



## Chains in focus

Inspection of fork lift chains and measurement of chain elongation has always formed a major part of Thorough Examination. It is an area in which we can demonstrate a lead over other organisations carrying out inspections or technical audits. Indeed, both BITA and the FLTA publish definitive guidance and technical information on the inspection and maintenance of industrial truck leaf chains.

You should certainly be aware that chains with a measured elongation of 3% or more must be **RENEWED IMMEDIATELY** and the lift truck removed from service until the chain has been replaced. For chains with 2% or more elongation a judgement needs to be made on whether or not the chain can continue to be used safely up to the next Thorough Examination. It must also be remembered that this is not the only part of the chain that needs to be examined. The Competent Person should also visually inspect the chain anchor points and look for any of the following problems in associated components:

- evidence of pitting or corrosion
- missing link plates
- cracked or missing links
- loose pins with enlarged pin holes

It is also important to be aware of the chain link plate depth. Chains that have plates worn in excess of 5% must be **RENEWED IMMEDIATELY** and the lift truck removed from service until the chain has been replaced.

We are often asked what is the procedure when measuring chain elongation on metric chains. Since the FB Chain Gauge and other gauges only measure in imperial units, it is essential that the Competent Person converts the metric dimension into imperial. BITA Guidance Note GN15 and FLTA Technical Bulletin 14 both include conversion charts. Of course, this does not preclude the inspection being carried out using a metric rule.

The above advice is not exhaustive and if any further information is required please do not hesitate to contact Chas Day at CFTS.

### in this issue

**Safety Conference 2010: the bigger picture • IMHX 2010: safety by design**

# National Fork Lift Truck Safety Conference

Carrying out Thorough Examinations under the CFTS scheme is one way of showing customers that your company means business when it comes to safety. You are willing to ensure that all trucks will be examined to a consistently high standard in accordance with nationally recommended criteria, determined by industry experts.

Of course safety is much broader than just the truck itself, especially from the users' perspective. It pays, therefore, to keep up to date with safety issues on a wider front. The National Fork Lift Truck Safety Conference is a way of doing just that. This is the only major event of its kind that concentrates just on fork lift truck safety issues.

The 2010 conference is aimed at senior managers. It covers: planning for safety, insurance and legal issues, the importance of supervision, possible changes to operator training and the identification of high risk areas. Speakers are from a range of organisations, as well as two senior representatives from HSE.

These include:

- **Abex Ltd**
- **Allianz Insurance plc**
- **Briggs Equipment UK Ltd**
- **Calor Gas**
- **D S Smith Packaging**
- **Health and Safety Executive**
- **I D Systems Inc**
- **Interactive Driving Systems Ltd**
- **Labyrinth Logistics Consulting Ltd**
- **Oval Insurance Broking Ltd**
- **Russell Jones & Walker Solicitors**

You may want to make sure that your company is represented at this conference. If you have important clients that you particularly want to impress then take them too. The conference takes place at Warwick University on Wednesday 22nd September 2010. Full details are available at [www.fork-truck.org.uk](http://www.fork-truck.org.uk)





# IMHX 2010 shines the spotlight on safer designs

**IMHX – the International Materials Handling Exhibition – is the UK's premier logistics, materials handling and storage exhibition. Taking place once every three years, it is the showcase for thousands of products and services from all sectors of the supply chain.**

To recognise the importance of product design in improving safety standards, the joint owners of the exhibition, BITA and Quartz, are launching the IMHX Design 4 Safety Awards as a centrepiece of this year's event (16th to 19th November 2010).

## Introducing the 2010 IMHX Design 4 Safety Awards

All IMHX exhibitors are invited to nominate their products for a Design 4 Safety Award in one of four categories:

- Industrial Trucks
- Racking & Storage
- Automation
- Technology (e.g. Software & IT products)

By focusing on 'design for safety', innovative thinking will be recognised regardless of product type or cost.

Extra publicity is always useful and this prestigious awards scheme will be accompanied by wide-ranging media activity and publicity before, during and after the show.

All shortlisted products will be highlighted in the IMHX show catalogue. The four product finalists will be featured in a special Design 4 Safety showcase zone at the show and the award finalists and winners will receive certificates, trophies and flyers for use on their stands.

## How to enter

Entering is simple and straightforward, and only takes a few moments, using the official entry form on the IMHX website.

All entries will be shortlisted and then judged by independent panels of materials handling and health and safety experts. Both stages of judging will be chaired by a senior figure from the Health & Safety Executive (HSE).

### Dates

- Closing date for entries: 30th July 2010.
- Three shortlisted products in each category will be announced on 1st September 2010.
- The overall category winners will be announced at a VIP IMHX Awards breakfast on 16th November 2010 and the champion 'people's choice' will be unveiled on the final day of IMHX, 19th November 2010.

This year's show is already 85% sold out, so hurry to book your space now! Visitors can register online by going to [www.imhx.biz](http://www.imhx.biz).



## Simon Emery continues as CFTS Chairman



We are pleased to announce that Simon Emery has agreed to continue as the Chairman of CFTS for a further year. Simon, Managing Director for UK operations at Crown Lift Trucks, has more than two decades of experience in the industry and has served on the board of BITA for over three years.

## Next edition of the Examiner

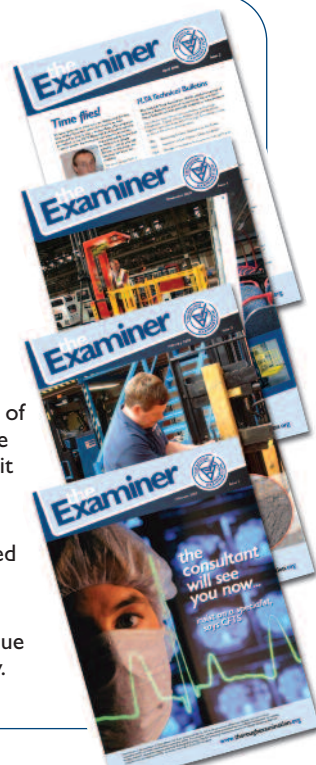
The next edition of the Examiner is planned to coincide with IMHX 2010 in November.

In that issue, we shall focus on the considerable benefits of having Thorough Examinations carried out by a CFTS accredited company.

It will be aimed specifically at your customers, and at owners and users of fork lift trucks, and we shall have a range of articles from current users of the scheme outlining the benefits and improvements it has made to their operation – including improvements to safety.

Upwards of 100,000 copies will be printed so that we can reach as many of your customers as possible.

If you would like to contribute to this issue please feel free to call or email Chas Day.



## Moving forward



Welcome to issue 5 of the Examiner newsletter.

We are six months into 2010 and trading conditions remain difficult. A recent report commissioned by the British Industrial Truck Association confirms that new truck sales are still well down from previous years.

The good news is that the very same report forecasts a steady increase in growth and sales through 2010 and 2011.

In a strange way, the recession has highlighted the strength of CFTS and our accredited companies. As sales of new equipment have decreased, companies have needed to consolidate their core strengths and focus on improved maintenance and Thorough Examinations. When carrying out technical visits, I am always struck by the improved quality of service that is now provided by CFTS companies.

But there must be a limit to how long we can keep aged fork lift trucks operating safely. In this issue you will find information on two very important events planned for later in the year: the International Materials Handling Exhibition (IMHX) 2010 at the NEC in November and the FLTA Safety Conference at Warwick University in September. Both of these important events allow BITA and the FLTA to demonstrate that they're confidently moving forward in 2010.

I am pleased to announce that CFTS will have its own stand at IMHX and I look forward to meeting you there.

Chas

Chas Day  
Technical Manager, CFTS

## 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

Please use the CFTS order form that is sent out with every re-accreditation. This can be sent to the FLTA by post or fax, or by email as a PDF. Order processing is managed by Tricia. Contact details are:

#### The Fork Lift Truck Association

Manor Farm Buildings, Lasham, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 5SL

Tel: **01256 381441**

Fax: 01256 381735

Email: mail@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:

#### Consolidated Fork Truck Services Ltd

5-7 High Street, Sunninghill, Ascot, Berkshire, SL5 9NQ

Tel/Fax: **01276 502930**

Mobile: 07769 166884

Email: chas.day@thoroughexaminations.org

## Welcome to new members

We are pleased to welcome the following companies to CFTS:

Leicester Forklifts  
Albion Forklifts Ltd  
Materials Handling Solutions  
All Materials Handling  
Independent Plant Inspectorate  
Crane Aid  
Nekar Forklifts

Forklift Truck and Plant Training  
Loadmac Ltd  
Rak-n-Stak  
Action Forklifts  
LT Forktruck Services  
London Integrated Forklift Trucks Ltd

### correction

Please note that in issue 4 of the Examiner two companies were listed as being de-accredited. I am delighted to confirm that both **R L Services** and **B-Mac Forklift Training** are fully accredited to CFTS.