

ESCORT TRAINING UPDATE: NATIONAL OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS (NOS)

The following HTA members attended meetings with John Bowman of Skills for Logistics to develop the National Occupational Standards (NOS) for those who escort abnormal loads: HTA Chairman John Rodell, HTA Members Ian Brooks and Rob Teahan, together with Dave Attwood from FTX, AIRSO Road Safety Panel Member Paul Sturgeon and Gordon Darroch from the Army. The NOS describe the skills and knowledge required for someone who escorts an abnormal load, mobile crane or agricultural vehicle and are used to develop training courses leading to a recognised vocational qualification. John Rodell and Ian Brooks also attended a meeting with the Association of Industrial Road Safety Officers who confirmed their continued involvement in this project.



John Bowman is currently producing the last draft of the NOS before it is widely distributed to industry stakeholders in a consultation process that will include all HTA members as well as the RHA, FTA, Crane Associations and the National Union of Farmers. It is anticipated that the NOS will be signed off by the 31st March 2013 ready to start the course development and qualification process.

As a reminder to members, it is proposed that there we have two levels of qualification, with the holders of the higher level able to conduct active traffic management, including delegated powers of stop and direct although it is emphasised this has yet to be agreed with APCO.

The HTA is making significant progress in an area that has always been thought too difficult to tackle. Many thanks to John Rodell, Ian Brooks, Dave Attwood and Rob Teahan for their time and effort on HTA Members' behalf.

MERSEYSIDE AND NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

At the last HTA Meeting John Dyne reported on the result of the meeting held with Merseyside Police (MP). He indicated that the HTA was prepared to listen to Merseyside Police and try and work with them regarding the process of notifying abnormal load movements. Merseyside Police want to know what abnormal loads are passing through their roads each day.

Members were asked to adopt the approach requested by Merseyside Police to notify them each day rather than inputting a range of dates. If the specific date of an AIL movement is not known, it is better to notify and once the exact date of movement is known, then the advice is to contact MP so that the details can be amended.

Merseyside Police assured the HTA that following complaints that their telephone is never answered, there would be an officer working out of hours to answer the telephone and issued a contact number.

Members have been asked to provide feedback on how the process is working. Some Members are still sending in several notices for one move and some have complained that the telephone at Merseyside is still often unanswered. Recent feedback from MP is that the system is generally working well, although a few hauliers still input a range of dates, but then email as soon as they know the exact date of an AIL movement. Merseyside Police still require notification of the date of a move and the registration number of the vehicle.

If you have any comments, please contact the HTA Secretariat.

NEW MEMBERS

The HTA welcomes the following new members:

ASCROFT TRANSPORT LIMITED

Preston, Lancashire (Contact: Phil Ascroft)

MA PONSONBY LTD

Rugeley, Staffordshire (Contact: Mike Ponsonby)

CASCADE SOFTWARE LIMITED

(Contact: Sally Waterfall)

ALS HANDLES 158T CABLE DRUMS IN SCANDINAVIA FOR THE Hyme STATOIL PROJECT



Abnormal Load Services (International) Limited's (ALS) marine department based in Hull, UK arranged a fast specialist heavy lift vessel to accommodate a total of 5 x 9.20 metre diameter umbilical cable drums shipped from Denmark to Norway.

The heaviest drum weighed 158T.

A senior manager from ALS' port and marine department was on site in Denmark and Norway throughout the project.

ALS' involvement included the provision of all port services along with loading, lashing, securing, sea freight and discharge operations.



LEVY OF VEHICLE ESCORTING FEES BY POLICE FORCES ACROSS ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES

At the last HTA meeting there was a short presentation on the valid basis for police to levy a charge for police attendance and escorts. The topic arose since it has come to our attention that most police forces are charging for escorting services even when there has been no specific request for their services. Since the meeting several notifications regarding charging rates from police have been sent to hauliers.

Members are advised not to sign police documents unless they are sure of what they are signing. If any member has received such a notification or an invoice for escort charges without having made a request for these, and requires advice please contact the HTA or Alex Sandland of Dyne Solicitors Limited.

ESTA NEWS UPDATE IN SUMMARY:

Certificate of Conformity document for trailers:

A working group has been set up to examine the possibilities of the new Certificate of Conformity (COC) document as defined by EU Regulation 92/53 for trailers, to contain details that are held in the SERT document. If suitable, we need to see if the COC document can then be accepted as a universal registration document for permit applications across the EU. This in effect will make the SERT document an important and acceptable document for permit applications in the EU.

Health and Safety:

Health & Safety is now to be a permanent feature on the Transport Section agenda. The first topic to be highlighted was the 'Working at Height' regulations that are becoming more prevalent across the EU. The work that has been done in the past by the CPA (UK) was illustrated and discussed.

Best Practice Guide:

The viability and far reaching recommendations of the Best Practice Guide (BPG) was discussed and was decided that in order to continue working with the BPG, it should be set in to 'bite size' proportions. ESTA office will design a survey designed to establish which subjects are most important to each member and which are easily achievable and in what timescale. Each association (through their own members if possible) will be asked complete the survey.

The 'First Draft' of SPMT best practice guide is expected to be released soon. The planned meeting of this working group had to be re-scheduled and will be reported on at the next meeting.

Following the ESTA experts summit for delivery and erection of Wind Turbines in Hamburg on 14th March, the subsequent initial FEM guidance document will be released at the end of October starting November but will not contain any of the proposed 'transport related' matters.

Subsequently there has been held an IWEA 'safety for delivery of wind turbine components' workshop in Ireland where an IWEA safe delivery of Wind energy components document was presented. ESTA transport section discussed this topic and has assembled a working group to begin to construct an additional 'chapter' for the FEM guidance paper in order that it can be considered for use on an EU basis.

Pilot car training:

Pilot car operator training was discussed openly in order to ascertain the various criteria across Europe.

ESTA Meeting and Awards Night:

The next ESTA meeting will be at BAUMA in Munich on 18th April 2013. This will also be the 'Users Night Awards ceremony and dinner'. It is requested that ESTA associations request the members to make applications for 'Job of the year' awards. This annual event is well publicised and offers a great deal of free publicity to 'all comers' who make an effort to make applications.

There are opportunities for the smaller operators as well as the large operators to get this free exposure.

The statutes of the ESTA organization have now been altered which means that from next year onwards, VAT charges on the membership fees will not be applicable.

ESTA board - Robert Markewitsch (German operator) has now joined the ESTA board.

A new ESTA board of directors/organization chart has been produced due to statutes being changed. The General Secretary, Soren Jansen, is now a 'Director' with no voting rights.

New ESTA memberships:

Ordinary Members:	INFRA, Finland International Transport Denmark, DK
Affiliated Companies:	Kassbohrer, Trailer manufacturer, Turkey Re-Move, Training, NL VestKran, Norway Kohler Kran-Service, Germany

A Strategic session for a '5 year' plan for ESTA was discussed. An independent consultant is being sought in order to lead this strategic thinking.

The budget for this has been set and accepted.

International:

ESTA will be represented at an International Crane Stakeholders Assembly meeting in China on 16th November 2012. This will be hosted by the (Australian Crane association (CICA).

ESTA Spring Newsletter 2013:

ESTA have made a request for features, and photographs from members. If any organization or their members have any newsworthy items, please offer these via the HTA office. Again this is a 'free publicity' machine that is available to all.

Please note that the ESTA transport section and General Assembly minutes from the last meeting in Zurich are available on the website.



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