
UPfront

Newsletter of the Specialist Access Engineering & Maintenance Association

ISSUE 1 ► November 2014

sæmaTM 
UP FRONT FOR SAFETY

On top of safety



Also in this issue...

- Committee news:
Keeping you informed of everything SAEMA
- Marketing & PR:
How we're gaining momentum and recognition
- SAEMA website:
All the latest updates and the plans in hand



Welcome



Welcome to the first issue of UPfront, the new e-newsletter for SAEMA members intended to keep you up-to-date with all the latest news and developments at SAEMA and in the world of work at height in general.

In this first issue we focus on the significant progress being made by the SAEMA committees, advances on the marketing and PR front, the proposed CDM Regulations 2015 and the contribution of the Access Industry Forum (AIF) to height safety.

We begin, though, with an introduction to UPfront from SAEMA chairman, Barry Murphy.

Chairman's introduction



As you know, the Association has decided it's time to lift awareness and understanding of its work and role and, of course, to promote the distinct benefits of using a SAEMA member. It's also been decided to step-up member communications and this e-newsletter is part of that process. Please feel to contribute to future issues with your comments and any items you feel would be of interest to your fellow members. The more we use it as a forum for discussion and the exchange of ideas, the more valuable it will become as a member benefit.

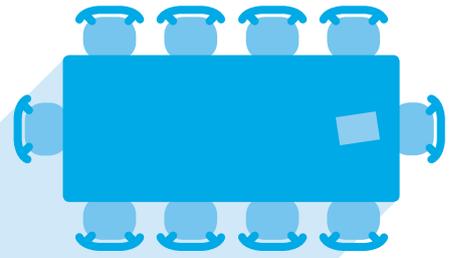


Saema website

The SAEMA website is currently undergoing a major update as a visit to www.saema.org will confirm. New text has been introduced to the home page, the 'Choosing and using a SAEMA member' section has been completely revised and an updated news listing has replaced the existing copy.

Amongst other things, plans are in hand to introduce a case study section, FAQs and the benefits of BMUs over industrial rope access. Watch this space!





Committee news

SAEMA committee meetings are held throughout the year - ten in total - and although they are classified as 'technical' committee meetings, they are, in fact, 'general' meetings and open to all SAEMA members. Do please attend as many as you can to contribute to the work of the association.

The committee's priority this year is to provide information and guidance for the use of anyone involved, either directly or indirectly, in façade access. The aim is to make the SAEMA website an invaluable source of information and guidance, both internally and externally - particularly for duty holders.

The following topics have been identified as a priority and, once completed and approved, will be posted on www.saema.org:

- Guidance on mechanical and electrical breakdown, rescue and rescue planning;
- Guidance on determining the loads imposed on buildings by equipment designed in accordance with BS EN 1808;
- Guidance on suspended access equipment (SAE) which is intended to provide roped access anchor points.

Updated versions of existing documents are also proposed, and include:

- The load testing of suspended access equipment;
- Users guide for permanently installed façade access equipment;
- Users guide for temporarily installed façade access equipment;
- A guide to the upgrading of 'existing' façade access equipment.

Marketing & PR



A positive start has been made and SAEMA's marketing and PR activity will gain momentum over the last quarter of the year. Work completed so far includes SAEMA's 2-page feature article in HSM's 2014 'Working at Height' Handbook, the SAEMA page in Cranes & Access magazine, the 'You're in safe hands with SAEMA' advertisement in the Design & Build NASC supplement and the first SAEMA news release entitled 'Trade body launches safety and best practice seminar'.

A case study questionnaire has also been circulated to members together with a request for good quality images of façade access systems in action. In addition, magazine editors will

shortly be approached to carry SAEMA feature-length articles and third party organisations encouraged to request SAEMA presentations at conferences and workshops.

An approach has also been made to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) to update the regulator on the work and role of the Association and its contribution to developing best practice and height safety guidance.



SAEMA and the AIF

SAEMA is a founder member of the Access Industry Forum (AIF), the forum for nine of the leading trade bodies directly involved in access and height safety. So far this year, as an active member of the Forum, SAEMA has:

- Exhibited at The Health & Safety Show in Birmingham;
- Exhibited at the Safety & Health Expo/IOSH Conference in London;
- Participated in the development of, and been included in, the Forum's new PocketCard;
- Contributed to the development of the new WAHimedia, the Forum's definitive online resource for anyone working at height (scheduled for launch later this year).



From the HSE

- Figures from the HSE show that 42 construction workers were killed last year, a rise from 39 the previous year. In total, 133 workers were fatally injured between April 2013 and March 2014, compared with 150 in the previous year.
- The HSE has completed a consultation on the proposed exemption of most self-employed people from health and safety law as proposed in the 2011 report 'Reclaiming health and safety for all' by Professor Ragnar Lofstedt.
- The consultation period in respect of the HSE's proposed Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 - CDM 2015 - received 1427 responses, the highest of any consultation undertaken by the regulator.
- To avoid any doubt, HSE chair, Judith Hackitt, confirmed at IIRSM's House of Lords Luncheon on 25 September that the two-year-old Fee for Intervention (FFI) charging scheme is here to stay.



CDM 2015

The regulations were first introduced in 1994, revised in 2007 and it is proposed that a further revision will come into force in April 2015. The draft regulations currently propose the following:

- Simplification of the regulations to make them easier to understand;
- The replacement of the Approved Code of Practice (ACOP) with more targeted guidance;
- Replacement of the role of CDM co-ordinator with a new role of 'principal designer';
- Replacing competence requirements with a specific requirement for appropriate skills;
- Removing the exemption for domestic clients, but passing their CDM duties to the contractor;
- Changing the threshold for the appointment of co-ordinators to require co-ordinators where there is more than one contractor.

On 13 August 2014 the HSE published the outcome of its public consultation on the proposals to revise the 2007 regulations in which it is suggested that the ACOP is simplified rather than replaced.

Ambassadors needed



Taking advantage of an 'agreed' audio/visual presentation, the Association is seeking experienced and knowledgeable ambassadors willing to give talks to trade associations and professional bodies whose members have an influence over building design and construction and the specification and use of façade access systems.

Interested? Then please contact Trevor Fennell. This is another component in the new marketing and PR strategy.



e. enquiries@saema.org t. 01246 224 175 w. saema.org