MUTUAL TRAINING RECOGNITION:

A LOGIC EVOLUTION

Over many years national federations within the deep foundations industry and, more specifically those within the European Federation of Foundation Contractors (EFFC), have made huge efforts to develop theoretical and practical training with one final goal: improving safety.

Well-trained rig drivers are the best prevention to major incidents and dangerous situations. It is an undeniable motivation and matter of professional pride for them.

Today, most EFFC’s member companies encounter problems on cross border job sites. They cannot count on their well-trained and skilled rig drivers because they do not possess the correct certificates or cards to get permission to operate their own rigs in another country.

At present, there are ongoing negotiations between different countries and their national federations to try and overcome this obstacle. This is a first step towards our common goal for “mutual recognition of minimal training requirements”.

For the EFFC Health and Safety working group it is, and will remain, an important topic: it will stay on our agenda until we reach a solution.

All EFFC member countries should come to an agreement on the content of the minimum test requirements that form the basis for acceptance in order to promote both free trade and safe working.

I am calling on all federations to work together to find a resolution as soon as possible. Everyone will agree on the fact that the best skilled and trained operator working with good and well maintained equipment is the best insurance to do a safe job. Crossing borders makes no difference for this statement.

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