



THE ESPY *Newsletter*

MAY 2024

- 1** BIO SITE *All our links in one place!*
- 2** CRANE AND HOIST BASIC USER *Launch*
- 3** ESSENTIAL SAFETY TIPS *Working at Heights*
- 4** MEET OUR TEAM *Nicole, Chef at SP-Wind!*

BIO SITE *All our links in one place!*

Introducing our brand-new Bio Site! We're thrilled to introduce this dynamic platform designed to streamline your online experience with us. Say goodbye to endless scrolling and hunting for links - our Bio Site serves as your one-stop destination for easy access to all our online platforms, including social media pages and our website.

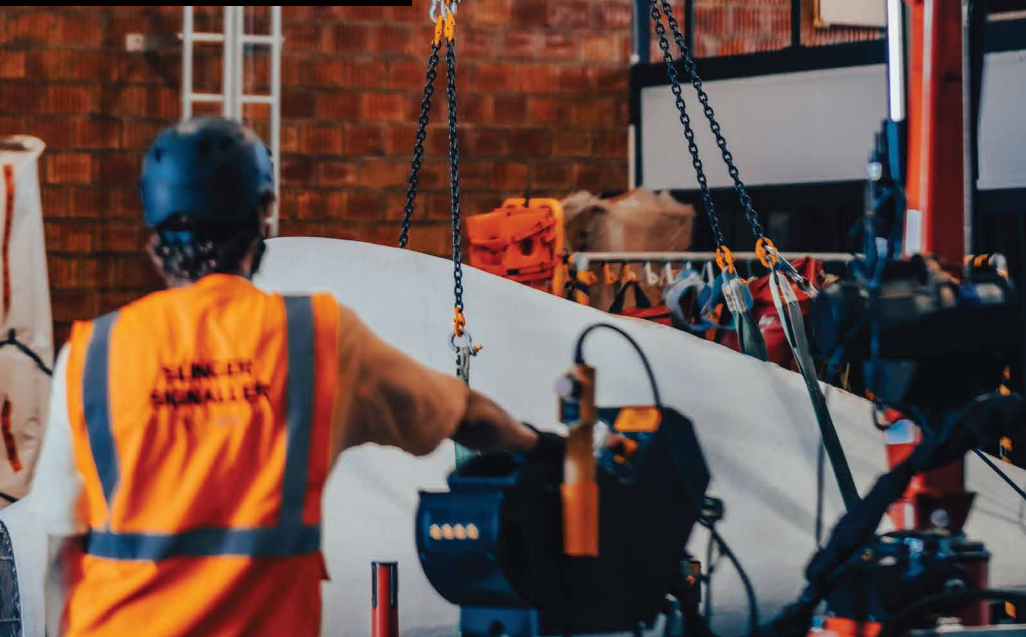
This personalised page houses all the essential links we want to share with our valued audience. Whether you're seeking updates, resources, or engaging content, our Bio Site has you covered.

Join us as we revolutionise accessibility and connectivity in the wind industry community. Experience the convenience firsthand and let our Bio Site elevate your online experience with SP-Wind!

Scan or follow link
bio.site/spwind



CRANE AND HOIST BASIC USER *Launch!*



A significant milestone was marked in March with the launch of the GWO Crane and Hoist Basic User module at SP-Wind. The launch of this module underscores our commitment to pioneering industry standards. In an exclusive interview, we delve into the insights and experiences of the course instructor, Paulo Cordeiro, probing the challenges, triumphs, and the broader implications of this GWO standard.

As an instructor, how was your experience facilitating the GWO CHBU course for the first time?

It is always very tricky instructing new modules. Time management is of essence to

ensure that all the learning required takes place. Although training never goes to plan, we always need to plan ahead. I enjoyed the experience and it was good to see how the inhouse design and fabrication of training props measures up to the quality and expected outcomes.

Could you describe the overall level of engagement from the participants throughout the course?

It was an “experienced” group, hence they had to be challenged to stay motivated. In these situations it is important to stay focussed on the required outcomes and that learning comes from experience, ensuring they leave with some extra knowledge and experiences.

How did you balance the practical and theoretical aspects of the training during the course?

I tried to focus a lot on self-exploring and -learning, providing them with challenges that required reading manuals, finding answers through exploration and have group feedback sessions ensuring all the learning objectives are met.

Can you highlight any specific practical activities or exercises that were particularly effective in enhancing learning outcomes?

Because we are using full scaled training props, there is a reduced severity on the hazards, hence allowing for more “instructing moments”, making room for mistakes and reflection. As an instructor, allowing a participant to operate a crane is nerve racking, but realising that these experienced participants were clued up with it, put me at ease.

Were there any challenges encountered in delivering the course, and if so, how were they addressed?

Yes, there was a challenge of lifting equipment that still needed to be assembled. This opportunity was used to show the participants how it is done, even though assembling is out of the scope of this training module.

What aspects of the course delivery worked exceptionally well, and why?

Without a doubt, by using full scaled training props it is easy to show participants centre of gravity concepts. It is also easy to show deflection on the crane and its effects on the load. These are all concepts that, although

might not be part of course, is important for daily life as it can cause damages and serious injuries.

How did you ensure that participants with varying levels of prior experience or knowledge were adequately accommodated?

This is possible when one is equipped with IQT skills and experience. It is important to show that sometimes having experience means also doing things the wrong way, because of forming bad habits due to following bad examples and/or due to a lack of good examples. When participants have experience, the Instructor takes on the role of guiding the participants with experience to teach those with less experience.

Were there any unexpected discoveries or insights gained while instructing the course for the first time?

Yes, I learned that when it comes to more basic daily lifting activities, such as the lifting of tools to the nacelle, participants actually don't look at it as a "lifting operation" and neglects the hazards and risks.

How did you foster a collaborative and interactive learning environment?

Group activities ensure they communicate and bounce off ideas from one another. Presenting individual activities to the group ensures the participants continuously challenge one another.

How did you leverage technology or instructional tools to enhance the learning experience for participants?

I used our new blended learning system, ensuring they experience the look and feel of our new digital layout, ensuring it is Instructor and participant "friendly" and it worked quite well. I am looking forward to seeing it implemented at 100% throughout all our training modules.

Can you share any memorable moments or success stories from the course that stood out to you?

When the group decided to use a lifting beam to lift our scaled container, and due to their choice of attachment points, I could actually show them how unstable their "lifting method" was. This practical learning experience will help ensure they always take it into consideration in real world situations.

What advice would you offer to instructors who may be teaching this course for the first time in the future?

It is a fun course and can be done with almost 100% active learning. Make room for and allow participants to make

mistakes as that is the best opportunity for learning possible.

How do you see the CHBU course contributing to the overall competency and safety standards within the industry?

I am positive that this module, will create not only safer work environments, but also create awareness to small things such as maintenance of chain hoists and cranes - not necessarily performing them but ensuring routine inspections to lifting accessories are done, before and after, equipping the technicians with the skills to spot early problems that might cause severe consequences.

What were the most valuable takeaways from your experience as the instructor of this course?

Utilising digital blended solutions will allow for improved GWO training, ensuring participants are much more motivated and want to improve their skills and knowledge to allow for opportunities to obtain the required abilities.



ESSENTIAL SAFETY TIPS

BY TANYA OOSTHUIZEN

Working at Heights

In working at heights related industries, safety is crucial. Whether you're working on wind turbines or construction sites, the risk of falling is always there. That's why it's essential to plan carefully, follow strict safety guidelines, while also providing appropriate PFPE.

One of the most important safety measures for working at heights is using fall arrest systems. These systems include various components such as ladders, anchor points, and specialised FAS designed to prevent falls. Following standards - such as EN 363, EN 795, EN 358 - ensures that these systems are safe and reliable and inspected yearly.

Within these systems, full-body harnesses and lanyards play a crucial role. The equipment help distribute the force of a fall. Standards, such as EN 361 and EN 354, ensure that these components are strong and effective.

Regular inspection of equipment is vital. Workers should inspect it for any signs of damage before each use and conduct more thorough checks monthly and yearly to identify hidden issues that will increase the risk of an incident should it be in use.

Training is also essential. Workers need to be trained on how to identify hazards, properly use equipment, and respond in emergencies. Training programs should adhere to standards to ensure they cover all necessary aspects of safety.

In conclusion, by implementing proper safety measures, inspecting equipment regularly, providing comprehensive training, and following industry standards, we can ensure the safety of workforce at heights. These steps are crucial for anyone working in industries where working at heights is part of the job. **SP**



Meet Nicole

CHEF

What did you study and what experience do you have in your field?

I studied Hospitality at Northlink College in Cape Town for 4 years. I have 10 years experience working in kitchen settings in restaurants, hotels, and elderly homes.

What is your role at SP-Wind and what do you enjoy most about it?

I cook nutritious meals daily for participants and our team. Staying fuelled with balanced meals help staying productive and focussed on the tasks ahead. I enjoy having the freedom to experiment with ingredients and to see participants enjoying the meals I prepare.

What is different about working at SP-Wind in comparison to your past working experience in your field?

At SP-Wind there are no on demand, extensive hours of cooking in a kitchen. I get to meet our participants and see all the daily activities happening in and around our training centre.



Inviting all wind industry professionals and enthusiasts!

GWO CERTIFIED TRAINING | STATUTORY INSPECTIONS | GEAR & PPE

office@sp-wind.com www.sp-wind.com +27 (0) 41 467 0004

