

# THE ESPY *Newsletter*

OCTOBER 2025

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## REFRESHER TRAINING *Your Safety Recharge*

At SP-Wind, refresher training isn't just a requirement. It's your safety recharge. These short, focused courses brush up your skills, update your knowledge, and keep you always working to the latest safety standards.

GWO certifications expire every two years for a reason. The wind industry moves quickly, and staying current is essential. Companies must send their teams for Basic Safety Training Refreshers (BSTR) to remain compliant, capable, and safe. Skipping them might seem harmless, but outdated practices and fading skills can put lives at serious risk.



When it comes to working at height, there's no room for guesswork, confidence and up-to-date knowledge save lives.

Our refresher training goes beyond a certificate. With real scenarios and hands-on practice, technicians sharpen skills in a safe, realistic environment. They leave confident, motivated, and ready for anything.

Because the industry keeps changing, so does our training. Our instructors bring the latest updates to life with practical knowledge that's engaging, relevant, and immediately useful.

*By Natalie Mels*

# WIND SAFETY 2025 Compliant PFPE Kits

"Compliance with Personal Fall Protection Equipment (PFPE) standards isn't just ticking boxes; it's about saving lives and protecting companies from liability. Every climb carries risk, and only safe, certified gear stands between a technician and serious accident.

With 2025's updated regulations, both employers and technicians must ensure harnesses, lanyards, and helmets are properly certified, inspected, and fit for purpose. Compliance isn't paperwork; it's protection, professionalism, and peace of mind.

Compliance matters because regulations evolve, and gear that was once acceptable may no longer meet current standards. Using non-compliant equipment exposes technicians to unnecessary risks while increasing company liability, while a compliant kit prioritizes safety, prevents accidents, and provides legal protection if incidents occur.

A compliant kit must include certified essentials such as:

- **Cresto Fall Arrest Harness**  
EN361; EN358
- **Cresto Fall Arrest Lanyards**  
EN355; EN362
- **Cresto Work Position Belt**  
EN358:2018
- **KASK Safety Helmet**  
EN397; EN50365

To simplify compliance and raise the bar for global safety, SP-WIND has developed the 2025 Essentials Kit, which provides a fully certified solution:

- **Cresto Fusion Pro Wind Harness**  
EN361:2002; EN358:2018;  
ANSI/ASSP Z359.11-2014
- **Cresto Fusion Twin-Flex H-A 1.9m Lanyards**  
EN355:2002
- **Cresto Support Lanyard 2370-2**  
EN358:2018
- **KASK Safety Helmet**  
EN397; EN50365

This package aligns with both European and American standards, ensuring technicians have equipment that is recognized and trusted worldwide.

Staying compliant also means remembering that PFPE gear has a 10-year lifespan only if it is properly cared for. That means daily pre-use checks, signed weekly and monthly inspections, and an annual third-party inspection are essential. Tags and labels must also stay intact to ensure full traceability.

Avoiding mistakes is vital. Skipping inspections, marking webbing, poor storage, or misusing lanyards can all weaken gear and shorten its lifespan, putting lives at risk.

The bottom line: compliance is non-negotiable. Certified equipment, proper care, and regular checks protect technicians, their teams, and their companies now and into the future."

*By Juandr  Niemand*



# MEAN ORANGE MACHINE *Training on the Move*

"At SP-Wind, our mission has always been clear: make world-class wind energy training more accessible. We saw that technicians and companies in remote areas often had to travel long distances to access certified training. The answer was bold: design and build a mobile training truck that takes training directly to them. This innovation bridges the gap between skills demand and availability, even enabling cross-border training in countries with wind turbines but no certified providers.

## A Classroom on Wheels:

The truck is a 9-metre heavy-duty trailer fitted with tool benches, electrical panels, mechanical components, and full safety training setups. A rigid truck with its own hydraulic lift makes it possible to run realistic service lift operations and rescue scenarios.

It delivers GWO Basic Technical Training in Electrical, Mechanical, Installation, and Bolt Tightening, GWO Basic Safety Training including Working at Heights, First Aid, Manual

Handling, and Fire Awareness, as well as advanced modules like Service Lift User, Enhanced First Aid, Advanced Rescue, and Crane & Hoist User. It is truly a training centre on wheels and the first of its kind in our region.

## On the Road Ahead:

The truck's inaugural trip will be to Mpumalanga Province, where turbines are rising and local technicians need certification close to home. Beyond South Africa, we are preparing to expand into Ethiopia, Kenya, Namibia, Ghana, Egypt, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Mozambique.

Clients see the benefit immediately: flexibility. Training happens on-site, downtime is reduced, and travel costs disappear. For technicians, it means access where none existed before.

## Behind the Build:

From concept to launch took just under a year. Challenges included

balancing space with practical realism, ensuring GWO standards, and designing for road durability. This project was a custom in-house build that proves SP-Wind can both deliver and reinvent training infrastructure.

For me personally, it was a labour of love. I was deeply involved in the design and build alongside our team, and seeing the "mean orange machine" complete fills me with pride.

If I could showcase it anywhere, it would be Denmark, the birthplace of modern wind training, to show how Africa is leading in innovation. With this mobile training truck, SP-Wind isn't just training technicians.

We are ensuring no one is left behind in the just energy transition."

*By Paulo Cordeiro*





# 10 OCTOBER WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

## STAY SANE. STAY STAY!

Your mental health matters!  
Reach out: 0800 567 567  
(SADAG Helpline)

# WINDABA

## 21 - 23 OCTOBER



Paulo Cordeiro



Jayne van der Nest



Jenna Mulder

Admin / Junior HSE

What is your role at SP-Wind?

I work at SP-Wind as a Training Administrator and Junior HSE. On the training side, I help coordinate and support our courses, making sure everything runs smoothly so that technicians are set up for success. While also starting my journey in HSE and learning the ropes before moving into site work.

What did you study or are currently studying?

I studied Disaster Management and recently began the NEBOSH International Diploma in health and safety.

How do you hope to grow at SP-Wind?

I want to keep building confidence in training and HSE, learning from the team and our systems. My goal is to move into site work, gain practical HSE experience, and eventually lead others as a strong safety professional.