

MUTA ISSUES STATEMENT ON HSE CASE

PRESS RELEASE

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HEALTH AND SAFETY EXECUTIVE ISSUES WARNING TO INSPECTORS

MUTA, formerly The Performance Textiles Association, today welcomes an announcement by The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) emphasising the importance of accreditation schemes for the inflatables industry.

Today's announcement follows a successful prosecution brought by the HSE, following its investigation of a non-accredited inspector for issuing invalid safety certificates at various events. The announcement highlights the importance of comprehensive safety checks on all inflatable equipment and acts as a warning to inspectors that legal action will be taken against those who fail to comply with the necessary health and safety standards.

As well as a dedicated Health and Safety Compliance Officer and an NVQ assessment centre for temporary structures MUTA is the only professional body with HSE approved accreditation schemes for both marquees (MUTAmarq) and inflatables (PIPA).

Commenting on the HSE's announcement, Mark John, Chairman of the AIMODS section of MUTA and the PIPA Committee, said:

"MUTA and the PIPA scheme welcomes today's announcement by the HSE, particularly its direct reference to the importance of accreditation schemes including PIPA. We work hard to ensure the inflatable play sector has all the information, assistance and support it needs to comply with all necessary guidelines and we strongly support the HSE in emphasising the role accreditation schemes such as ours play in ensuring best practice."

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors

MUTA has existed for 90 years and represents all facets of the technical textile and temporary structures industry. The Association has over 200 member organisations, from across the UK, and has a valuable reputation, and a strong industry presence. The Association champions standards, technical excellence, skills training and accreditation and has very the significant endorsement of the Health and Safety Executive.

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