure remains payable in full.
Once you have highlighted that clause to your customer, they will understand why they have been charged.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

BRITISH CONCRETE PUMPING GROUP (BCPG)

The next British Concrete Pumping Group steering committee meeting date will be communicated once agreed and confirmed by the group, with the meeting format and venue confirmed at a later date prior to the meeting.

CONSTRUCTION HOIST INTEREST GROUP (CHIG)

The last Construction Hoist Interest Group steering committee took place on Thursday 7th March 2024 as an online meeting utilising the Zoom online meeting platform, with the meeting agenda covering the following topics:

- Committee Members Review
- CHIG Group Levy

The next Construction Hoist Interest Group steering committee and open meetings will take place on Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd October 2024 respectively. The meeting venue is the Heart of England Conference & Events Centre, Meriden Road, Fillongley, CV7 8DX.

CRANE INTEREST GROUP (CIG)

The last Crane Interest Group steering committee meeting took place as a hybrid event on Wednesday 27th March 2024 at the Heart of England Conference & Events Centre, Meriden Road, Fillongley CV7 8DX, with the meeting agenda covering a range of topics including:

- TINs and Publications Update
- HSE Update
- CIG1801 - Mobile Cranes Alongside Railways Update
- Metswift Presentation
- STGO Challenges
- Operator Hours
- Proposal to create a guidance document that sets out what checks should be undertaken prior to accepting that a mobile crane is properly rigged
- Proposal to create a guidance document on when a Lifting Operation should be winded off

The next CIG Steering Committee meeting is proposed to take place in late June/early July 2024.

SUCTION AND VACUUM EXCAVATOR SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SAVE)

The next Suction and Vacuum Excavator steering committee meeting will be communicated once agreed and confirmed by the group, with the meeting format and venue confirmed at a later date prior to the meeting.

SHORING TECHNOLOGY INTEREST GROUP (STIG)

The last Shoring Technology Interest Group technical and steering committee meeting took place on Wednesday 17th April 2024 at The Village Hotel, Leeds South, Capitol Boulevard West, Morley LS27 0TS.

TOWER CRANE INTEREST GROUP (TCIG)

The last Tower Crane Interest Group steering committee meeting took place on Wednesday 14th February 2024 at CCT Venues, 2 East Poultry Avenue, London EC1A 9PT, with the meeting agenda covering a range of topics including:

- TINs and Publications Update
- Apprenticeship and Stars of the Future 2024 Update
- Industry Lifting Lead AP Group Update
- Cranes Alongside Railways Update
- Metswift - Weather Research Presentation
- TCIG Chair Election Proposal
- TCIG Steering Committee Membership
- TCIG Group Levy

The next Tower Crane Interest Group steering committee meeting will take place in June 2024, with the date and venue to be agreed and confirmed.



Rob Squires
rob.squires@cpa.uk.net





CONTACT US

THE CPA TEAM - WORKING FOR CPA MEMBERS



Brian Jones is President of the CPA. He has worked in plant-hire for over 50 years. Brian was elected to the CPA Council over 30 years ago and has been CPA President since 2017.



Peter Brown is the CPA's Technical and Development Manager. He has a long background in plant technical operation and maintenance activities, followed by experience in plant-based education and training and development, including 18 years at CITB working as a standard-setter for plant occupational standards, qualifications, training standards, etc. and latterly as CPCS Product Manager.
peter.brown@cpa.uk.net



David Smith has worked as the CPA's Legal Manager since 2001, and has qualifications in both law and accounting. Prior to joining the CPA, David worked in the construction industry for eight years.
david.smith@cpa.uk.net



Katie Kelleher joined CPA in 2023 as Technical and Development Officer. Her role involves providing CPA Members with guidance and advice on technical, training and safety subjects, as well as helping produce and maintain our safety and technical publications. She also represents CPA on industry-led initiatives and working groups. Katie joined CPA from Select Plant Hire where she worked for the past eight years as a Crane Operator and Appointed Person.
katie.kelleher@cpa.uk.net



Adam Godwin has two roles within the CPA; he is responsible for communications to the Members, where he edits the CPA Bulletin and oversees the CPA's website; he is also a Director of the Rail Plant Association (RPA).
adam.godwin@cpa.uk.net



Chris Cassley is responsible for the development and lobbying of the key policy issues that are important to CPA Members. He spent 16 years at the CBI where he was responsible for construction policy and acted as Secretariat to the CBI Construction Council.
chris.cassley@cpa.uk.net



Rob Squires is the CPA's Training and Safety Manager. Prior to joining the CPA, he spent many years managing training, card and certification schemes with experience within the demolition sector and with CITB managing a range of CSCS-based schemes.
rob.squires@cpa.uk.net



Lisa Godwin is the CPA's Membership Manager. She has worked at CPA for over 25 years and has a wealth of experience supporting CPA Members. Lisa oversees all aspects of the CPA membership process, along with the strong CPA Membership Team.
lisa.godwin@cpa.uk.net

Siva Subramaniam (Finance Manager) and **Jenny Lupton** (Membership Support Administrator) form part of the experienced CPA Membership Team.

TELEPHONE: 020 7796 3366

CPA COUNCIL MEMBERS 2023-2024

President: Brian Jones (Trustee),
Delyn Consultants Ltd

Immediate Past President: Bob Collins

Chair: Steven Mulholland

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

South West: Darren Blackburn,
Plantforce Rentals Ltd.
Avon, Cornwall, Dorset, Gloucestershire,
Somerset, Wiltshire

South East: Warren Wilkinson,
Explore Plant & Transport Solutions.
Bedfordshire, Essex, Hertfordshire

South Eastern Counties:
Kirsty Archbold-Laming, Southern Hoist
Services. Kent, Surrey, East Sussex, West
Sussex

Southern Counties: Phil Leahy, Sunbelt
Rentals UK. Berkshire, Oxfordshire,
Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Isle of Wight

Greater London: Kevin Smith, SCCS
Survey Equipment Ltd

West Midlands: Aaron Davis, P. Flannery
Plant Hire (Oval) Ltd.
Herefordshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire,
Warwickshire, Worcestershire

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(Trustee), Sinbad Plant Ltd. Derbyshire,
Leicestershire, North Lincolnshire,
South Lincolnshire, Northampton,
Nottinghamshire

East Anglia: Bernie Chapman (Trustee),
WR Chapman & Son.
Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk

Wales: Siôn Morgan Jones (Vice Chair),
ACOP Group Limited

North West: Daniel Thompson,
Speedy Hire Plc.
Cheshire, Isle of Man, Lancashire,
Merseyside, Manchester, Northern Ireland

Yorkshire: David Holder,
Wolffkran Ltd

Scotland: Steven Mulholland (Chair)

Northern Counties: Mark Anderson, GAP
Group. Cleveland, Cumbria, Durham,
Northumberland, Tyne & Wear

Co-opted:

Nadine Clark

Ian Gordon (Trustee)

Chris Gill, L Lynch Plant Hire & Haulage

Steve Wright, Sir Robert McAlpine

Garry Orr, Synergy Hire Ltd

Life Members:

Bill Law,
AGD Equipment Ltd

Denis Morgan,
D Morgan Plc

Colin Wood (Trustee)

Should any members wish to contact their
Regional Council Member please email
enquiries@cpa.uk.net in the first instance
and your enquiry will be directed to the
relevant Council Representative.

RAIL PLANT ASSOCIATION

RPA LEADERSHIP MEETING

The RPA Leadership meeting was held on 28th February 2024 (on the same day as the RPA AGM), at the Nuthurst Grange Hotel, Hockley Heath. The meeting was well supported by the RPA members with approximately 50 delegates in attendance.

The meeting agenda covered the following subject areas:

- Eastern Region Update - Ben Brookes - NWR Capital Delivery Director Eastern Region



Paul Helks
RPA Management Committee
Chair

- 23rd RPA Annual General Meeting - Paul Helks - RPA MC Chair
- What's on My Mind - Steve Featherstone
- Safety and Standards Update - Jordan Skey - NWR Technical Head of Plant
- Rail Plant Performance Scheme Update - Matt Skelton - NWR Plant Reliability Team
- Network Rail Commercial and Procurement Update - Phil Bennett - NWR Commercial Director
- The National Pipeline and Key Workload Peaks for the year ahead - Tom Male - NWR Programme Manager

The next RPA Leadership meeting will be held on **Tuesday 9th July 2024** at the **Severn Valley Heritage Railway** in **Kidderminster**. An invitation to the meeting has been circulated to all RPA Members, but please email rpa@cpa.uk.net if you haven't received it and would like to attend.

UPDATE FROM RPA CONSULTANT STEVE FEATHERSTONE

Control Period 7 has started and it is going to be tough. The efficiency challenges faced by Network Rail are the most onerous that I can remember. The railway plant suppliers will have a key role to play in achieving these efficiency challenges.

Between them, the railway plant suppliers own over £1 billion of plant and directly and indirectly employ around 5,000 people. The plant and machines which they supply are the workhorses of our railway.

In order to increase efficiency and improve passenger satisfaction during CP7, the Rail Plant Association will be running a campaign with other trade associations to "Bring Back Blockades".

Just before Christmas we met with the Director General for railways at the Department for Transport to explain the challenges and opportunities which are seen through the lenses of the plant suppliers.

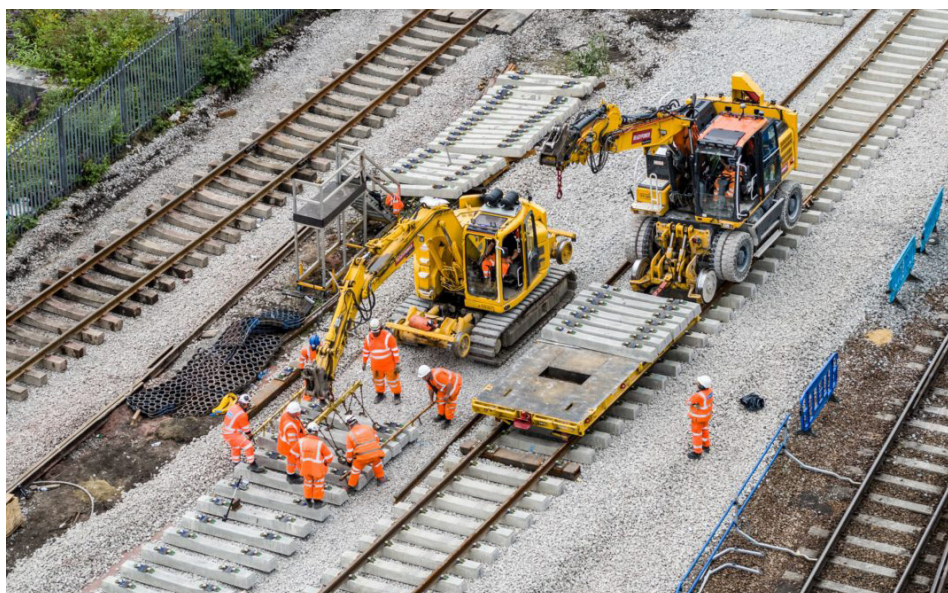


Since Christmas, we have held conversations with the Rail Industry Association, on behalf of the principal contractors, and with Rail Partners, on behalf of train operators, and whilst our positions differ on various issues we are totally aligned on the need to bring back blockades.

When I started as National Track Director in 2012, we undertook circa 20% of our work in blockades, typically of 9 days or 16 days. When I left Network Rail in late 2020, blockade working had been reduced to only 4%.

Blockade working is not only far more efficient in terms of work delivery but passengers and train operators generally prefer short blockade periods of disruption rather than many weekends with bus replacement services. That said as an industry we have conspired to significantly reduce blockade working over the last 3 control periods. With leisure traffic booming at weekends, the three trade associations are aligned on the need to bring back blockades, initially back to 20% of work delivered and then on beyond this.

It is good to see early signs that increased blockade working is happening but a significant push is required to make a real difference through CP7 and beyond. This would be a very visible sign of increased cooperation between the track and train parts of the railway even before Great British Railways is formed. The Rail Plant Association will work collaboratively with other organisations as we push to Bring Back Blockades.



NEW CPA MEMBERS

Abee Hire Ltd

Suite 9, Arkleigh Mansions
194-200 Brent Street
Barnet, Greater London
NW4 1BJ
020 8203 4134

An-Tec Logistic Ltd / An-Tec Plant Hire

Unit 8 & 9,
Waterton Ind Estate
Horsefair Road
Bridgend, Wales CF31 3YN
07955 306498

Apex Transport Services Ltd T/A Apex Access Platforms

Briar Leigh, Rocky Lane,
Haywards Heath, West
Sussex RH16 4RN
07736 470205

A and R Rothen Ltd

White Gate Farm
Quarry Lane
Mancetter, Warwickshire
CV9 2RB
01827 717884

Ashclough Contractors Ltd
Oakhill Barn Farm, Prestolee
Road
Radcliffe, Manchester
M26 1FJ
01204 572983

Askam Plant Ltd
3-5 Hampson Lane
Lancaster, Lancashire
LA2 0HY
01995 915038

AW Groundworks Ltd
Orchard House, Bath Road
Bridgewater, Somerset
TA6 4TS
07702 270735

Bettamix Highways Ltd
Unit 1 Old Towns Yard, Every
Street
Bury, Lancashire BL9 5BE
0161 763 5406

BFT Mastclimbing
The Rear Yard, Lancer Court,
Grovebury Road
Leighton Buzzard,
Bedfordshire LU7 4SE
01525 853575

**Bickford Investment Ltd
T/A Bickford Digger &
Plant Hire**
2 Bickford Road, Lapley
Stafford, Staffordshire
ST19 9JU
07972 310758

Blyth Marine Services Ltd

North View House
Lammerlaws
Fife, Scotland KY3 9BS
0800 2465537

CK Rail Solutions Ltd
Efficiency Works, Burley
Close
Chesterfield, Derbyshire
S40 2WB
01246 201930

Contract Plant Services Ltd
40 Trowley Rise, Abbots
Langley, Hertfordshire
WD5 0LW
07985 296854

Conquip Engineering Group
Unit 4, Waterbrook Estate
Alton, Hampshire GU34 2UD
01420 463187

Devon Plant Services Ltd
Unit 1, The Old Airfield
Winkleigh, Devon EX19 8DW
01837 83567

Dig-Tech Plant Hire
Unit 7 Barns Court Ind Estate
Crawley, Sussex RH10 4HQ
01342 395669

DBX Plant Hire Ltd
84 Okus Road
Swindon, Wiltshire SN1 4JP
07877 765945

Gottschalk Plant Hire Ltd
3 Drakes Meadow,
Sheering Road
Harlow, Essex CM17 0JF
01279 519835

Greystone Construction Ltd
Unit 2, Swan Industrial Estate
Swan Lane, West Bromwich
West Midlands B70 0NU
0800 1588056

H & C (Plant Hire) Ltd
Bredbury Parkway
Bredbury
Stockport, Cheshire SK6 2SN
0161 430 5831

HCE Adventure Ltd
Red Oak Creek,
Canada Lakes
Heol Pant Y Gored, Creigiau
Cardiff CF15 9NE
02920 892999

Hire-Tec Ltd

Upper Lower Factory Units
Lawn Road Ind Estate
Carlton-in-Lindrick, Worksop
Nottinghamshire S81 9LB
01909 304036

Icon Readymix Ltd
ICG House, Station Approach
Greenford, Greater London
UB6 0AL
07590 228222

**J Ridley Plant Hire &
Groundworks**
42 Glaisdale Road, Yarm
Stockton on Tees, Co Durham
TS15 9RP
07925 303581

**Keltbray Infrastructure
Plant Ltd**
St Andrews House,
Portsmouth Road
Esher, Surrey KT10 9TA
01270 254176

Lincs Hire & Sales Ltd
Unit 9, High Street East
Scunthorpe, Lincolnshire
DN15 6UH
01724 330070

Magnet Plant Hire Ltd
Copyholt Farm Buildings,
Copyholt Lane, Stoke Pound
Bromsgrove, Worcestershire
B60 3AY
01527 304003

**Mossop Construction
Services Ltd**
Crossfield Road Garage,
Crossfield Road,
Cleator Moor, Cumbria
CA25 5BY
07860 128212

**M W Plant & Agri
Services Ltd**
Sudells Farm, Northcote
Road
Old Langho, Blackburn
Lancashire BB6 8BD
07773 755121

N K Lewis
Tyndale View, Damery Lane
Woodford Berkley
Gloucestershire GL13 9JR
07775 560676

One Call Plant Ltd
Emerald House,
20-22 Anchor Road
Walsall, West Midlands
WS9 8PH
07534 234740

P Arter & Son Builders Ltd

64 St Nicholas Road
Littlestone
Romney Marsh, Kent
TN28 8QA
01797 363718

Peartree Events Ltd
Peartree Farm,
Coggeshall Road, Earls Colne
Colchester, Essex CO6 2JS
07717 317501

Plant Recruitment Group Ltd
CN House, Brooks Drive
Cheadle Royal Bus Park
Cheadle, Greater Manchester
SK8 3TD
0330 133 6661

**Plymcrete Southwest
Limited**
West Gate,
Eaton Business Park
Thornbury Road, Eastover
Plymouth, Devon PL6 7PP
01752 581495

Pro-Tar Surfacing Ltd
29 Horseshoe Road
Pangbourne, Berkshire
RG8 7JQ
01189 767550

**PWH Heavy Lift Services Ltd
T/A Compact Crane Hire**
6 Eveard Road, Rhos on Sea
Conwy, Wales LL28 4EY
07498 899485

Quin Plant Hire Ltd
35 The Malthouse,
Waters Upton
Telford, Shropshire TF6 6NZ
01543 270056

**Radio Structures
T/A Jones Access Platforms**
TRS Complex,
11a Gatelodge Close
Round Spinney Ind Estate
Northampton,
Northamptonshire NN3 8RJ
01604 790005

RC Civils
Highfield House, Lindengate
Baldwinholme, Cumbria
CA5 6LS
07770 965930

RPM Block Machines Ltd
8a Annaloughan Road,
Augher,
Co Tyrone, N Ireland
BT77 0BW
07773 814494

Rutland Cranes Ltd

8 Wren Close
Oakham, Leicestershire
LE15 6BW
07466 126126

S H Digger Hire
41 Chivers Road
Devizes, Wiltshire SN10 3FB
07979 157364

SL Excavators (NI) Ltd
15 Corchoney Road,
Cookstown
Co Tyrone, N Ireland
BT80 9HU
028 8675 1955

**South East Plant &
Tool Hire Ltd**
Unit 2 Faraday Close
Gorse Lane Industrial Estate
Clacton on Sea, Essex
CO15 4TR
07955 243212

**Super Rod
Stoke on Trent Ltd
T/A On Line On Track
Drainage**
4 Furlong Lane, Burslem
Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire
ST6 3LE
01782 832444

TCC Plant Ltd
Clova House Farm,
Whitley Hill
Coatham, Mundeville
Darlington, Co Durham
DL3 0XN
07875 394288

**Underpin & Makegood
(Contracting) Ltd**
Unit E3, 1st Floor
Queens Road, Barnet
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Case Study >>>



1.am

Customer received an out-of-hours alert via SMS and App.

Ignition had been started on two machines during the specified 'out-of-hours' period.

Machines had scheduled immobilisation via the **VT202**, so all though the thieves could start the ignition they could not start the engine.



1.32am

Gave the contractor time to alert the police, catch the thieves on-site, and retain the machinery without additional costs or resources.



MOVING INTELLIGENCE

Call **0844 412 4860**
sales@movingintelligence.co.uk