Those who intend to use any machine with characteristics of weight, height, width, length or complexity which differ significantly to the training they have received should ensure that they receive a familiarisation to cover the differences.

It is the employer’s responsibility to ensure that all operators using equipment are adequately trained and familiarised to comply with current health and safety legislation.

Machine specific familiarisation should follow on from basic training and cover:

• Manufacturer’s instructions and warnings
• Features of the specific model
• Control functions
• Safety devices and
• Emergency lowering procedures

All of the above are to be found in the information supplied with the machine.

This guidance note was prepared by the IPAF Training Committee. It has been approved by the Powered Access Interest Group, a joint committee of the Construction Plant-hire Association and the International Powered Access Federation.

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