

WSH Bulletin

6 September 2021, Ref: 2122037

IPAF-SISO webinar highlights technology-enabled Mobile Elevated Work Platforms to keep workers safe

On 31 August 2021, close to 200 participants attended the “Towards WSH2028 – Significance of Technological Advancements in MEWPs” webinar. Participants learnt of innovative solutions for working safely with Mobile Elevated Work Platforms (MEWPs) to help raise safety standards. The webinar was organised by the International Powered Access Federation (IPAF) and Singapore Institution of Safety Officers (SISO) and supported by the WSH Council.

Guest-of-Honour Mr Abu Bakar Bin Mohd Nor, Chairman of the WSH Council (National Work at Heights Safety) Taskforce, shared in his opening address that there were many incidents of injuries involving the use of MEWPs. Some of the common causes included workers not being adequately trained, equipment failure, not adhering to the manufacturer’s recommendations of safe operations, and not fully assessing the hazards and risks of the job, site, and equipment.

Speakers shared accidents can be prevented by leveraging technology, and these were highlighted during the webinar, such as a wearable sensor that could be affixed to a helmet and alert its wearer of possible surrounding hazards to prevent entrapment.

IPAF also introduced its “MEWP Operator Proficiency Verification” course, a refresher course for MEWP operators to not only strengthen their competencies, but to develop good situational awareness when operating and manoeuvring MEWPs. The course uses virtual reality and simulator mediums to assess operators’ competency prior to work.

A key highlight of the webinar was a motivational sharing by Mr Jason Anker, who was paralysed after his fall from a ladder while at work. He stressed on the importance of work-at-height safety at workplaces, sharing his experience and the physical and psychological effects he had arising from the incident.

Learn more about [working safely at height](#).

Take care of your workers’ safety and health by setting aside Care Time. Find out more from the [National WSH Campaign 2021 microsite](#).



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