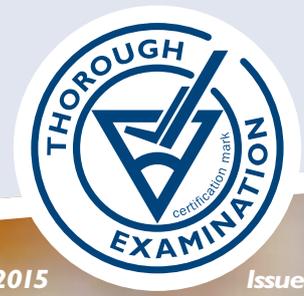


the Examiner



February 2015

Issue 11



CFTS: A decade of excellence



in this issue

Win a £100 hamper!

Meat company fined

Board changes

New website homepage

The Examiner is the newsletter of Consolidated Fork Truck Services Ltd (CFTS). CFTS was formed as a joint venture between the Fork Lift Truck Association (FLTA) and British Industrial Truck Association (BITA). In consultation with the Health and Safety Executive (HSE), CFTS developed the materials handling industry's national accreditation scheme for Thorough Examination. The CFTS Thorough Examination scheme was officially launched in 2004 and continues to be administered by CFTS. For further information visit the CFTS website:

www.thoroughexamination.org

In this issue, you will see the success story that has been CFTS over the past 10 years.

Whether you are one of the many who have been with us from the very beginning, or one who has accredited more recently, you have contributed to the continued raising of industry standards and, of course, CFTS' success.

Having been through the worst recession in recent times, let us hope we can all look forward to better times and more stability ahead.

You will have read elsewhere that I have made the decision to retire at the end of March 2015.

With CFTS at an all-time high and Shaun well-established in his post, the time is right to find a successor to support Accredited Companies in the South so that this success story may long continue.

Below is an advertisement for this post, which may be of interest to you or one of your colleagues.

Best Wishes



Chas Day
Technical Manager, CFTS



Technical Manager

Consolidated Fork Truck Services (CFTS)

A vacancy, as a result of an approaching retirement, has arisen for the position of Technical Manager, with specific responsibility for the South of England.

Applicants should ideally have HNC, HND, Engineering degree or equivalent, be conversant with current lift truck legislation and have a sound knowledge of related best practice.

The successful applicant should be an experienced fork lift truck technician with detailed knowledge of a broad range of lift trucks and associated equipment, including thorough examination and other inspection procedures.

He/she must be able to work on their own initiative and as part of a team and the role will involve travel to

disparate locations to carry out accreditations and audits. Good interpersonal and communications skills are essential as is the ability to relate to both senior management and junior engineers.

Clean driving licence and computer literacy absolutely essential.

Salary circa £30,000 per annum and a company car can be provided.

Applications with full CV in confidence please to James Clark, Consolidated Fork Truck Services, 5-7 High Street, Sunninghill, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 9NQ, or email: james.clark@bita.org.uk.



Upcoming course dates

Thorough Examination (2 days)

- 03-04 February 2015
- 24-25 February 2015
- 03-04 March 2015
- 24-25 March 2015
- 31 March - 1 April 2015
- 14-15 April 2015
- 21-22 April 2015

Thorough Examination Revalidation (1 day)

- 05 February 2015
- 05 March 2015

Thorough Examination Manager (1 day)

- 30 April 2015

Newly accredited companies

We are pleased to welcome 19 accredited member companies to CFTS:

- **4 Shires Plant**, Oxon
- **Alistair Young Engineering**, Moray
- **Ben Burgess Hire**, Norwich
- **Castle Mechanical Handling**, Dublin
- **Contact Attachments**, Powys
- **Dechmont Forklift Trucks**, West Lothian
- **Dedicated Transport Solutions**, Northumberland
- **Elev8 Fork Trucks**, Lincoln
- **FT Services**, Hayes
- **Hannaman Material Handling**, Clwyd
- **IDM Services**, Liskeard
- **Lifting Machinery Consultants & Surveyors**, Telford
- **Lift Tech Services Ltd**, Angus
- **Oman Mechanical Services**, Oman
- **Peter White Agricultural**, Beverleyn
- **Premier Lift Trucks**, Wigan
- **Ravenhill**, Ross-shire
- **Taurus Handling Ltd**, Northampton
- **Tommy Clarke Forklifts**, County Kildare

Mike Mathias appointed Chairman

Mike Mathias, of Toyota Material Handling UK, has been appointed Chairman of the CFTS Board.

He takes over from Brindley Lift Trucks' Richard Hayes, whose two-year term of office has seen continued growth and success.

Toyota Material Handling UK, for which Mike has been Managing Director since 2007, is a keen advocate and national provider of CFTS-accredited Thorough Examination.

He brings with him a wealth of materials handling industry experience, spanning almost four decades. Having started out as an engineering apprentice, his extensive knowledge has been built through a wealth of service, technical, sales, aftersales and management positions.

As well as being a Board Member of CFTS he is a Director of BITA.



Crown MD joins CFTS Board

CFTS has appointed Steve Stewart, Crown Lift Trucks' Managing Director of UK Operations, to the Board.

We are very pleased to welcome Steve onto the Board. With more than 20 years of experience in the materials handling industry, and as the former President of the Australian Industrial Truck Association, he brings with him a wealth of knowledge and expertise. He will be a strong addition to the Board."

Steve Stewart, who sits on the board of BITA, said: "It's a privilege to be appointed to the board. CFTS plays a vital role within the materials handling industry, and is instrumental in ensuring forklifts are safe to operate."



Take the HSE Quiz – and win a fantastic hamper!



As you will be well aware, we have always worked very closely with the Health & Safety Executive (HSE). We very much value their guidance and assistance.

With this in mind, the HSE has asked CFTS to organise a short quiz on its behalf, which will further the aims of CFTS and Thorough Examination.

The main purpose of the quiz is to demonstrate to the policy division of the HSE that CFTS-accredited companies are fully aware of the legislation contained in LOLER 98 and PUWER 98.

The questions in it are very straightforward and if you are feeling unsure about anything, just remember that all answers are contained within the CFTS Procedural Code.

The answers and your company identity will be treated with absolute discretion and a third-party company will be employed to collate results.

Be in it to win it!

And just to make things interesting, all participants will be put into a random drawing and we shall have the pleasure of presenting a hamper – valued at £100 – to the successful company or individual.

We do hope you complete the quiz and enter as this is working towards CFTS' future.



Meat company fined for failing to carry out Thorough Examinations

Following news that a North London meat company has been fined for failing to carry out routine inspections, Chairman Mike Mathias has warned that there could be many thousands of trucks operating illegally.

MIB United Meat Ltd, of Enfield, Middlesex, was prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) after admitting three breaches of safety legislation.

The court heard that, on asking to see the vehicle examination records for the company's 2.5-tonne counterbalance forklift truck, an HSE inspector received a document via email – supposedly a CFTS Report of Thorough Examination – which was proven to be fraudulent.

The HSE found that the forklift truck had never been examined – as required by safety rules for lifting equipment – since being purchased in August 2011.

A specialist mechanical inspector from HSE, who examined the forklift in April 2013, found more than 40 faults, including some that could have endangered its operator.

MIB was fined a total of £18,000 and ordered to pay £2314 in full costs.

But this infringement could simply be the tip of the iceberg – with well in excess of 300,000 mast fork lift trucks believed to be in current operation.

“Although shocking, this case is not as exceptional as it should be. There are many truck operators who are unaware of their responsibilities,” says Chairman Mike Mathias.



CFTS turns 10

Founded a decade ago, at a time when our industry was facing a time of relative difficulty, the growth of CFTS has been a real success story.

At the time, clarification was urgently needed on the laws governing Thorough Examination of trucks. Moreover, there was a need to drive home the vital safety message that 'Competent Persons' carrying out examinations should have the right training, experience and expertise.

To overcome this situation, the two leading organisations in the fork lift truck industry – the British Industrial Truck Association (BITA) and the Fork Lift Truck Association (FLTA) – joined forces to create a single inspection procedure available to truck users, wherever their industry or location.

The resulting organisation, Consolidated Fork Truck Services (CFTS), established a comprehensive procedure and strict code of practice – giving fork lift truck users a consistent, safe national standard certain to fulfil the requirements of both LOLER and PUWER, backed by dedicated training of competent persons, unparalleled technical back-up and complete traceability via paperwork bearing a hologram.

Uniquely, the whole framework of the CFTS scheme was dedicated exclusively to the inspection of fork lift trucks (by those who understand the equipment best). Every bit as important, and like an MOT, the resulting inspection checklist is both comprehensive and very specific.

Ten years on, the CFTS scheme has proved a remarkable success. With some 400 companies now accredited to carry out Thorough Examinations according to CFTS procedures, we have undoubtedly succeeded in raising industry standards.

We have provided the industry with a service that simply did not exist a decade ago.





Cutting through the confusion

But CFTS' role doesn't end there. The introduction of **Fee for Intervention (FFI)** and the **Corporate Manslaughter and Corporate Homicide Act**, together with the update to **LI 17** means that – for managers and supervisors – keeping compliant has never been so tough.

So the aim for our website, www.thoroughexamination.org, is simple: to clearly answer questions to questions commonly asked about Thorough Examinations: from what's covered and when the next one's due right through to finding accredited companies – like yours...

To do that to best effect, we've changed the layout of our homepage, introducing sliders which give more ready access to important, timely and relevant information.

While it looks quite different, all of the elements there previously, such as links to videos, Thorough Examination calculators and what's covered.



The screenshot shows the homepage of 'THOROUGH EXAMINATION A SUBSIDIARY OF CFTS'. It features a navigation bar with links for 'WHAT'S COVERED', 'LI 17', 'LI 17', 'LI 17', 'LI 17', and 'LI 17'. Below the navigation, there are several content blocks: a main banner with a video player showing a forklift inspection, a section titled 'Don't accept half measures...' with a video player, and a sidebar with a search bar and a 'Find a CFTS accredited member' section.

Contacts

Reminder

May we take this opportunity to remind all companies accredited to the CFTS scheme that documentation should be ordered from the FLTA and invoice queries should be directed to BITA. The relevant contact details are given below.

Documentation pack orders

Order processing is managed by Berny at the FLTA office. Please use the order form sent out with every re-accreditation and submit by post, fax or email (as a PDF.)

CONTACT DETAILS

The Fork Lift Truck Association
34B Kingfisher Court, Hambridge Road,
Newbury, Hampshire RG14 5SJ
Tel: **01635 277577**
Fax: 01635 277579
Email: berny@fork-truck.org.uk

Invoices and credit control

Invoices are raised by Julie at the BITA office. Contact details are:

The British Industrial Truck Association
5-7 High Street, Sunninghill, Ascot, Berkshire SL5 9NQ
Tel: **01344 623800**
Fax: 01344 291197
Email: julie.herbert@bita.org.uk

Technical advice & other queries

CFTS Technical Manager Chas Day oversees all aspects of administration and is happy to deal with any queries. His contact details are:

Tel/Fax: **01276 502930**
Mobile: 07730 768659
Email: chas@thoroughexaminations.org

CFTS Technical Manager Shaun Prendergast is also available to handle any queries you may have. His contact details are:

Mobile: **07730 768668**
Email: shaun@thoroughexamination.org

CFTS Board Members & Officers



Mike Mathias, Chairman
Toyota Material Handling UK



Geoff Martin
Jofson Ltd



Steve Stewart
Crown Lift Trucks



James Clark, Secretary
BITA



Peter Harvey
FLTA



Chas Day, Technical Manager
CFTS



Shaun Prendergast,
Technical Manager, CFTS