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ALLMI leading the way on British Standard Revision

As a result of a meeting held in January, which was originally arranged to clarify the requirements for lifting plans for lorry loader operations, the first step towards the revision of BS7121 Part 4 has been taken with the formation of a specialist working group.

A meeting scheduled for April will be attended by representatives of ALLMI's manufacturer members, the ALLMI Operators' Forum Executive Committee, the Health and Safety Executive, the Construction Plant Hire Association, and the Modular Portable and Building Association. In addition, ALLMI's BSI representatives, J. John Penny and Bryan Flintham, and technical director, Eric Hawkyard, will form part of the working group. In conjunction with consultant, Tim Watson, the working group will hold a series of meetings throughout 2008, with a view to producing a draft document, for BSI for approval/comment.

ALLMI chairman, Mark Rigby, said: 'This is positive news for ALLMI and the lorry loader industry as a whole. Many people feel that due to developments in technology and legislation, the revision of the British Standard for lorry loaders is long overdue. As the industry Association, it's essential that ALLMI and its members play a key part in this process.'

Sub-contractors joining ALLMI

As part of ALLMI's drive to increase its membership and to improve standards throughout the lorry loader industry, its manufacturer/importer members are currently encouraging all of their sub-contractors to join the Association.

In addition, the longer term aim is to have all of the sub-contractors' engineers go through the ALLMI Thorough Examination and Load Test training scheme. ALLMI chairman, Mark Rigby, said: 'Whilst the standards of the manufacturers' sub-contractors are extremely high, we feel that it's only right that companies carrying out work for ALLMI members also have access to the Association's technical documents and training programmes. There's only one way they can do that; by becoming members themselves.'

ALLMI training progresses in Trinidad

Following ALLMI's move to expand outside of the UK, the delivery of ALLMI training in Trinidad is going from strength to strength.

With large numbers of operators already passing through the lorry loader training scheme, Trinidad based ALLMI training provider and member, Hydraulic Components, is now receiving enquiries about the ALLMI Slinger/Signaller course. Glenn Singh, managing director of Hydraulic Components, said: 'We've been delighted with the uptake of the ALLMI training scheme in Trinidad. The demand we're experiencing has far exceeded our expectations and with ALLMI's profile being continually raised in this country we expect this trend to continue.'

Thorough Examination Training gets off to strong start

Launched in May 2007, ALLMI's Thorough Examination and Load Test Training course enjoyed a very impressive uptake during its first year. In the nine months that the course has been available to ALLMI members, 35 engineers have successfully completed the training.

ALLMI executive director, Tom Wakefield, said: 'The feedback so far has been very positive. The subject is covered in great depth and so it's a very intense course, but the engineers who've completed the training tell me they've come away feeling very well informed. As a result of the feedback we've been receiving, we're continually updating the course content and the template documentation that we issue to course candidates. We hope this will further increase the training programme's popularity amongst members.'