

CHARGE – 5th July 2006

Location: Hanson Red Bank – Leicestershire

Present: David Appleton (HSE)	Bob Baldwin (TGWU)	James Barrett (HSE Chair)	Andrew Bruce (Hansons – Observer)
Amanda Ettridge (HSE)	David Gilbert (Hanson)	Chris Haigh (TGWU)	Rob Miguel (Amicus)
Declan Moore (BGC)	Francis Morrall (BCC)	Keith Morton (Ibstock)	Tracey Oliva (HSE Minutes)
Phil Smith (HSE Secretary)	Eric Turner (Proskills)	Paul Underwood (Amicus)	

Number	Item	Details	Action
Item 1			
Introduction and Apologies			
	1.0	Introductions	None
	1.1	Apologies	None
Item 2			
Actions from previous meeting			
	3.1	S&T - Toolkit	Mr Appleton
	3.2	S&T - Feedback	Mr Morrall
	3.3	S&T - Gratitude	Closed
	10.2	REACH	None
	10.3	Strategic aim	Dr Smith / All
	10.4	Passport Scheme	None

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Item 3		Silica	
3.0	Update – Mr Morrall	<p>The industry is awaiting confirmation of the 0.1 mg.m⁻³ WEL (Work Exposure Limit.) Certain sectors may have difficulty in achieving this. Arrangements are being made to make industry aware of the changes to the WEL and BCC is committed to the process.</p> <p>In Europe the Social Partners Agreement was signed on the 26th March 2006 and is currently being translated into 25 languages, the agreement commences on 25th October 2006.</p> <p>The agreement applies to a range of sectors, including ceramics, however it is felt the work done to date should prove its worth. As part of the agreement the sector will be required to monitor and produce a report every two years.</p>	None
3.3	HSE Disease Reduction – Amanda Ettridge	<p>Amanda from HSE Disease Reduction Programme gave a power point presentation on silica to the committee. (This has been disseminated.)</p> <p>The Commission met on the 4th July 2006 and have agreed that with effect from 1st October 2006 the WEL for Respirable Crystalline Silica (RCS) will change to 0.1 mg.m⁻³.</p> <p>Amanda emphasised that we were not formally involved in the Social Dialogue however, COSHH Essentials had been used as the basis of the Task Guidance sheets for the good practice guidance of the dialogue arrangements. HSE Inspectors would base inspections on COSHH Essentials.</p> <p>Over the next three years (WEF 1st October 2006) HSE's workplan involves targeting these specific industries:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Year 1 – Stonemasons ▪ Year 2 – Brick makers / Kerb-cutting (construction supply-chain initiative) ▪ Year 3 – Quarries <p>Leaflets are being re-written and will be industry specific.</p> <p>Health Surveillance – this is still being considered due to the limitations of diagnosing silicosis through the use of x-rays and the associated risks of exposure to ionising radiation. Information will be made available through the COSHH system.</p>	None
Action Points	3.4	Amanda invited the group to enlist the Disease Reduction team in delivering the message to industry directly and invited any comments and feedback to be fed through to her. (amanda.ettridge@hse.gsi.gov.uk)	All
	3.5	Dr Smith suggested CHARGE could take the lead on organising events to promote the topic and to educate industry to the change in WEL. If they would like HSE input please contact Dr Smith.	All
Item 4		Workplace Health Connect	
4.0	Declan Moore	<p>A power point presentation will be circulated electronically with these minutes.</p> <p>Workplace Health Connect is a confidential service for employers and employees to provide free, practical advice on workplace healthcare in smaller businesses (5 – 250 workers.)</p> <p>There are currently 5 regions offering an inspection and advice service – Greater London, North East, North West, South Wales and West Midlands. The Chair reported that the roll out of the planned sixth region has been put on hold.</p> <p>Initial evaluation of the scheme shows that 70% of calls made since the initiative began in February were received from employers and 802 visit requests had been received. The Chair asked if the percentage of calls had been split down to distinguish between health related queries and safety issues.</p>	
Action Points	4.1	Mr Miguel agreed to raise the issue at the next board meeting of the London provider and to enquire how many companies have paid for consultations.	Mr Miguel

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Item 5		Workplace Transport	
5.0	Group feedback	<p>Since the last CHARGE meeting in March the working group have met on a number of occasions and produced an advanced draft of the workplace transport toolkit. The toolkit is based on the same principles as the slips and trips toolkit. The group envisages they will need two more meetings to produce the final version for piloting. The working group intend to launch the WPT toolkit at the PLEDGE conference on the 12th October 2006.</p> <p>Due to the complexity of WPT the forms have been approached from a slightly different perspective than the S&Ts to provide users with the correct thought process, encapsulating the key topics - safe site, safe vehicle, safe driver.</p> <p>The toolkit should be ready for piloting and circulation to the CHARGE committee by mid summer.</p> <p>The Chair congratulated the group for the work produced so far.</p>	None
Item 6		MSD	
6.0	Toolkit	<p>Mr Aston originally started this project and a lot of the background work has been done, however, the mantle has been passed to Mr Appleton who needs to form a new team to build upon what has already been done and bring the project to completion. Mr Appleton would like to follow the same philosophy as the S&Ts & WPT toolkits. Volunteers to assist with the project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr Underwood volunteered. ▪ Mr Miguel may have an ergonomist, he will confirm. 	
Action Points	6.1	Volunteers to Dr Smith by the end of July 2006.	All
Item 7		HSE Programmes	
7.0	Proposals 2007/08	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Disease Reduction Programme has proposals for operational interventions for dust / fumes / gases & vapours. Those relevant to CHARGE industries include: Revised guidance for Silica Essentials following the change of WEL with effect from 1st October 2006. The proposed enforcement campaign to follow the introduction of the WEL includes: <u>Brickworks</u> – enforcement intervention with direct feedback by HSE Inspectors on individual sites going to company Head Offices for roll-out throughout their companies. Health and Safety Advisory Officers (HSAO) to visit smaller brickworks to raise awareness, offer guidance and advice. In the <u>construction</u> industry there is a proposed initiative to reduce respiratory disease in stone / kerb cutters looking at the supply chain and what can be done to reduce risks, for example by providing products which require less on-site cutting, as well as end user controls. ▪ <u>Carcinogens programme</u> – 2007/08 workshop in spring 2007 to inform stakeholders of HSE plans. Currently at the early information-gathering stage but may include the ceramics industry (polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons) and users of refractory ceramic fibres (RCFs). ▪ <u>BACKs – Autumn 2007</u> the emphasis will shift to Upper Limb Disorders (ULD) and DSE. There is an ULDs toolkit being developed similar to the MAC tool which may be trialled during this year's campaign. No target companies have been identified yet. ▪ Managing Sickness and Return to Work will continue as part of Backs 2006, and may be extended next year to include stress management. The Chair asked the group if this would form part of industries workplan for 2007/08. <p>A member of the committee reported that their company had implemented a Stress / Rehabilitation and</p>	

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			<p>Return to Work programme which has been running for two years. This year's figures showed that out of a 2000 strong workforce 12 members of staff had been referred with 75% of these cases having personal issues as the root cause not work related stress.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Workplace Transport</u> – will concentrate on falls from vehicles especially in connection with logistics operations and delivery drivers (loading / unloading) 	
7.1	Feedback on current years workplan		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Height Aware Campaign <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ On course to deliver 5% reduction by target date 2008 ◆ 36 Safety and Health Awareness Days (SHADs) and 34 Breakfast events have been held with more planned until the end of September, places are still available ◆ Information sheets have been produced ◆ The revamped website has been very successful ◆ The Chair promoted INDG403 – 'A toolbox talk on leaning ladder and stepladder safety' ▪ Slips and Trips - floor cleaning campaign in the Midlands Division. F2508s are being investigated if they meet the accident selection criteria ▪ BACKs Campaign (Autumn 2006) – increased emphasis on staying active with back pain, and will also include managing sickness absence and return-to-work arrangements ▪ The Chair brought to the committee's attention the current public consultation 'Improving Worker Involvement – Improving health and safety'. The consultation sets out options aimed at increasing the quality and quantity of worker involvement in health and safety risk management by voluntary initiatives or by strengthening the legal requirements for consultation with employees. Committee members are invited to comment on the three pillars of HSE strategy: legislation, guidance and encouragement. (www.hse.gov.uk/consult/condocs/cd207.htm) 	
Action Points	7.2		Dr Smith to arrange for the HSE Carcinogens programme manager to present at the next meeting	Dr Smith
Item 8	AOB			
8.0	Euroweek 2006		<p>This years campaign slogan is 'Safe Start' and is dedicated to the occupational safety and health of young people. European Week 2006 will run from 23rd – 27th October, with an inspection day being held on the 25th. There are action packs available for distribution, links to stakeholder websites - IOSH and LSC, guidance, Basic Hazard Awareness Course, events and competitions.</p> <p>If you have anything you would like to share outlining work you have done in this field please let the Chair know. If you would like to organise your own activities and events visit: European Week for Safety and Health at Work 2006.</p>	All
8.1	Migrant Workers		<p>Currently HSE is focusing on the issue of migrant workers. The Chair asked the group to consider from an industry point of view if there is enough instruction, information and training material available to deal with this issue?</p> <p>The main employment sectors migrant workers fall into are catering, farming/food and construction, however, the number of delivery drivers is growing. Is this affecting your industry? If so, how are you tackling this issue?</p>	
Action Points	8.2		All to consider the Chair's questions and to feedback.	All
	8.3		Mr Baldwin offered to obtain copies of the 'Union Learn' publication for the committee which features an article on this issue.	Mr Baldwin

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	8.4	Mr Turner offered to find out what training and funding is available for the next meeting	Mr Turner
Item 9	Date and venue of next meeting		
Wednesday 18 th October 2006 at the HSE offices in Nottingham			