

CHARGE – 4th July 2007

Location: Unite Amicus HQ – West Bromwich

Present: David Appleton (HSE) James Barrett (HSE Chair) David Gilbert (Hanson) Rob Miguel (Amicus) Francis Morrall (BCC)
 Keith Morton (Ibstock) Annette Smith (HSE) Tracey Oliva (HSE) Paul Underwood (Amicus)

Number	Item	Details	Action	
Item 1		Introduction and Apologies		
1.	1.0	Introductions	The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a fair record of proceedings, however Mr Miguel highlighted that an action placed on him had not been recorded. 'To supply the electronic link to the Unite Silica Guide to HSE to enable the link to be inserted on the CHARGE website'. This action has now been completed.	None
	1.1	Apologies	Bob Baldwin (TGWU) Phil Davies (GMB) Dave Donkin (Pilkington) Ian Gibson (BCA) Chris Haigh (TGWU) Declan Moore (BGC) Phil Smith (HSE) Irene Stevenson (Proskills) Mick Young (Unity)	None
Item 2		Actions from previous meeting		
2.	8.1	Migrant Workers	Update: The Chair previously asked the meeting to consider the issues surrounding migrant workers and how these are being tackled.	
Action Points		8.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Action outstanding: Mr Baldwin offered to obtain copies of the 'Union Learn' publication for the committee, which features an article on this issue. 	Mr Baldwin
2.	4.0	Strategy Document – Strategic aim	The Chair previously asked if a sub committee could be formed to discuss the strategic direction of the group. The sub committee consists of Mr Gibson, Mr Moore, Mr Morrall, Dr Smith and Mr Underwood. A first draft of 'CHARGE...towards the future' has been disseminated to the meeting for comment.	
Action Points		4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Document to be re-distributed to the committee and discussed at the next meeting. 	Dr Smith
2.	8.0	Heat stress – Mr Moore	Heat stress is an on going problem with CHARGE industries. The glass industry is proposing to undertake a study to pin point the relationship between core body and tympanic membrane temperature to establish a reliable differential between the two. A lot of the background work to this research has been completed and 50% of the £65k required for funding has been found. As this research will benefit all CHARGE industries it is hoped that the remainder of the funding can be split amongst industry. Update: £56k of the £65k required to fund the research has been secured with just under 50% being provided by IOSH. Mr Moore is looking to secure a further £9k. The committee made various suggestions where this could be raised.	
Action Points		8.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Update: The Chair has made a request for funding. 	Mr Barrett
2.	3.0	LEV Presentation	Mr Appleton provided the committee with a presentation on local exhaust ventilation. The study highlighted that 20% of UK firms have respiratory risks, with 30–40% of these having no LEV, many more having ineffective LEV and 30-50% not having annual inspections. It is estimated that effective LEV control could benefit 800,000 – 1,000,000 workers.	

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Action Points	3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mr Appleton to establish if any CHARGE industries are included in these figures. <p>Update: No specific problems identified within CHARGE industries, but where LEV is provided and the WEL is exceeded, then LEV is not acting as an effective control measure.</p>	Discharged	
Item 3	REACH Presentation			
3.	3.2	REACH Presentation	<p>Annette Smith from HSEs Chemicals Assessment Schemes Unit provided the committee with a presentation on REACH.</p> <p>Further information regarding REACH can be found at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 'Chemicals agency begins to extend its REACH' - http://www.endseuropereport.com/links/792 ▪ DEFRA – http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/chemicals/reach/ <p>Attached with these minutes is a copy of Annette's presentation and CPIV guidelines for the glass industry.</p> <p>The European Chemicals Agency website is now up an running - http://ec.europa.eu/echa</p>	Discharged
Item 4	FOD Delivery Plan			
4.	4.0	FOD Delivery Plan	<p>The 3 topics to affect CHARGE industries are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brick Initiative (October 2007 – March 2008) Inspection intervention. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FOD resource – At least 1 visit to major players, followed by a meeting with Senior Management and Safety Representatives to establish an action plan, if required, that would be rolled out across the whole company. It is anticipated that 85% of smaller companies will have individual site visits. ▪ The Topic Pack for inspectors will be available in due course and will be made available to CHARGE industries via the HSE website. 2. HAV and Noise – 3-year programme (2006/07 – HAV, 2007/08 – Noise). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Targets for 2007/08 are activities presenting unnecessary noise exposure in manufacturing (specifically, in concrete products, plastics and rubber and woodworking) and construction. ▪ The programme will be focusing on a range of processes where there are significant noise issues and known solutions to establish a standard across industry. ▪ Some assessment of occupational health surveillance will take place where employees are exposed excessively to noise. ▪ For further information visit: http://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/sectors/manuf/03_07_08.pdf 	Mr Appleton
			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. MGS3 – (October 2007 – March 2008) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will be focusing on the handling of goods at manufacturer sites through to user. ▪ Falls from Vehicles – will be a heightened awareness campaign during October/November 2007. At this stage there are no plans for inspectors to make specific site visits. ▪ Loading/unloading vehicles – Brick and pre-cast concrete will be looked at as part of this programme, which will run from October 2007 – March 2008. ▪ For further information visit: http://www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/sectors/cactus/5_07_01.pdf <p>For information – Legionella may come in later in the year.</p>	Mr Appleton

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Item 5		Sprains and Strains Toolkit		
5.	5.0	Sprains and Strains Toolkit (MSD)	A copy of the Sprains and Strains (MSD) Toolkit was circulated to the committee prior to the meeting.	
Action Point	5.1		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Comments to Mr Morrall by mid July 2007 	All
Item 6		Social Dialogue Agreement		
6.	6.1	Social Dialogue Agreement – Crystalline Silica	<p>Mr Appleton raised the dilemmas faced by medical professionals when diagnosing silicosis in workers exposed to crystalline silica. Silicosis currently diagnosed by X-ray, poses its own health risks by exposing the patient to ionising radiation. Under current legislation the onus is placed on the medical professional to decide the frequency of chest X-rays based on individual patient assessments.</p> <p>A meeting comprising of Silica Industry Representatives, Occupational Health Professionals and HSE will be convened shortly in Buxton to discuss the issue and agree a common viewpoint.</p>	Standing item
Action Point	6.2		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Mr Appleton to establish if a representative from the Institute of Occupational Medicine has been invited to attend. 	Mr Appleton
	6.3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o HSE Silica Web Community – if you would like to join the community please click on the link. HSE Web Communities - Silica Exposure 	All
6.	6.2	Kerb Blocks	Mr Miguel would like a response from the Concrete Federation regarding a decision not to recommend low content silica aggregate be used during the manufacture of kerb blocks. The Chair recommended that Mr Miguel should write directly to the Federation for a response.	
Action Point			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Mr Miguel to write to the British Precast Concrete Federation. 	Mr Miguel
Item 7		CHARGE Website Update		
7.	7.1	CHARGE website	The CHARGE website is now 'live' and can be accessed through the Manufacturing Pages of the HSE Website.	
Action Point			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o CHARGE members wishing their details to be added to the 'contacts' page should e-mail either Mr Appleton or Mrs Oliva. o Mr Appleton will send a note to absent CHARGE members extending the invitation for their contact details to be placed on the site. 	All Mr Appleton
Item 8		Noise in Concrete		
8.	8.1	Noise in Concrete	Covered under Item 4 – FOD Delivery Plan.	
Item 9		A.O.B		
9.	9.0	Rehabilitation	Mr Morrall made the committee aware that the PLEDGE Health and Safety Management Report 2001 – 2006 has been published. To tackle the plateau in the reduction of reported incidents PLEDGE will be focusing more closely on rehabilitation. Mr Morrall extended this work to all CHARGE industries and asked the committee to consider if the development of a Rehabilitation toolkit that incorporates an Occupational Health Scheme should be developed. The committee agreed.	

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Action Point	9.1	o If you would like to join the working group to develop the Rehabilitation Toolkit please contact Mr Morrall .	All
	9.2	Union Merger Mr Miguel reported that Amicus and T&G have merged and will now be know as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Unite Amicus Section ▪ Unite T&G Section 	Discharged
	9.3	Toxicology of Silica Mr Morrall announced that results from the Silica Research Project should be available at the end of September 2007.	Discharged
	9.4	Greenstreet Berman Research Project The Chair announced that HSEs GSB Research Report into Industry Initiatives should be available by the next CHARGE meeting. In brief, targeted initiatives do work however some schemes are more successful than others.	Ms Oliva
Item 10	Date and venue of next meeting		
	Monday 26 th November 2007 at Ipstock Offices, Leicester		