

### **ITEC 2009**

Some 135 delegates representing the world's continents arrived at the Fire Services College in England's Cotswolds area in September for the first ever IRATA Technical Event and Conference. Representatives from member companies were joined by people from the media – an interview with the CEO promptly appeared on 'FaceBook,' leading construction and engineering companies and representatives of the Health and Safety Executive past and present.

Feedback from the event suggests everyone gained something from it, with the networking potential and the conference particularly appreciated, and the demonstration of new equipment only harmed by the absence of an effective loudspeaker system. If you were a delegate and have not yet returned your Feedback Questionnaire, you are asked to do so.



The Association will return to the same venue in September 2010 when the event will concentrate on kit and equipment displays and demonstrations as well as competitive challenges for delegates, guest speakers and invitees from the HSE and the work-at-height sector.

ITEC 2010 will be held on 6 – 8 September 2010.

### **IRATA goes racing!**

At a recent work-at-height conference at Lingfield Park – the popular horse-racing course in South East England – IRATA not only had a stand which attracted a good number of visitors and gave a presentation that was judged 'the most appreciated' by the organisers, but also gave a live demonstration of rope access from the top of the famous Grandstand to the spectator enclosure beneath. The majority of the delegates made the short stroll in pleasant sunshine from

the Conference Room to the demonstration and questions and enquiries followed. Our thanks to Neil, Heidi and Mark from Absen Rope Access for such a fine performance.

### **ICOP gets endorsement from the HSE**

Philip White, Chief Inspector of Construction at our Health and Safety Executive, and Rog Thomson, Principal Inspector of the HSE Offshore Safety Division (as well as a welcome speaker at the ITEC Conference) have provided positive comments that will feature at the front of our International Code of Practice due for publication at the end of the year. Philip writes that he is pleased to 'continue HSE's support of IRATA's guidance in this area and 'recognises that....rope access is an accepted technique to use in appropriate circumstances.' Rog's note states that 'the Offshore Safety Division of the HSE concurs with the general support by the HSE of IRATA's Code of Practice' and adds 'use of this Code of Practice is also commended for offshore working when rope access methods are required.'

### **IRATA International Code of Practice (ICOP) and General Requirements - Translations**

A programme of dedicated translations of IRATA documents will begin with our General Requirements and the new International Code of Practice (ICOP). IRATA Regional Advisory Committees and member companies around the world may well be called on to check the work of the translation professionals who will be undertaking this work which should quickly enable the IRATA procedures to be more easily available to operators, trainers and technicians around the world. These translations will also make it easier to present the IRATA established procedures to governments, new clients and accreditation bodies; they will remove the 'foreign language' obstruction where it has existed in the past.

### **IRATA Regional Advisory Committees (RAC)**

The Association was pleased to see the RACs so well represented at the ITEC event and looks to continue its liaison with these groups throughout the next year. RACs have been set up in Australia, Benelux, Brazil, North America, South Africa and South East Asia to assist the flow of information to and from members in the areas covered. The Association wants to see the ongoing development of the RACs with the local members offering the maximum support to plans, initiatives and developments these Committees initiate. The Association is keen to see the RACs actively driving the extension of IRATA's influence in safe working around the world.

# IRATA NEWSLETTER

## November 2009



### Membership

The following companies have joined the Association since May 2009

ABFAD Limited  
Operator  
Sunderland, UK  
[www.abfad.co.uk](http://www.abfad.co.uk)

Access Solutions (Hertel B.V.)  
Trainer  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
[www.hertel.com](http://www.hertel.com)

Access Unlimited  
Operator  
Aberdeenshire, Scotland, UK  
[www.accessunlimited-uk.com](http://www.accessunlimited-uk.com)

Australian Industrial Rope Access  
Trainer  
NSW, Australia  
[www.aira.net.au](http://www.aira.net.au)

Avalon Abseiling Ltd  
Operator  
Essex, UK  
[www.avalonpro.co.uk](http://www.avalonpro.co.uk)

Bluestream Rope Access BV  
Operator  
Den Helder, The Netherlands  
[www.bluestreamoffshore.com](http://www.bluestreamoffshore.com)

CLS Offshore Limited  
Trainer  
Norfolk, UK  
[www.clsoffshore.co.uk](http://www.clsoffshore.co.uk)

CPD Oilwell International Pte Ltd  
Operator  
Singapore  
[www.cpdoilwell.com](http://www.cpdoilwell.com)

Danish Rope Access ApS  
Operator & Trainer  
Stoholm, Denmark  
[www.d-r-a.dk](http://www.d-r-a.dk)

Eiger Equipment (Pty) Ltd  
Associates  
Chempet, South Africa  
[www.eigerequipment.com](http://www.eigerequipment.com)

Geo-Rope Limited  
Operator  
Argyll, Scotland, UK  
[www.geo-rope.com](http://www.geo-rope.com)

Global Remote Limited  
Trainer  
Hong Kong  
[www.globalremote.net](http://www.globalremote.net)

Height Access Services Inc  
Trainer  
Nova Scotia, Canada

International Marine Works  
Operator  
Alexandria, Egypt  
[www.inw.com.eg](http://www.inw.com.eg)

International Training Centre Ltda  
Trainer  
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
[www.itcbrazil.com](http://www.itcbrazil.com)

KB Access Pte Ltd  
Operator & Trainer  
Singapore  
[www.kbassociates.org](http://www.kbassociates.org)

Reel Limited  
Operator  
Aberdeen, Scotland, UK  
[www.reelgroup.com](http://www.reelgroup.com)

Rig Inspection Services  
Operator  
Welshpool, Western Australia  
[www.riginspectionsservices.com](http://www.riginspectionsservices.com)

Rock Engineering (Aust) Pty Ltd  
Operator  
Welshpool, Australia  
[www.rockaustralia.com.au](http://www.rockaustralia.com.au)

Rope-Sure  
Associates  
Hampshire, UK  
[www.rope-sure.co.uk](http://www.rope-sure.co.uk)

Ropetec  
Operator  
Cape Town, South Africa  
[www.ropetec.co.za](http://www.ropetec.co.za)



Ropetech Sdn Bhd  
Operator  
Sarawak, Malaysia

Singing Rock  
Associates  
Ponikla, Czech Republic  
www.singingrock.com

South Seas Inspection (S) Pte Limited  
Operator  
Singapore  
www.southseas-int.com

Sterling Rope Co  
Associates  
USA  
www.sterlingrope.com

#### **Technician Registrations**

The total number of Technicians registered in the current calendar year to the end of October 2009

Level 1 - 4101

Level 2 – 939

Level 3 – 821

Since the inception of the IRATA registration scheme in 1990 over 33,000 technicians have been trained and assessed around the world.

#### **Registrations new procedures and costs**

There will be a change in costs for IRATA registrations with effect from 1 January 2010

New registrations - £60 including VAT.

Re-registrations and upgrades - £20 including VAT.

#### **IRATA Website Safety Notices**

The IRATA Safety notices are posted on the website after being approved by Paul Ramsden the IRATA Technical Coordinator.

IRATA Safety Bulletin 9  
Rock Stabilisation Incident

IRATA Safety Bulletin 10  
Snagged Rope Incident

IRATA Safety Bulletin 11  
Severed Working Line

IRATA Safety Notice

General UK Legislative Requirements

Shunt Guidance August 2009  
IRATA information on use of the shunt

IRATA Safety Notice on Petzl Stop Descender  
IRATA report on cracked bobbins on Petzl stop descender

#### **Meeting Dates**

##### **Executive**

26 January 2010, Manchester

9 March 2010, TBA

5 September 2010, Moreton in Marsh  
November, TBA

##### **General Meeting**

May 2010, Arden Birmingham

##### **AGM 2010**

6 September 2010, Moreton in Marsh

##### **IRATA ITEC**

7-8 September 2010, Moreton in Marsh

##### **IOSH 10 Conference & Exhibition**

24 March 2010, Glasgow

##### **SEA RAC Trainers and Assessors Workshop**

03 December 2009, Singapore

#### **IRATA Contact Details**

Can we again remind everyone of our new contact details. Our address is

Kingsley House  
Ganders Business Park  
Kingsley  
Bordon  
Hampshire  
GU35 9LU

Tel: 01420 471619

Fax: 01420 471611

##### **IRATA Administrator**

Wendy Cooles  
info@irata.org

##### **IRATA Registrations Secretary**

Karen Nockels  
karen@irata.org

##### **IRATA Membership Secretary**

Natalie Zimmer  
natalie@irata.org

##### **IRATA CEO**

Roderick Dymott  
irata@rod.org.uk