

Foundries Industry Advisory Committee

Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Foundries Industry Advisory Committee held on Thursday 23 October 2003 at 10.00am at the Health and Safety Executives Offices, Marches House, Newcastle under Lyme.

Present

Mr J Barrett
Mr P Harvey
Mrs L Weston
Mr A Barrett
Mr N Smith
Dr G Morley
Mr P Clews
Mr J Parker
Mr R Turley
Mr T McCarthy
Mr D Wells

Representing

Chair – HSE
Secretary – HSE
Minute Secretary – HSE
HSE (Speaker)
HSE (Speaker)
Casting Technology International
TGWU
Casting Metals Federation
Roger Turley Engineering Consultancy
NUDAGO
Casting Technology International
(Observer)

Apologies

Mr R O'Sullivan QDF Components Ltd
Mrs P Murrell Institute of Cast Metal Engineers
Mr M Shenton James W Shenton Ltd
Mr T Parker Amicus - MSF

1. INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed everyone to this the first meeting of the newly reconstituted FIAC.

2. NOMINATION OF MEMBERS AND APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN AND SECRETARY

Membership

Neale Talbot has recently resigned, Paul Harvey to send thank you letter. John Parker to seek replacement.

A full representative of union members was expected at this meeting, however several were absent. Paul Harvey to take this issue forward.

Following feedback from members it was agreed that HSE should continue the role as chairman and secretary of this committee.

3. **MINUTES OF THE 47TH MEETING HELD ON 17 APRIL 2003**

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

4. **MATTERS ARISING**

Item 7 – Noise and Vibration Subcommittee

As yet it has not been decided to reconvene this subcommittee

Item 13.1 – Face Fitting

David Wells awaiting a reply from Bob Rajan (HSE) in response to some concerns he has raised. Paul Harvey to chase up and if appropriate circulate the reply to members.

5. **SHIFT INITIATIVE – REPORT ON PROGRESS**

John Parker reported about the launch of the SHIFT initiative at the National Metalforming Centre on the 9th July 2003. More than 120 industry representatives attended the event from foundries, trade union, support organisation, HSE and the trade press. To date 130 companies have signed up for the initiative.

The first SHIFT awareness event took place in September and three further regional awareness events are planned for the 13th, 18th and 19th of November in Leeds, Birmingham and Bristol respectively.

Members of FIAC are currently drafting various guidance documents.

The outline structure of the SHIFT website was tabled at the meeting.

Action agreed: Action – Members were ask to forward any comments about the structure of the website to John Parker as soon as possible.

6. **OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE**

Glyn Morley reported on the Health Sub Group (Furfuryl Alcohol) held on 28th August 2003. The meeting was held following the publication of Chemical Hazard Alert Notice (CHAN) 33 on 15th April 2003.

Actions agreed following meeting:

- A Garrod (HSE) to draft COSHH Essentials Guidance
- M Meldrum (HSE) to arrange for the existing CHAN to be removed and replaced with a new version that was linked to the COSHH Essentials Control Sheet
- G Morley to investigate whether any companies have ill health data from health surveillance schemes.
- P Harvey to investigate the possibilities of carrying out an epidemiological study into the effects of furfuryl alcohol in foundry workers.

7. ELECTROMAGNETIC DIRECTIVE – IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FOUNDRY INDUSTRY

Arwel Barrett gave a presentation on the Electromagnetic Directive. Members were informed about the 4-year transition period, which will begin next year. Adoption likely June 2004 and Regulations in place by June 2008.

Possible areas of concern for the foundry industry:

High current use, applications near conductors

Induction heaters

Magnetic crack detection

Possible electromagnets

Useful Sources:

www.nrpb.org

www.who.int/peh-emf

www.icirp.org

kirsty.marshall@hse.gsi.gov.uk

Points raised

Unrealistic timescale for the industry particularly the SME's, due to the lack of expertise and knowledge available within the industry.

Felt that the industry did not have such a big problem as is thought, but could be difficult to prove.

Action agreed: To setup a small project team to discuss ways of setting benchmarks: Arwel Barrett (HSE), Paul Harvey (HSE), John Parker (CMF), Glyn Morley (CTI) and a representative from the manufacturers suppliers.

8. HEALTH AND SAFETY TRAINING IN FOUNDRIES – FINAL REPORT

Glyn Morley reported that this project has not yet been completed.

Action agreed: It is expected that a final version of this report be presented at the next FIAC meeting.

9. ACCIDENT STATISTICS AND PROSECUTIONS/ACCIDENTS

Report on accident and ill health in the foundries industry produced by Nick Dickety (HSL) had been reissued to members due to some inaccurate statistical information. 2001/02 (basis metals) figures were discussed.

Action agreed: Paul to obtain figures from previous years and circulate to members.

10. CONSULTATIVE DOCUMENTS

A strategy for workplace health and safety in GB 2010 and beyond.
Comments on this document needed by 1st December 2003

www.hse.gov.uk/consult/condocs/strategycd.pdf

Consultation Document 189 – Proposals to introduce a new occupational exposure limit (OEL) framework.

Comments on this document needed by 31st December 2003

www.hse.gov.uk/consult/condocs/cd189.htm

New Consultative Documents:

Vibration Regulations – expected out November 2003

Working at height - expected out December 2003

Noise Regulations – expected out March 2004

11. ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH INSURERS SCHEME

News release from the ABI encouraging industry groups to create audit groups – documents to aim for

- 1) Improved health and safety
- 2) Reducing costs

Agreed Action: Paul Harvey to contact British Printing Industry Federation for a copy of their health and safety checklist.

12. DEVELOPMENTS OF COSHH ESSENTIALS FOR FOUNDRIES

Information sheets will shortly be available via the HSE website. These information sheets will tie in with the recent changes to the exposure limits framework.

Points raised

There were concerns with the content of the information sheets.

Agreed Action: Members were asked to send their comments onto Paul Harvey as soon as possible.

andrew.garrod@hse.gsi.gov.uk

13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

14. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 22nd April 2004 and 21st October 2004 to be held in:

HSE's Offices, 1 Hagley Road, Birmingham B16 8TG at 10.00am.

Close