



THE LIFT ACADEMY ANNUAL REPORT 2008

OVERVIEW

The Lift Academy was launched in 2007 to provide seminars for apprentices and trainees as it was recognised that in general seminar events normally involve senior managers from the industry. As a result training relative to issues such as current standards, products etc are normally learnt in the field rather than in a controlled environment.

The Academy has gone from strength to strength and has been well received by both the apprentices and trainees as well as senior managers from the industry.

Regular meetings have been held in London and Manchester throughout the year and it is pleasing that the events have been supported by companies of all sizes. As a result, and based on an average meeting lasting 1 ½ hours, just under 600 person hours of training have been provided to the apprentices/trainees.

ACADEMY TEAM



David Cooper
Founder & Principal



Susan Terry
Secretary

My thanks go to Susan Terry and Global Lift Equipment for the time invested in the Academy. Without Susan organising the attendance register, issuing the calling notices, following up, attending the seminars and issuing the CPD certificates the Academy would not be able to operate as efficiently as it does.

David Cooper can be contacted at david.cooper@lecs.co.uk and Susan Terry at susan.terry@global-lift.com

MEETINGS

Based on meetings lasting approximately 1 ½ hours the Academy is proud to have been able to provide 418 person hours of training in London and 150 in Manchester during 2008. A grand total of 568 person hours.

All of the presentations were well received and thanks go to the speakers who gave their time to prepare and give their presentations and also to Datwyler for giving permission to use their training video.

Thanks also go to CIBSE in London for providing the room at the Building Services Centre and to the team of ladies who assist with the organisation of the events as without their support of the above the Academy would not be able to function.

Thanks also go to ANSA Elevators for sponsoring the room at the University of Manchester and to Jenny Kirkham for organising the room and facilities. Again, without the support of the above the Academy would not be unable to function.

LONDON MEETINGS

Four meetings were held in London.

The companies who supported the events by sending apprentices and/or trainees were:

- 21st Century Lifts
- Acre Lifts
- Apex Lifts
- Crown Lifts
- ILE
- Jackson Lift Group
- Lift Specialists
- Liftec
- Patron
- Schindler
- Stannah
- Temple Lifts
- Titan Elevators

The meetings were as follows:

Mtg No	Speaker/Topic	Attendance
001S	David Cooper LECS (UK) Ltd BS7255 Safe Working on Lifts part 5	85
002S	Dennis Major Pfeifer Drako Ropes for Lifts	80
003S	Andrew Cresswell Global Lift Equipment Door Operating Equipment	71
004S	Mike Turner Lester Controls Lift Control Systems	43*

**The unusually low attendance is considered to be as a result of an England v Germany football match on the evening of the meeting as 93 apprentices/trainees had booked to attend the meeting.*

MANCHESTER MEETINGS

Four meetings were held in Manchester.

The companies who supported the events by sending apprentices and/or trainees were:

- ANSA Elevators
- Ascendant Lifts
- Classic Lifts
- Global Lift Equipment
- Independent Lifts

- Jackson Lift Group
- Knowsley Lifts
- Stannah
- Tyne & Wear Metro
- White Lifts

The meetings were as follows:

Mtg No	Speaker/Topic	Attendance
001N	Dennis Major Pfeifer Drako Ropes for Lifts	28
002N	David Cooper LECS (UK) Ltd BS7255 Safe Working on Lifts part 5	23
003N	Andrew Cresswell Global Lift Equipment Door Operating Equipment	23
004N	Paul Alexander Hilti Fixings	26

Plus a video on how to handle and install flat trailing flexes by Datwyler.

ANNUAL COMPETITION

A competition was launched which was sponsored by the CIBSE Lift Group. The competition is intended to promote the apprentices to write about their work and an article of approximately 1,000 words was requested based on the regular columns in the UK trade journal *ELEVATION*.

The judging was undertaken by an independent panel formed of Dr Gina Barney of Gina Barney Associates, Vince Sharpe of Allianz Cornhill and Nick Mellor of Pickering's Lifts.

The winning apprentice was Chris Etchells of ANSA Elevators who received £250 for his article about brakes. The runner up was Jake Ellkin of the Jackson Lift Group who wrote an article about Ward Leonards Systems and was awarded £100.

We were very pleased that 8 entries were received from the apprentices all of whom received a free subscription as Student Members to The Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers.

Again, our thanks go to the judges for their assistance with the competition which we hope will become an annual event.

ADDITIONAL THANKS

In addition to everyone that has been mentioned in this annual report there are a number of other people that must be acknowledged for their assistance with the Academy.

- PEW for sponsoring a competition to lift a weighted car top control unit for which the winning apprentice received a battery drill.
- Ish Buckingham at Elevation Magazine for providing free copies for the apprentices and for publishing press releases.
- Fabio Liberali at Elevatori Magazine for providing copies of the "how it works" series for the apprentices and for publishing press releases
- Bob Caporale and John Gale at Elevator World for their support in publishing press releases and to John for attending meetings.
- Tom Sybert at the Elevator Radio Show for announcing meetings on his weekly broadcast.

Finally, my thanks go to Dr Gina Barney for endlessly enduring my telephone calls of an evening which generally open with "I have had an idea I want to run past you....."

THE FUTURE

Active discussions are ongoing with Glasgow City Council who have offered to provide a room for the Academy. The format of the meetings is under discussion and it is hoped to launch in Glasgow during 2009.

It is hoped that a web site can be launched which will provide details of meetings and make available copies of the papers presented.

A shared apprentice scheme is under consideration. It is acknowledged that some companies do not have the resources to employ an apprentice but would wish to assist in training for the general future benefit of the industry. Discussion is ongoing with an enterprise agency as to whether a shared apprentice would be a workable proposition.

It is also hoped to be able to develop a lending library with lift related material that the apprentices could call upon when needed.

Finally, we wish to expand the number of companies sending their apprentices and trainees to the events.

CONCLUSION

I am extremely pleased with the first year of the Academy and all indications are that the initial concept was a good idea and that it provides a worthwhile service to the industry. On that basis it has been decided to continue and to develop the services for the furtherance of the industry and its future.

Finally, we would be delighted to hear from any person or organisation who is willing to present to the academy or to provide support in some other way. We are also open to constructive criticism and suggestions as to how we can improve on what we are doing

David Cooper
BSc(Hons), MSc, CEng, FRSA, FIET, FCIBSE

Founding Principal