

Reading for safety



JAMES CLARK, SECRETARY-GENERAL OF BITA, LOOKS FORWARD TO THIS YEAR'S DESIGN4SAFETY AWARDS AT IMHX 2016, AND HIGHLIGHTS THE BOOM IN BITA'S BOOKLET SALES – SHOWING THAT PRINT'S NOT DEAD WHEN IT COMES TO SAFETY.

■ **Sometimes there really is no substitute for a hard-copy manual that can be quickly and easily referred to without having to go online** ■



Once again BITA is proud to organise the Design4Safety awards which make their

welcome return at IMHX 2016, taking place at the NEC in Birmingham from 13th-16th September.

As their name suggests the awards, which take place every three years, are all about designing safety into products and services with their aim being to highlight the importance of product or service design in improving safety standards. By focusing on 'design for safety' the awards recognise innovative thinking, regardless of the type or cost of the product or service.

All IMHX exhibitors can enter the awards, which provide the opportunity to highlight the crucial safety benefits of their individual products and services, and there are six different categories which encompass the whole materials handling industry. These are:

- **INDUSTRIAL VEHICLES**
- **AUTOMATION**
- **GOODS-IN/GOODS-OUT**
- **RACKING & STORAGE**
- **TECHNOLOGY**
- **WAREHOUSE INFRASTRUCTURE**

Entries need to include a 150-word explanation of the how the product or service improves safety or eliminates a previously unsafe approach, a high-resolution image, JPEG or GIF, up to 2MB, one additional supporting document and links to online images or video that support the entry.

Products or services entered don't have to be newly launched, but must be available at the time of entry and for at least six months after the awards are announced. Winning entries will be those which provide the strongest

evidence of a measurable contribution to the level of safety awareness, or rate of incident reduction, achieved by the design.

Winners in 2013 included Hörmann's Fork Truck Barrier, Crown Lift Trucks' rider powered pallet truck, and Sentry Protection Products' Collision Sentry device, which alerts fork lift operators to potential collision risks in warehouses. Why not join them?

The deadline for entries is 31st May 2016 and should be submitted via the form which can be found at www.imhx.biz/design4safety where you will also find the full terms and conditions. The winners will be announced on Thursday 15th September at the IMHX 2016 awards evening.

'PRINT NOT DEAD' SHOCK!

While on the subject of safety, it is gratifying to report that since January we have had approaching 30 orders amounting to over a 1,000 copies of our various publications, which include the BITA Operator's Safety Code for Powered Industries Trucks and Rough Terrain Lift Trucks, and our Guidance Notes series for specific truck types.

Among the companies ordering a range of our publications are Merlo, Grant Handling Ltd (GHL), and Peter Hird & Sons – all of whom find them useful for their staff and businesses. Peter Hird & Sons hires and sells cranes, forklifts and other materials handling equipment as well as running forklift training courses for businesses across the UK – and it finds the Operator's Safety Code for Powered Industrial Trucks booklet particularly useful for its trainees and operators.

Louise Jackson of Peter Hird & Sons training department explains: "We order around 300 of the Operators Safety booklets each year, with every trainee forklift operator attending our courses receiving a copy. They are pocket-sized and our trainees find them really handy, containing all the essential information they need to operate their vehicles

safely. Sometimes there really is no substitute for a hard-copy manual that can be quickly and easily referred to without having to go online."

We hear so much today about information going online and that print is a thing of the past, but buoyant sales of our publications shows there is still a real demand for reference material that easy to store and access – and you don't need to have a phone signal!

As The Independent newspaper prepares to go online only, a new national newspaper, New Day, is launched in print, with a limited online presence, so the battle continues to rage between print and digital – and it isn't anywhere near over. ■

www.bita.org.uk

Design4Safety taking place at IMHX, 13th-16th September 2016, NEC Birmingham

Awards give all IMHX exhibitors the opportunity to highlight the crucial safety benefits of their products and services

Categories for entry include Industrial Vehicles, Racking and Storage, and Warehouse Infrastructure

Deadline for entries: 31st May

More information at www.imhx.biz and www.design4safety.com

