

Rick Statham joins S&A

Safety & Access are delighted to welcome
Rick Statham to the senior management team

Safety & Access are delighted to announce that Rick Statham has joined the company as Operations Director. Rick served as Deputy Chairman of the NASC National Safety Committee, and playing an instrumental part in the development of key industry guidance such as the original SG4 guidance on Work at Height and SG2 guidance on work with asbestos. He brings 20 years experience as a safety professional, 17 of which were with Palmers Ltd, a leading national scaffolding and industrial services contractor.



Rick, 42, joins Safety & Access at an exciting time, with strong growth in both training services and safety consultancy driving the development of the senior team. Rick is a very well known face in the industry and his appointment underlines both the company's status and ambition within the industry. He will co-ordinate many of the company's existing activities and providing senior consultancy services.

As Rick put it: "Safety & Access have always had an excellent reputation for quality and professionalism, and there was no hesitation on my part when this position became available. I have known the people here for a number of years and it is a privilege to become part of what I consider to be the best access training and consultancy providers in the UK".

Falls from Vehicles

Every year over 700 people are injured in falls from vehicles. Within the scaffolding industry this is an issue and steps need to be taken to minimise the risk to scaffolders.

Traditionally, scaffolding companies have minimised the time that people are exposed to falls by equipping the vehicles supplying scaffolding materials to site with lorry mounted cranes to aid offloading and by using forklifts in the yard.



With the introduction of the Work at Height Regulations 2005 the HSE is looking at the issue, in particular how people have access to and from the back of a lorry and prevention of falls while unloading.

The FTA (Freight Transport Association) and the HSE have produced an industry guide "Preventing Falls From Vehicles" available on the HSE website: www.hse.gov.uk/haulage

Some scaffolding companies have an interesting solution in the use of "drop beds" which means that loading and unloading of scaffolding materials can be done safely and conveniently at ground level.

Asbestos code of conduct

The Asbestos Liaison Group (ALG) has recently issued a new guidance memo to reflect changes brought about by the introduction of the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006. The memo provides clearer definition of licensing requirements and other considerations, and highlights risk assessment, statutory notification, training and medical surveillance.

Scaffolding is generally required to provide the framework from which the removal contractor will construct the enclosure for work with asbestos. The definition of “ancillary work with asbestos” is further qualified in the Approved Code of Practice. A licence issued by the Asbestos Licensing Unit (ALU) for ancillary work will be required for putting up and taking down scaffolding, including any scaffolding frame, to provide access for licensable work “where it is foreseeable that the scaffolding activity is likely to disturb the asbestos”.



Regardless of licence status, many of the requirements of the Control of Asbestos Regulations 2006 may apply. In particular, it is most likely that scaffolders will require awareness training (as a minimum) and that practical measure will need to be considered in order to reduce the likelihood of disturbing asbestos.

It is ALU’s view that the provision of access scaffolding in the vicinity of asbestos that is in good condition is not likely to constitute work with asbestos. In such situations, it is not likely that competent scaffolders will disturb asbestos. Scaffolding work in the vicinity of materials in poor condition, in contaminated environments or within ‘live’ asbestos enclosures is likely to fall within the definition of ancillary work with asbestos and a licence would be required,

Expert asbestos safety training and on-site support is available from Safety and Access.

Further reference:

Approved Code of Practice “Work with Materials containing asbestos”, L143.

“Asbestos, the Licensed Contractors’ Guide”, HSG247

Download the guidance memo: http://213.212.77.20/aboutus/meetings/alg/memos_issued.htm or contact Safety & Access for a copy.

The following examples illustrate the types of situations where an ancillary licence would (or would not) be required for scaffolding work (subject to specific risk assessment):

- a) An access scaffold is required in order to provide the licensed removal contractor with access to asbestos ceiling tiles. The asbestos tiles are in good condition. ✗
A licence is NOT REQUIRED
- b) Access Scaffolding is required, in this case to provide access to pipework for a lagging removal job. The pipe lagging is in good condition. ✗
A licence is NOT REQUIRED.
- c) A scaffold is required as part of an environmental clean. The asbestos containing materials are in poor condition: there is debris, such as broken asbestos tiles, in the work area. ✓
A licence IS REQUIRED.
- d) Scaffolding is required for a licensed removal job in a boiler house. The design of the scaffold is complex, it is a very restricted space and work will be in very close proximity to ACM’s. ✓
A licence IS REQUIRED.
- e) Scaffolding is required in a live asbestos enclosure. ✓
A licence IS REQUIRED.

CISRS Scaffolding Supervisor

Even we were surprised when we achieved an astonishing 99.5% “good, very good or excellent” score for course content in feedback from candidates attending our most recent CISRS scaffolding supervisors course.

To date, very little training has been available for arguably the most important role in the scaffolding industry, that of Scaffolding Supervisor, The norm has been: “right, John, as of Monday you are a supervisor, get on with it”!

Safety & Access and CISRS (Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme), along with NETA and CITB have jointly developed a new intense 5-day Supervision and Inspection of Scaffolding Operations course. The course content includes:

- Health and Safety Legislation
- Managing Health and Safety
- Safe Work at Heights
- NASC SG4:05
- Basic Estimating
- Toolbox talks
- Risk Assessments
- Method Statements
- Planning & Organisation
- Communication Skills
- Scaffold Inspections
- Various assessment projects

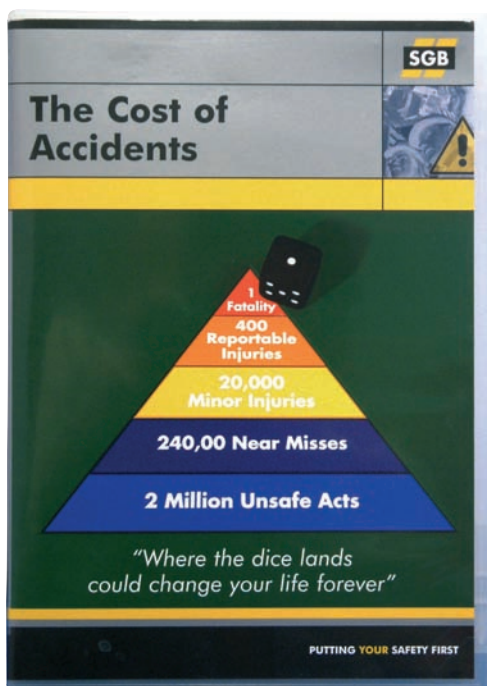
The course is open to scaffolders or others who can demonstrate extensive experience of the scaffolding industry.

Upon successful completion of the course and a health and safety test, the candidate can apply for a CISRS Scaffold Supervisor card, the equivalent of NVQ Level 3 in supervision, which is the HSE guideline for supervisor competence in the CDM Regulations 2007.

Upcoming course dates at Safety & Access' Nottingham Training Centre:

10-14 September 2007
22-26 October 2007
3-7 December 2007

11-15 February 2008
14-18 April 2008
16-20 June 2008
Other dates available on request



A safety first!

SGB's latest in-house DVD “The Cost of Accidents” has won the prestigious Gold World Medal at a major global film and video festival.

The World Gold Medal was presented at the New York Festivals International Film and Video Awards earlier this year. Carrying the simple but powerful message: before we act, STOP AND THINK!

An excellent film that gets the safety message over in a very powerful way.

Training

CISRS Systems Scaffolding Training

The law states that anyone who erects, alters or dismantles scaffolding must be properly trained. Training has been available for many years through CISRS for tube and fitting. The regulations also state that training should be “appropriate and specific”, so CISRS has now developed a number of System scaffolding courses to allow system scaffolding companies to comply.

1) Existing CISRS Card Holders

Operatives who have been trained in tube and fitting and who now wish to work with a System (e.g: Cuplok, Haki, Kwikstage, Layher, plettac) can attend a two-day product knowledge course in the chosen system. Upon successful completion the operative can apply for their CISRS card to be endorsed on the reverse with that system.

2) Unqualified, experienced System scaffolder

Operatives with over five years provable experience of system scaffolding can attend a five-day System assessment course. Successful completion of the course can lead to an NVQ Level 2 qualification in scaffolding which, following completion of a Health and Safety test, allows the operative to apply for a “System Scaffolder” card. This card will only qualify the operative to work with the System scaffolding assessed and does NOT provide any qualification to work with tube and fitting.

3) New entrants to scaffolding

A version of the existing Part 1 and/or Part 2 CISRS training courses can be undertaken in System (instead of tube and fitting) leading to NVQ Level 2 and a CISRS System Scaffolder card.

IMPORTANT:

It is important to understand that if operatives are working with any type of System scaffolding, then the HSE and major clients require specific training and competence in that System, in addition to any existing tube and fitting competence.

Safety & Access are offering Systems scaffolding courses as follows:

New entrants:	Courses currently available from March 2008
2-day product courses:	Full courses of 6 available at weekends from September 2007
5-day Systems assessments:	Full courses of 6 currently available over two weekends from September 2007

2008 Training Dates

With unprecedented demand for training course places, we have already published our 2008 training course programme.

Please contact us at our head office in Nottingham for full details of course dates, prices and availability.



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