

**IPAF MEWP OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAMME****MEWP OPERATOR  
TRAINING PROGRAMME****DURATION: 1 – 3 Days dependent on machine type(s)****COURSE ENTRY CRITERIA**

All applicants should be should be physically fit, in good health and should, generally, not have problems with eyesight or hearing, heart disease, high blood pressure, epilepsy, fear of heights / vertigo, giddiness / difficulty with balance, impaired limb function, alcohol or drug dependence or psychiatric illness. It is, however, desirable (but not mandatory) that applicants should be literate and have had driving experience as an indication of dexterity.

**AIM**

To instruct an operator to prepare and safely operate various types of Mobile Elevating Work Platforms (MEWPs) and to obtain an IPAF MEWP Operators Licence.

**OBJECTIVES**

At the end of the course the operator will:-

Be aware of the relevant Health and Safety regulations

Be aware of accident prevention and control

Be aware of the needs regarding personnel protection.

Be aware of the need to refer to the machine Operating Manual

Drive the MEWP safely and manoeuvre the machine as required, to correctly position and carry out the required tasks in a correct and proper manner, inside and outside a building.

**THEORY**

The operator should know:-

The pre-use checks and daily maintenance to be carried out prior to commencing work.

The correct and safe method of operating the specific machine.

The correct emergency procedures, capacities and limitations to enable safe operation.

Selection and use of fall protection equipment covering as a minimum anchorage points in platforms, harness standards, explanation of fall arrest, lanyard types, use and correct fitting, rescue procedures, current recommendations [HS(G)150, HSE & IPAF]

**IPAF MEWP OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAMME****THE PROGRAMME WILL CONSIST OF THE  
FOLLOWING SUBJECTS**

1. **INTRODUCTION**  
Facilities, PAL Card overview and Pre-course theory test.
2. **MEWP CATEGORIES**  
Different types of MEWP and their description and other courses available.
3. **STRUCTURAL PARTS**  
Stabilising, levelling, chassis drive options, turntable, boom/scissor pack and MEWP selection.
4. **REGULATIONS**  
ISO 18878, European, HASWA, PUWER, LOLER, MHSW, WAHR & RIDDOR.
5. **PRE-USE INSPECTIONS/HANDOVERS**  
Thorough examinations, Familiarisation, Pre-Use Inspection, Identify Safety Items & Controls, Defects & Emergency descent.
6. **SAFE OPERATING METHODS & HAZARDS**  
Travelling to the workplace, Positioning/Terrain, SWL, Weather, Electrical Hazards, Harness Statement, Do's & Don'ts and Parking.
7. **THEORY TEST**  
Individual written test with explanation of pass requirements. Failure means applicant will have to re-sit the course on another day. Instructors can choose to use either Operator Theory Test Paper A or Operator Theory Test Paper B.
8. **PRACTICAL TRAINING**
  - Introduction to the Actual Machine - *Walk around and familiarisation with MEWP.*
  - Major components - Identification of each component and its function.
  - Pre-use Checks and Inspection - *Carry out all the required checks/inspections on the following items:- Tyres, main frame, turntable, fluid levels, hoses, electrical cables, booms, cage, brakes, steering, lights, travel, controls, (lower/upper), pins/retaining bolts and decals any additional points from the machine operations manual.*
  - Starting/Stopping the Machine - *Correct starting and shut down procedures.*
  - Pre-Use Function Checks - *Fully function the machine and carry out full emergency lowering procedure.*
  - Checks Prior to Road Travel – For example: *PTO disengaged, booms retracted, stabilisers retracted, machine secure, e.g. no loose objects.*
  - Planning the Route - *Gradients, access, overhead obstructions and ground conditions.*
  - Travelling the Route and Manoeuvring the Machine (where applicable) - *Ensure route clear, use of assistant to signal, etc., practice close manoeuvring and observe correct driving practices (tail swing, etc).*

**IPAF MEWP OPERATOR TRAINING PROGRAMME**

- Setting the Machine for Work - *Practice setting up, barrier off requirements, road requirements, stabiliser set-up and carry out stabiliser deployment checks.*
  
- Basic Operational Practice - *Carry out operational functions at two-thirds of full working envelope so far as is reasonably practical, observe all safety practices. Large machines capable of exceeding a height of 26 m should be fully elevated with the trainee on the platform.*
  
- Typical Work Applications - *Carry out practice applications observing all safety practices.*
  
- Parking the Machine - *Ensure that the machine is correctly parked, engine stopped, brakes applied, keys removed and clearance of all obstacles. Correct refuelling procedures, diesel, LPG. Battery checks, charging and safety precautions.*

**9. PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT**

Individual verbal and practical test based on the use of the MEWP Operator Practical Test Plan with explanation of pass requirements. *Failure means applicant will have to re-sit the course on another day.*

**10. LICENCE RENEWAL**

Use of IPAF Log books.

**11. COURSE EVALUATION**

Course Evaluation and close.