

Foundries Industry Advisory Committee

Minutes of the 46th meeting of the Foundries Industry Advisory Committee held on Thursday 17 October 2002 at 10.30am at the Cast Metals Federation, The National Metal Forming Centre, 47 Birmingham Road, West Bromwich

Present

Mr M Cross
Mr P Harvey
Mrs L Weston

Representing

Chair – HSE
Secretary – HSE
Minute Secretary - HSE

Dr G Morley
Mr M Shenton
Mr J Parker
Mr R Turley
Mr K Talbot
Mr R O'Sullivan

CBI
CBI
CBI
CBI
CBI
CBI

Mr T McCarthy
Mr S Singh

TUC
TUC

Apologies

Mr T Hay
Mr M Bonnet
Mr T Parker
Mr J Walsh
Mr A Robson

Observers

Mrs P Murrell

Summary of Action agreed:

1. THE FUTURE OF FIAC

Setup a working group to decide how to take this committee forward.

2. CORE TARGETS WORKING GROUP

A working group to be setup to decide how to take this initiative forward.

3. HEALTH AND VIBRATION SUB-COMMITTEE

Chairman needed for this committee.

4. HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING FOR FOUNDRY WORKERS

Reconvene the working group prior to the next FIAC meeting.

1. INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to his first meeting and gave members a brief history of his career so far as a means of introduction. The Secretary and members then did the same. Apologies were noted. Mr Parker was thanked for hosting the meeting.

2. MINUTES OF THE 45TH MEETING HELD ON 21 MARCH 2002

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

3.1 Members were informed of a staff change: M Cross chairman would be taken up a new position in HQ, a new chairman would be in post by the next meeting.

4. THE FUTURE OF FIAC

In order for the HSC to concentrate in achieving its Revitalising Targets a fundamental review of its work with advisory committees has been undertaken. The findings of this review indicate that the majority of advisory committees will be decoupled from HSC and their work delegated to HSE. Decoupling AC's from HSE would reduce the bureaucratic mountain generated and give the new bodies an opportunity to reconstitute under new rules. Membership could be expanded to include training bodies, suppliers, manufacturers bodies and other representatives.

Points raised by members:

- This committee has produced very good work and members did not want this to go unnoticed;
- Change of HSE staff has upset the working of the committee;
- The committee must continue to support tripartite bodies with HSE taking the lead.

Action agreed: To setup a working group to decide how this committee would reconstitute. Looking at how to achieve things, membership, paperwork etc. Working group members: Richard O'Sullivan, John Parker, Tony McCarthy, Glyn Morley, Martin Shenton and Paul Harvey.

5 Core Targets Working Group

Research to evaluate the feasibility of setting targets to reduce accidents and ill health in the foundry industry has been completed and it has been agreed to reduce foundry accidents by 10% per annum. Ill health incidents will not be included in this target.

Action agreed: This to be taken forward by way of a working group to include: R Turley, J Parker, T McCarthy and P Harvey.

6. Health and Vibration Sub-committee

The Noise and Vibration sub-committee has not met since January 2001. This is due to the current plan of work being almost completed.

Action agreed: A chairman for this committee is still needed. Nominations to be sent to T Hay.

7. Health and Safety training for foundry workers, G Morley

Five foundries have taken part in this training initiative. Initial finding was that a considerable amount of the workforce was bilingual, and this issue would need to be taken forward. Standup presentation not very effective, much preferred was the hands on training.

Action agreed: To reconvene the working group prior to the next FIAC meeting
Members: P Harvey, J Parker, P Murrell, G Morley and J Walsh.

To be included as an agenda item for the next FIAC meeting on 17th April 2003.

8. Noise Best Practice Project, G Morley

Project expected to be completed by the end of year. Guidance will be in the form of free information sheets, which will be part of a mailshot to all foundries.

9. MANUAL HANDLING PROJECT, M BIRTLES

P Harvey due to meet M Birtles, he will report back to members following his meeting.

10 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Zircon – J Parker

J Parker - Zircon

Investment Casting foundries are currently carrying out some measurements into Zircon. Helpfully will confirm it's a clean bill of health.

10.2 Silica – P Harvey

Respirable Crystalline Silica has a MEL of $0.3\text{mg}/\text{m}^{-3}$. Recent research has found this level is unsafe and that a lower limit of $0.1\text{mg}/\text{m}^{-3}$ is needed. This is likely to be brought in soon.

10.3 Race Relations Act – P Harvey

The above act places new duties upon organisations such as HSE to ensure that its work promotes equality of opportunity across all racial groups. P Harvey to write to trade associations to seek assistance to ensure a working way of maintaining equality for all racial groups.

10.4 Revitalising

The discussion document on Revitalising Health and Safety in Construction available from:

www.hse.gov.uk/disdocs/construction.htm

11. **DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

Thursday 17th April 2003 and Thursday 23rd October 2003 to be held in: HSE Marches Office, Newcastle under Lyme, at 10.30am.

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