Awards for Excellence 2015
Review of the biggest night of the year!

also in this issue:

Tackling rogue traders: FLTA teams up with Trading Standards

Apprentices update: Get £1,500 kick-start for hiring an apprentice

Safety Conference 2015: Safety Month and employee attitude tests
Association forms powerful alliance with Trading Standards to establish nationwide oversight

For more than a year the Fork Lift Truck Association and its Members have become increasingly concerned about the number of reports of used fork lift trucks being sold – usually online – that are not fit for purpose.

Frequently these rogue sellers offer lift trucks at reduced prices – undercutting established, reputable traders – while fraudulently claiming that the truck meets certain recognised standards.

This could be because the received truck does not match the initial description given, doesn’t meet the specification necessary for the application, is not in a safe condition and/or has a different service history and inspection record from the one claimed in the product description.

The FLTA and its members work hard to promote best practice and raise standards throughout the UK fork lift truck industry to protect customers and ensure their safety is not compromised and that they are receiving what they believe they are paying for.

The FLTA Board resolved, therefore, to find a solution to this problem that will make a genuine and lasting difference for the whole industry. The aim: to monitor and curtail the sales activity of unreliable or disreputable traders.

Self-regulation and Trading Standards

The mechanism for achieving this is through something known as a Primary Authority Partnership, which allows trade associations and businesses to be involved in their own regulation.

In essence, the FLTA will form a partnership with a primary local authority – in this case West Berkshire Council – and become the central point of contact for complaints and grievances in this sector for the whole country.

One of the key benefits is that this grants access to local authority Environmental Health and Trading Standards professionals, who are experts in carrying out inspections, addressing non-compliance and enforcing the law.

Sean Murphy, Manager of West Berkshire and Wokingham Trading Standards Service said: “For very obvious reasons, this is a sector that requires the highest standards of compliance.

“We hope that working in partnership with the FLTA will help maintain and, where appropriate, raise these standards.”

Since selling a fork lift truck that does not meet the level of quality advertised is a criminal offence, Trading Standards is able to pursue complaints up to, and including, prosecution.

This initiative will be funded by the FLTA because the Board believes the cost involved is a vital investment which will benefit end-user customers as well as manufacturers and dealers operating ethically and within the law.

Open Meeting 13th May

To explain how this new self-regulation will work in practice and what it means for FLTA members, representatives from the Primary Authority Partnership will attend the next Open Meeting on 13th May at Mercure Brandon Hall Hotel.

This is a topic that could directly or indirectly affect any FLTA Member, and the Association is strongly urging all members to attend this meeting and be part of this crucial and far-reaching initiative.

Membership terminated

The Fork Lift Truck Association has announced that the membership of Ace Handling Limited has been terminated with immediate effect and that the company is no longer a member of the Association.

Stop Press!

Important information on consumer credit regulation by the FCA (Financial Conduct Authority) is now available in the Members’ section of the FLTA website.
New assessment procedure for Supplier Members

As part of an ongoing program to raise standards within the fork lift truck industry, the FLTA has this month introduced new criteria for assessing the suitability of Supplier Members.

A newly revised – more stringent – assessment procedure now forces new Supplier Members to demonstrate that they are an ethical and reputable company upon application.

For the first time, new Members in this category will be subject to a site visit, and must also share examples of both long and short term rental or hire contracts with the FLTA. These contracts are then scrutinized to ensure they conform to the Association’s rigorous standards and Code of Practice.

All new Supplier Members must also provide a full list of official distributorships, with the emphasis on ensuring that all offices and operations of each prospective Member follow the same standards.

In addition, the Association has enlarged the assessment to include several supplementary ISO (International Organization for Standardization) standards that measure whether products and services are safe, reliable, of good quality and fit for their purpose.

The new additional ISO standards include ISO 180001, focusing on occupational health and safety management systems in place, plus ISO 27001, which demonstrates compliance with data protection laws.

Potential Supplier Members will also be checked on whether they have signed up to the Training Register and whether or not their own subcontractors are audited.

Commenting on the new stricter assessments, FLTA Chief Executive Peter Harvey said: “As the trade association for fork lift truck dealers, it is our responsibility to ensure that Members of our organisation are honest, consistent, reputable and reliable.

“Our new assessments for Supplier Members raise the bar to a new level, and are part of our continued push to raise standards of professional conduct throughout the industry.”

HR support at your fingertips 24/7...

The Association would like to remind Members that in addition to the support they already receive on HR issues via the FLTA office and Employment Law Helpline, they now have unfettered and free access to the Sevier Consultancy Group’s new Online HR Toolkit.

The toolkit includes:

- an extensive library of HR policies and forms
- alerts and guidance on how to deal with changes in employment legislation
- “How to” advice on policies and procedures
- case histories showing how not to approach issues
- standardised template HR letters
- a range of template employment contracts
- decision-making flowcharts
- plus practical tips to guide you – step by step – through some of the key human resources issues affecting businesses today

“We have used the HR Toolkit and I found it very useful indeed. All of the accessible documents are relevant to the fork truck industry, which saves you time amending them from other online providers. It’s easy to navigate and find all of the forms you require.”

Samantha Rowe, Albion Forklifts Ltd

With the Online HR Toolkit, Members can now access a huge amount of additional information and templates – at any time of day and on any day of the week.

To find out more, please click on the Online HR Toolkit link in the Members’ area of the FLTA website.

Alternatively, to set yourself up and access the toolkit, simply email Jane Sevier at the Sevier Consultancy Group on: scg@sevier.co.uk.
Just over a year ago, an important joint venture by BITA (British Industrial Truck Association) and the FLTA (Fork Lift Truck Association) established the UK’s first single national fork lift truck engineering apprenticeship scheme.

It was an attempt by the two leading trade associations to recruit fresh talent and address the fork lift truck industry’s serious skills gap and persistent shortage of trained engineers.

At the time, no one knew how the new apprenticeship programme would fare, particularly in the face of slow economic growth and difficult trading conditions.

But after 12 months, both BITA and the FLTA are pleased to report that the scheme has so far exceeded all expectations.

This year the programme has received so many enquiries from interested young people that an extra course was added in March – in addition to the traditional September starting time – so it is expected that twice the number of engineering apprentices will enter the industry in 2015.

The BITA & FLTA joint apprenticeship programme is delivered by international learning and development specialists Karl Baum Associates.

One of the first challenges the firm faced was to generate as much interest as they could in the scheme, which entailed making direct contact with an estimated 80% of all firms in the UK who operate fork lift trucks.

The programme has also received a large amount of enquiries via a new source: LinkedIn. The business-oriented social networking service is popular among HR professionals, recruiters and young people looking for their first steps in industry.

In addition, approximately 22% of the combined Membership of both trade associations are currently participating, with many more expressing an interest.

And on top of all this, the introduction of the new apprenticeship grant for employers of 16-24 year olds (also known as “AGE 16 to 24”) entitles any firm employing a new apprentice to a special one-off grant of £1,500 per apprentice.

The last course saw 13 different firms apply for this grant, and all 13 were approved, so there is a clear incentive for employers to make use of this grant to help absorb some of the initial cost of taking on an apprentice.

And from April 2016, employers of apprentices under the age of 25 will no longer be required to pay secondary Class 1 (employer) National Insurance contributions on earnings up to the Upper Earnings Limit for those employees.

All this means there has never been a better time to employ an apprentice.

For any firm interested in taking on a new apprentice or simply exploring their options, please contact Karl Baum Associates on 07803 378 290 or via email at kbatraining@btinternet.com.
Birmingham NEC’s Health and Safety Event places FLT safety top of the agenda

FLTA Chief Executive Peter Harvey took the Association’s safety message on the road last month as part of The Health and Safety Event at Birmingham’s NEC.

The three-day exhibition and conference was designed to bring UK safety professionals and practitioners together under one roof.

The Fork Lift Truck Association was one of the principal event partners, together with the United Kingdom Warehousing Association (UKWA) and the Food Storage and Distribution Federation (FSDF).

While the NEC’s exhibition areas were used to showcase the latest products and innovations developed in the pursuit of safer sites, the venue’s seminar theatres featured key presentations on lift truck safety.

Delegates saw presentations from Mentor Training, the UK’s largest provider of fork lift truck training, Heineken, who were Highly Commended in the Safe Site category at the Association’s Awards for Excellence in February, Toyota Material Handling UK and many more.

The event is part of Handling and Storage Solutions (HSS) magazine’s “Safer Logistics” campaign created to promote health and safety awareness across the logistics and materials handling sectors.

The campaign includes monthly features in HSS magazine focusing on specific safety hot spots. This is backed up by coverage in HSS monthly e-newsletters and regular health and safety related stories on the HSS website, coupled with discussions on Twitter and LinkedIn.

At The Health and Safety Event at the NEC Peter Harvey led a presentation on how workplace attitudes affect fork lift safety.

After an overview of the current challenges facing fork lift truck users – including how attitudes affect operational safety – Peter shared a number of real-world case studies and practical advice, and directed delegates to some of the Association’s freely available safety resources, including the Safer Site Programme.

Peter Harvey said: “Engaging staff at all levels is crucial to reducing risk on site, so we are proud to support Safer Logistics, which shares both our long-standing commitment to safety and our track record for instigating change.

“The Association’s free online Safer Site Programme is a demonstration of this commitment, and has been specifically designed to help firms who operate fork lift trucks improve safety, regardless of the size of the business or the number of trucks on site.”

The Health and Safety Events series of exhibitions has been developed to suit anyone responsible for health and safety at work, with the emphasis on straightforward and reliable advice for safety professionals and employers.

If you would like to get involved, the next event in the series will be the regional event, Health & Safety North, which takes place at the Bolton Arena on 7-8 October 2015.
The FLTA’s National Fork Truck Safety Conference – which has Jungheinrich, a leading fork lift manufacturer, as the main sponsor and SHD Logistics as the media partner – will this year be held at Loughborough University on 23 September 2015.

Building on the remarkable success of the 2014 Conference, this year’s event will, once again, focus on peer-to-peer presentations sharing best practice in a bid to reduce the stubbornly high levels of injuries, damage and death in premises of every size and in every sector.

Also retained will be the Safety Panel, comprising experts from across the industry, who will answer questions covering the entire spectrum of operations and maintenance.

The theme of the Conference will reflect the holistic approach being driven by the FLTA through its online Safer Site Programme (www.fork-truck.org.uk/fork-lift-safety/safer-site-programme).

Although it is widely accepted that the causes of fork lift truck accidents never change, with some observers suggesting that simply by addressing the twin problems of driver visibility and pedestrian segregation, accidents could be reduced by as much as 80%, what’s really needed is a change in awareness and attitudes.

Speakers will highlight the need for constant vigilance and the importance of creating a culture and environment where poor practice is simply not acceptable: establishing a framework in which reporting is viewed as helpful and in the interests of all concerned (rather than being disloyal to one’s colleagues).

The aim is to make everyone feel involved in a safety culture and responsible for policing it.

This approach will be reflected within the wider Safety Month campaign, which has increased in scope from a week in order to maximise engagement with as many businesses as possible.

As part of this, Mentor Training – the UK’s largest provider of training to the fork lift truck industry – will be developing an online attitudinal test. It will be a follow-up to 2014’s hazard perception test which attracted thousands of participants and resulted in what is believed to be the UK’s largest study to involve operators, pedestrians and managers/supervisors.

Results from the 2014 test will be published in forthcoming issues of SHD Logistics magazine and make for interesting and sobering reading with managers, in particular, scoring much lower than might be expected from a self-selecting audience.

Having asked participants to spot the potential dangers and rank them in importance, the 2015 test will examine the motivation and beliefs of participants – with preliminary results being revealed at the 2015 Conference.

Proceedings will be led by a senior HSE representative who will deliver the keynote address, while case studies will be presented by our 2015 Safe Site Finalists, as well as a leading third-party logistics company, who will explain what measures they introduced in a successful bid to drive down fork truck related incidents.

More information on the FLTA National Fork Truck Safety Conference is available on the FLTA website at www.fork-truck.org.uk
The only museum in the world honouring fork lift trucks needs your support to help fund its expansion programme...

The National Fork Truck Heritage Centre, located in Derbyshire, is the only museum in the world dedicated exclusively to the history of fork lift trucks.

The museum attracts visitors from all over the world; tens of thousands of people have passed through its hallowed doors since it was opened almost 9 years ago with the help of generous funding from the FLTA.

However, the facility’s size limitations are now having an impact on the number and type of displays that can be exhibited, so the museum is appealing for investors to contribute to its expansion.

The museum’s curator and founder, Jim Brindley, said: “There have been quite a few occasions recently where I have had to turn down offers of equipment because we simply don’t have the space.”

The Centre currently encompasses 5,000 square feet, but Jim said he would like to expand it to 7,500 square feet to include a larger exhibition space and more interactive displays.

This would be achieved by building an £80,000 extension that will include a new mezzanine level, a conference centre and an educational research facility. The extension would also allow Jim to add much larger heavy duty vehicles to the collection.

The museum features many rare and historic fork lifts and chronicles the evolution of the trucks, from their humble origins with the US railroad companies to their worldwide use within materials handling today.

Among the 80 vehicles currently on display at the museum are the world’s oldest surviving fork lift – a 1926 vehicle built by Yale – and the first reach truck ever built by the Japanese fork lift maker Komatsu.

Visitors are also able to view a Ransome Sims & Jefferies RSJ NU4, one of the first battery-operated lift trucks, and a prototype rider operated Wrigley stacker from Wessex Industries of Poole in Dorset.

Many other manufacturers are also represented with early machines made by Conveyancer, Matling, Hyster and Lansing Bagnall.

The museum also houses the world’s most comprehensive fork lift archive, which contains more than half a million references from 170 fork lift makers that date back to 1917.

It is supported primarily by donations from visitors, although it does receive some funding from fork lift manufacturers. About £5,000 is spent each year just maintaining the fork lifts on display.

Many of its financial supporters are listed on the Centre’s Honour Board and as a “Friend of the Museum” on the centre’s website.

If you would like to be a part of preserving fork lift truck history by making a donation then Jim would love to hear from you. It’s as easy as clicking on the “Donate” button on the website: www.nationalforktruckheritagecentre.org/Friends.html.

Special guided tours of the museum are offered for groups by request, please check with Jim by calling 07801 954 167 or emailing him at curator@nationalforktruckheritagecentre.org.

Success brings fresh challenges for the Fork Truck Heritage Centre
Save the date...
Awards for Excellence announced for 27th February 2016

After this year's sell-out Awards for Excellence show in February, the FLTA is delighted to announce the date for next year's nail-biting awards show.

The famous Archies will return on 27th February 2016 at The International Centre in Telford, Shropshire, so if you haven’t already, please make a note of the date and clear your diary!

Not just ‘another’ Awards show...
There is nothing quite like being presented with the world’s most prestigious trophy for materials handling excellence – but there’s much more to entering than just the Award ceremony.

Reward and motivate your team
Entering the Awards sends a strong message to your team that their achievements are worth shouting about at a national level – and being shortlisted is a huge boost to company morale.

Build customer trust and confidence
An Archie is a marque of quality that sets you apart from the competition and demonstrates your credentials. It’s an independent endorsement which can help you attract new customers.

Any top-performing organisation can win
Every entrant is judged in the context of their category, so – regardless of your size or how long you’ve been trading – you could find yourself shortlisted (and winning) against some of the industry's biggest players.

Thank you everyone...
FLTA Awards for Excellence 2015 raises “incredible” £9,458 for Help for Heroes

The Association would like to issue a very special and heartfelt thank you to each and every guest at the Awards for Excellence 2015 for their kindness and generosity shown towards this year’s beneficiary charity, Help for Heroes.

Together, in only one evening, we managed to raise £9,458.37 in the live auction, which Help for Heroes has described as an “incredible” total, even outstripping last year's record-breaking sum by over £1,000.

Your support will make a huge difference to the lives of some truly inspirational British Servicemen and women who have sacrificed so much in their duty to protect this country.

Robert Shipley
The FLTA sadly reports that on Tuesday 2nd December 2014, Robert Shipley, better known to all as Bob, passed away peacefully at his home.

Bob, formerly of Barlows and Rushlift prior to establishing B&S (Rentals) Limited in 1992, was a very well-respected member of the fork lift truck industry and will be deeply missed by employers and clients, both past and present.
The fight against rogue traders begins in earnest...

All Members urged to attend Open Meeting on 13th May

The FLTA is pleased to announce that the next Open Meeting, sponsored by Abbey Attachments, will take place on the 13th May.

This year’s meeting will focus on combating rogue traders, a burning issue that has impacted many members and been the focus of ongoing discussions among the FLTA Board for over a year.

The good news is that a resolution is now in sight.

The FLTA has entered into a “Primary Partnership” with West Berkshire Council Trading Standards, which will provide a nationwide network for reporting, monitoring and investigating rogue traders.

FLTA members will benefit from a much more rigorous complaints and grievances procedure which will be enforced by local authority Trading Standards offices.

The Open Meeting is your opportunity to take part in this discussion, hear what Trading Standards professionals have to say and have your questions answered in the first open forum on this issue.

The meeting is also a chance to speak to the FLTA board and quiz them on any other issues you might be facing in an open and friendly setting.

The meeting will take place in the beautiful Mercure Brandon Hall Hotel and Spa near Coventry, a 19th century Manor House set in 17 acres of tranquil Warwickshire countryside.

Importantly, delegates will be greeted with the now-traditional bacon roll, accompanied by tea and coffee.

Registration will open at 09:30am and the meeting will commence at 10:30am, concluding with lunch at 1:00pm.

#7 Don’t try this at home...

We have all flinched at the horrendous stories of what happens when the solid mass of a few tons of fork lift connects with flesh, but this time the results are both less and more dramatic...

Kage, a modern dance company in Melbourne, Australia, has captivated audiences in “Forklift”, a performance that aims to show the clash between the feminine grace of dancers Henna Kaikula, Amy Macpherson and Nicci Wilks against the masculine power of the fork lift truck.

The image of the vulnerability of the body versus the strength of the machine is ingeniously demonstrated. In one scene the forks of the truck are used to crush and pierce a cardboard box, while the equally fragile human frames of the dancers who had hung from the forks just moments before still linger in the mind.

The fork lift is also shown to be a graceful machine as it manoeuvres around the huge stage. The audience is always aware of the capacity for danger that the lift truck possesses and this highlights the strength of the dancer’s bodies.

Although it is designed to entertain, there is nothing trivial about this performance. All three dancers are highly trained and fully licensed fork lift truck drivers, and the risk assessment by the Australian authorities is said to have taken as long as the choreography design!

See more at: www.kage.com.au/project/forklift
The best in the business...
FLTA honours the individuals, teams and companies raising standards throughout the industry

The tense wait was over for individuals and companies across the globe as the Fork Lift Truck Association revealed the winners of its 21st annual Awards for Excellence.

A sell out audience of key industry figures attended the black-tie event at The International Centre in Telford to discover just who would be taking home an Archie – the materials handling industry’s most hotly-contested prize.

The FLTA got proceedings off to a ‘bang’ with a rousing performance from the Bugles, Pipes and Drums of the First Battalion, the Royal Irish Regiment, followed by a lively fireworks display.

Standard-raising products
Big product category winners on the night included Practical Warehouse Solutions for its StockSafe pallet stacking frame (Environment), Comilift for its Rotating Operator Console (Ergonomics), Linde for its electronic Safety Pilot (Safety) and Translift Bendi for its B310 OP Order Picker (Innovation)... each having triumphed in a record-breaking online public vote.

Exceptional individuals
The evening’s warmest cheers were reserved for the announcement of individual winners. FLTA President Martyn Fletcher took an Archie for his Services to the Association, while Thorough Examination pioneer Chas Day received the Services to the Fork Lift Truck Industry Award for his work at the Thorough Examination accrediting body CFTS.

In a fitting climax to the event, industrial truck designer and entrepreneur Robert Moffett of Comilift became the tenth recipient of the FLTA’s highest honour: the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The judging panel was so impressed by the calibre of nominations for the Apprentice of the Year Award, that it honoured a runner-up, Ben Feehan of Linde Material Handling, as well as a winner, Jamie Walsh of Rack-N-Stak.

Outstanding teams
The highly sought-after and fiercely-contested Supplier of the Year Award, voted for exclusively by Members of the FLTA, was finally secured by FB Chain.

A demonstration of real technical excellence - to deliver bespoke solutions in two different applications – saw Mitsubishi dealership Bristol Forklifts awarded the Customer Focus Award.

“You guys certainly know how to throw a party! We had a great time. The Archie is nestling in pride of place on the mantelpiece. Thank you for organising an excellent evening!”
Carolyn Svahn, Practical Warehouse Solutions Ltd
G’s Fresh Beetroot was named “Safe Site”, in recognition of significant improvements to fork lift truck safety on site, as well as the firm’s ongoing focus on pedestrian safety.

This year’s shortlist was so impressive that – in a break from tradition – the FLTA chose to commend every single one. The illustrious eight include: Babcock International, Dailycer UK, Heineken Hereford, Metsä Wood UK, NHS National Services Scotland, Nestlé UK, Preston Technical and Tulip.

To find out more about the type of site improvements all nine Finalists made at their workplaces, please turn to pages 16-17.

Since its inception in 1995, the Awards shortlist has served as a “Pick of the Year” for materials handling products and services, rewarding those who strive to raise standards throughout the fork lift truck industry.

Hosted by broadcaster Jonny Gould, Awards were presented by representatives from each of the event’s Sponsors, including: B&B Attachments; BNP Paribas Leasing Solutions; Comiblifft; Crown Lift Trucks, Doosan Industrial Vehicle UK; Investec Asset Finance; Manbat Industrial Power Systems, Rivermore Asset Finance, Trelleborg Wheel Systems and Yale Europe Materials Handling.

At the after-show party, the capacity crowd networked and danced into the small hours with music from The Party Rockers.

Peter Harvey, FLTA Chief Executive, said:

“This year’s Awards for Excellence has – without a doubt – been our most rewarding and successful show to date. The evening was bigger and better than ever before – beginning with a reception lit by fireworks before we were led into our brand new venue by pipes, bugles and drums for a fabulous evening of entertainment...

But what really made this year stand out was the particularly high quality of entries across the board. We had a very strong field of Finalists – and such a tight vote – that winning any of these categories is a real achievement.

Every Finalist represents a significant advance in fork lift truck development – making operations safer, more efficient and more environmentally friendly for generations to come. We are proud to not only recognise, but reward, all their efforts.”

“Well what a night! The marching band was fantastic, the fireworks stunning and the food and music superb! A night to remember. We haven’t stopped smiling since!”

Pamela Peacock, FB Chain Ltd
Pick of the Year

Innovation

This Award is bestowed upon the company which – through the votes cast by the truck-buying public – has launched the most imaginative and ingenious product of the past year.

winner

Translift
Bendi Ltd
B310 OP Order Picker

Why did it win?

A world first: the Bendi Order Picker can pick like any other stand-on order picker, but it is the first truck that is designed for ‘self-replenishment’.

It has two pallet-handling locations, allowing the operator to pick and replenish a location without having to call another machine for assistance or multi handle the picking pallet to get the replenishment pallet.

As no other replenishment trucks are required, the Bendi Order Picker can take advantage of its aisle performance, which can result in a near 50% reduction in wasted aisle space and a more efficient ‘picking route’.

finalists

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Product/Feature</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aisle-Master</td>
<td>Narrow Front Aisle-Master</td>
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<tr>
<td>CESAB Material Handling UK</td>
<td>Height Adjustable Tiller Arm on P320 Powered Pallet Truck</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hubtex (UK) Ltd</td>
<td>SQ 40 Reach Truck</td>
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<td>Trelleborg Wheel Systems</td>
<td>Pit Stop Line tires</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flexi Narrow Aisle</td>
<td>FlexiPiCk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linde Material Handling UK Ltd</td>
<td>Electronic Safety Pilot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yale Europe Materials Handling</td>
<td>MR Reach Truck</td>
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(L to R) Jon Cooper (BNP Paribas Leasing Solutions), Simon Brown and team (Translift Bendi) and Jonny Gould.
Safety

This Award recognises the designers who work hard to help reduce the risk of accident and injury to fork lift truck operators and those who work alongside them.

winner

Linde Material Handling UK Ltd
Electronic Safety Pilot

Why did it win?

Exclusively from Linde – and the first of its kind in the fork lift industry – is the Linde Safety Pilot: a unique electronic driver assistance system that shows the operator the load weight on the fork arms, current lift height, tilt angle of the fork arms and subsequent load centre, and the maximum lift height to which the load may be raised.

It helps inform operators by displaying the information on a screen and produces a visual and acoustic warning when the truck parameters are reaching their limit. If ignored, the truck control unit also actively intervenes and regulates the truck functions to help eliminate accidents. The technology behind the system relies on sensors that measure data at different points on the truck and then forwards this information to the control unit.

finalists

Arcure SA
Blaxtair®

Jungheinrich UK Ltd
Benchmast Hi-Visibility Mast

Sany
360-degree Peripheral Vision System

Stommpy UK
Stommpy Barrier System

Toyota Material Handling UK
BT Levio LPE200-250 Side Guards with Integrated Protection

Visiotronics Ltd
“Impact” Electronic Sign
Pick of the Year

Environment

This Award celebrates those organisations who have done the most to safeguard the environment and minimise their carbon footprint.

winner

Practical Warehouse Solutions
StockSafe

Why did it win?

Millions of pounds are being lost through damaged stock at a time when the logistics and distribution industry is increasingly under pressure from tighter margins and price wars. Yet the problem of breakage and spillage costs can be reduced without slowing down operations.

StockSafe surrounds the pallet on three sides and prevents any damage. Steel framed, it sits permanently within the racking. As the pallet is delivered, the sides swivel to align perfectly to the pallet.

Additional benefits include reduced slip and trip accidents – currently the most frequently reported accident in our industry – and reduced cleaning costs.

finalists

Linde Material Handling UK Ltd
EVO Electric 1.2 – 2.0 tonne counterbalance

Marshall’s Industrial Ltd
IMPCO LPG Reserve Fuel Tank
Ergonomics

This Award honours those products and services which keep fork lift truck operators comfortable and safe, while achieving the highest levels of productivity and efficiency.

**why did it win?**

The Combilift Rotating Operator Console allows 90 degree rotation of the operator and controls within the cabin. Simple joystick operation activates the hydraulic rotation of the seat, steering column, pedals, mast controls, etc. requiring minimal effort from the operator.

In confined spaces, operators can face the load while manipulating it, enhancing visibility and reducing body rotation. The suspension seat and steering column are both fully adjustable for further comfort.

(L to R) Derek Anderson (Manbat Industrial Power Systems), Josh and Tommy Moffet (Combilift).

**finalists**

**Cat Lift Trucks**
NR-N2 Reach Trucks

**Mitsubishi Forklift Trucks**
EDIA EX 2.5 – 3.5 Tonne 4W Electric Counterbalance

**Linde Material Handling UK Ltd**
Tilting Barriers on the V Modular

**Yale Europe Materials Handling**
Yale MR Reach Truck
Reflecting the FLTA’s growing role in providing best practice advice to its Members’ customers, this special category recognises the achievements of a company using – rather than supplying – forklift trucks.

In the closest-fought Safe Site contest ever, nine companies demonstrated outstanding commitment to improving safety on their sites. Each delivered solutions that were innovative, effective and practical.

Such was the quality of this year’s entries that the FLTA took the unprecedented step of awarding ‘highly commended’ status to each of the eight runners-up in this crucially important award. However, it was Cambridgeshire-based G’s Fresh Beetroot that impressed the judges most of all.

**winner**

**G’s Fresh Beetroot**

A whole range of safety improvements have been made at G’s Fresh Beetroot, with a particular focus on protecting pedestrians from collision with lift trucks. They include the introduction of traffic light systems and the installation of blue spotlights on the trucks to make them more visible.

A portable sign has also been devised that can be placed at the end of an aisle to warn forklift drivers that staff are working in it. The company has made a significant investment in the training and testing of lift truck drivers and their supervisors, while a web-based health and safety management system has been introduced, incorporating smartphones and tablets.

If you feel inspired by any of the ideas you have seen here, then turn to page 6 for information about this year’s Safety Conference.
highly commended

Babcock International

A three-time finalist in the Safe Site category, and winner of the Award in 2013, this year the company’s logistics team at the Devonport Royal Dockyard greatly impressed the judging panel.

A specially commissioned short film showed how a fork lift driver’s view can be both limited and cluttered - and how difficult it is to see pedestrians, particularly in poor light and without high-visibility clothing.

Dailycer UK

Dailycer’s implementation of a new procedure in which all staff were encouraged - without fear of disciplinary action - to report any damage to warehouse racking was strongly commended by the judges.

In addition, barriers, walkways and a zebra crossing were installed to separate pedestrians from trucks, and walkie-talkies were issued to allow safe communication between drivers and their colleagues on foot.

Heineken Hereford

To address the problem of excessive wear and tear on new fork lifts, a team of inspiring truck operators at the company’s Hereford plant set up an initiative entitled ‘The Perfect Fork Lift Experience’. This led to new maintenance and safety training techniques, a new training facility and the restoration of trucks to as-new condition.

Another unique tactic employed by Heineken was to ask operators to name their trucks to encourage them to look after their vehicles with more care.

Metsä Wood UK

To encourage best practice amongst their 200 lift truck operators, Metsä Wood UK have established the “Metsä Operator of the Year Award”.

Innovative IT solutions have included systems for monitoring daily checks of lift trucks, tracking their activities, reporting on their condition and assessing operator safety performance.

Trucks have also been fitted with LED and spotlights for better visibility, and speed controllers have been installed to enforce a new 10 mph limit.

Nestlé UK

At its York warehouse, Nestlé displayed an exemplary attitude to site safety by conducting a comprehensive audit of warehouse space utilisation.

Where possible, practices were changed to eliminate the need for pedestrians to enter. Barrier-protected walkways were provided to give pedestrian access where it was essential. The structures even included a skywalk, suspended from the ceiling, to ensure that no one walked across the warehouse’s busy input bay.

NHS National Services Scotland

The Canderside warehouse team excelled with its programme of “Back to Basics” sessions, established by its Operations Health & Safety Sub-Group. By giving warehouse workers a one-hour educational session on safety issues, rules and best practice, a noticeable and steady trend towards fewer accidents has been achieved. Managers encouraged interaction during the sessions and have found staff respond positively to the programme.

Preston Technical

Determined that collisions between lift trucks and pedestrians should never happen on its shop floor, Preston Technical boldly redesigned the entire layout.

In some cases machinery was relocated, steel barriers installed to protect workers on foot, and safe walking routes painted onto the floor.

Trucks, meanwhile, were restricted to specific zones. Existing lift trucks were also replaced by newer models equipped with improved safety features including speed limiters.

Tulip

Tulip’s plant at Redruth, Cornwall, was commended by the judges for implementing a number of changes to the site’s structures, equipment and practices that enabled the switch to pedestrian-operated fork trucks from larger, more powerful machines.

The flow of goods and traffic was altered, safe walkways marked on the floors and a new speed limit introduced. In the main service corridors wall mirrors were installed to minimise risks at blind corners.
Supplier of the Year

Decided by FLTA's membership, this coveted Archie is awarded to the supplier whose support has contributed the most to keeping the industry and its trucks at their most productive throughout the year.

winner
FB Chain

finalists
Industrial Battery and Charger Services
Invicta Forks and Attachments
Manbat Industrial Power Systems
SMC Euroclamp

Apprentice of the Year

The fork lift truck industry suffers from a serious, long-term shortage of trained service engineers. This important award highlights the enthusiasm, professionalism and loyalty that today's apprentices – tomorrow's engineers – bring to their employers.

winner
Jamie Walsh
Rack-N-Stak Ltd

runner-up
Ben Feehan
Linde Material Handling UK Ltd

Customer Focus Award

Presented to the fork truck dealership deemed to have provided the most innovative or appropriate solution to a customer's particular materials handling requirements, this Award recognises the team that has best demonstrated a commitment to service; putting the customer at the heart of its business, and embodying the FLTA's core principles of productivity, integrity and safety.

winner
Bristol Forklifts

finalists
Briggs Equipment UK
Services to the Association

This category is designed to reward the individual who has contributed the most to supporting the fork lift truck community – and the Association in particular – over many years... someone the FLTA would like to thank for sharing their invaluable knowledge, insight and experience.

Jeremy Spooner (Rivermore Asset Finance) and Martyn Fletcher

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Services to the Industry

This Award celebrates the individual who has contributed the most to the fork lift truck industry. This year’s winner helped pioneer and launch the UK’s first national standard for the Thorough Examination of fork lift truck vehicles on behalf of CFTS – one of the most important safety initiatives in the history of the industry.

(left) Chas Day (right) Andrew Woodward (Investec Asset Finance) and Geoff Martin, collecting on behalf of winner Chas Day

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Lifetime Achievement Award

Paying tribute to an extraordinary and exceptionally talented individual, this Award is the highest accolade bestowed by the Fork Lift Truck Association. To date, just 10 have been awarded.

Simon Duddy (HSS) and Robert Moffett
New Members

Full Members

D.A.B. Handling Ltd
D.A.B. Handling is a materials handling company offering new and used fork lift sales, service and training solutions.

Easy Truck Material Handling Ltd
An independent supplier of fork lift trucks, warehousing and logistics equipment, with servicing, hire and finance packages.

Whitman Gowdridge Insurance Brokers Ltd
An independent insurance broker based in Leicester providing commercial insurance to businesses of all sizes across the UK.

Safe User Group

Boots UK
A well-known pharmacy chain in the UK and Ireland, with outlets in most high streets, shopping centres and airport terminals.

Eaton
A power management company that provides energy-efficient solutions to help its customers effectively manage electrical, hydraulic and mechanical power.

Morgan Training Solutions Ltd
A professional health and safety training company specialising in ITSSAR-accredited fork lift training.

Nestlé Ltd
Nestlé is the world’s leading nutrition, health and wellness company employing 8,000 staff across 23 sites in the UK and Ireland.

Associate Members

Atkinson Fork Truck Solutions Ltd
A family-run business offering a reliable service of repairs and maintenance to fork trucks throughout the Yorkshire area.

Lister Lift Trucks
Suppliers of new and used lifting equipment, fork lift trucks, warehousing, pallet trucks, sideloaders and Combilifts including servicing, breakdown repair and spare parts.

North Western Materials Handling Ltd
Fork lift truck dealer based in the North West focusing on Caterpillar trucks but also offering maintenance and repair services for all makes of truck.

RAVAS UK Ltd
RAVAS manufactures and distributes weighing systems integrated in hand pallet trucks, warehouse trucks and fork lift trucks.

West Country Forklifts Ltd
Fork lift truck service and maintenance provider in South Somerset, Dorset, Wiltshire and east Devon.

Courses

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Events

Safer Site Programme
FLTA website
Ongoing throughout 2015

Open Meeting
Mercure Brandon Hall Hotel, Warwickshire
13th May 2015

FLTA Golf Day
Newbury & Crookham Golf Club, Berkshire
10th June 2015

National Fork Truck Safety Conference
Loughborough University
23rd September 2015

AGM 2015
Mercure Brandon Hall Hotel, Warwickshire
21st October 2015

Awards for Excellence 2016
The International Centre, Shropshire
27th February 2016