

AFAG PAPER 12/01 AFAG PROJECTS 2012- 2013
Position as 18 04 2012

AFAG Project (+ Leader)	Current position
1. Development of European Chainsaw Certificates (J Brown)	Ongoing.
2. Reduce accidents involving chain saws (E Ramsay)	Work to be progressed by WG (Emily Ramsay, Neil McKay and Pete Jackson,)
3. Improving Management of Work at Height (Alex Laver)	Project to cover tree climbing, rigging and use of cranes, Work being progressed through AA WG.
4. Machine Assisted Takedown of Trees (I Sutherland)	Work completed. Check to be made on what can be taken forward from Graeme Hodgson's report.
5. Market surveillance (product design) (H Fairley)	<p>1. Gravity-fed Woodchippers (Arb/amenity) – Feed chute length on specific m/cs inadequate – non-compliance with current standards. Check on current situation to be made at APF.</p> <p>2. Crane-fed Woodchippers (Forestry) – Guarding inadequate to prevent access. Check on current situation to be made at APF.</p> <p>3. 360-degree excavators (used on steep ground in forestry for harvesting, etc) – New ROPS standard proposed by ISO lower than UK standard and inadequate for UK operations (IS to check?)</p>
6. Safe Tree work near Overhead Power Lines (I Sutherland)	<p>Aim to review and devise safe methods of harvesting timber and other tree work in forestry and arboricultural operations close to overhead power lines (OHPLs), including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standards and definitions in all relevant guidance to be consistent (eg 'Danger Zones' and safe working distances. In particular GS6 and AFAG 804 <p>ENA Project on machine takedown in red zone – Work still on going – revised AFAG 804 needs further drafting.</p>

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7. Small scale self-propelled machinery in forestry (Duncan Ireland)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review the range of machines currently available in the UK; 2. Confirm that their integral protective structures are fit for purpose and comply with the legislation; 3. Work with suppliers and manufacturers to ensure that any issues identified are addressed; 4. Develop guidance for the industry on the suitable risk assessment process that should be applied to the use of these machines and provide good practice guidance on their safe use; <p>Promote guidance and communicate risk management and project messages directly through the Forestry Commission, industry associations and exhibitions/demonstration events, as well as via specialist trade publications.</p> <p>FC to see if resources available to progress.</p>
8. Felling of Large Trees (James Brown)	<p>Two issues</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Training in suitable felling techniques for large trees. 2. Need for 2 people at the base of the tree under some circumstances. WG leader Donald McLean - to circulate amended paper..
9. Promotion of Occupational Health Services (I Sutherland)	<p>Check position</p>
10. Hand Arm Vibration (Colin Saunders)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FC agreed to fund further research on trigger times for a range of forestry/arb equipment that will be of use across a range of other industries – Supported and encouraged by HSE national Noise and Vibration team. 2. FC produced ‘good practice’ guidance (in collaboration with HSE N&V Specialists) – to be shared with others. FC to check position re 1 and 2 3. HSE Specialist N&V Team propose a project targeting manfrs/importers/suppliers to encourage provision of adequate information for users. The project was launched and is being taken forward internationally but due to current constraints in the UK work on this is on hold until next work year.
11. Noise (Colin Saunders)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. HSE Specialist N&V Team propose a project targeting manufacturers/importers/suppliers to encourage provision of adequate information for users. The project was launched and is being taken forward internationally but due to current constraints in the UK work on this is on hold until next work year. 2. HSE’s new “Buy Quiet” initiative launched March 2010. Revised web site due to be launched shortly

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12. Managing Health and Safety on Sites (Phil Higginbotham)	Revision of INDG 294 almost complete. Comments to be progressed through WG.
13. Lone Working (I Sutherland)	To be progressed.