

Foundries Industry Advisory Committee

Minutes of the 45th meeting of the Foundries Industry Advisory Committee held on Thursday 21 March 2002 at 10.30am in the Marches House, Midway, Newcastle-under-Lyme

Present

Mr G Baker
Mr M Fahey
Mrs L Weston
Mr T Hay

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

Mr M Bergman
Mr T Parker
Mr T McCarthy
Mr A Robson

Ms S Gadd
Mr N Dickety
Mr M Birtles

Apologies

Mr M Bonnet
Mr J Walsh
Mr S Singh
Mr R O'Sullivan

Representing

Chair
Secretary
Minute Secretary
HSE

CBI
CBI
CBI
CBI
CBI

TUC
TUC
TUC
TUC

HSL
HSL
HSL

Observers

Mr G Roper
Mr S Griffiths
Mr J Tickner
Mrs P Murrell
Mr R Wood
Mr K Longrigg
Mr D Oddy

Summary of Action agreed:

1. CODE OF PRACTICE FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Members were reminded to send their 'Expressions of Interest' forms to the Secretary as soon as possible.

2. CORE TARGETS WORKING GROUP, REF NO MC/45/1

A working group to be setup to discuss the possibility of a launch.

A letter to be sent to all foundries detailing the 'core target' initiative (letter attached).

3. MANUAL HANDLING PROJECT, M BIRTLES

Members to send any issues/photographs of best practice to M Birtles at Health and Safety Laboratory, Broad Lane, Sheffield

1. Chair's introduction

The Chair welcomed members and observers. Apologies were noted.

2. Minutes of the 44th meeting held on 18 October 2001

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record.

3. Matters arising

Mr C Westley has resigned. HSE secretariat have been informed.

Members were informed of staff changes: G Baker and M Fahey will be leaving the Metal and Minerals Sector and taking up new posts. The members thanked them both for all the hard work they had put into FIAC over the years.

M Cross based in the Wreham office will be G Baker's replacement, M Fahey's has yet to be decided; in the interim T Hay will carry out this work.

4. Code of Practice for Advisory Committees, Ref No MC/44/1

4.1 'Expressions of Interest' forms were needed. A number had already been received, however there are still some missing.

Action Agreed: Members were reminded to send their 'Expressions of Interest' forms to the Secretary as soon as possible.

5. Core Targets Working Group, Ref No MC/45/1

5.1 Research to evaluate the feasibility of setting targets to reduce accidents and ill-health in the foundry industry has been completed and the paper RAS/02/06 was presented by the researchers (Health and Safety Laboratory) at the meeting. The profile of accident causation ascribes over 70% of the total number of accidents in terms of five categories: injured using equipment; falls at the same level; injured while handling/manipulating objects; strain through lifting/carrying/pulling; and burns.

Members agreed to adopt a 3 year campaign to reduce foundries accidents by 10% per annum. This to be taken forward by way of a launch in around October 2002. Paper No RAS/02/06 'Analysis of Accidents in the Foundry Industry' to be kept as a internal document until after the launch.

Action Agreed: The working group will continue to explore the way forward, e.g., the

launch and publicity. The attached letter to be sent to all foundries detailing the 'core target' initiative.

6. Health and Vibration Sub-committee, T Hay

The Noise and Vibration Sub-committee has not met since January 2001. This is due to the current plan of work being almost completed. The committee is still without a chairman, Trevor Hay has been taken the part of acting chairman. Members agreed for Trevor Hay to continue with this role.

Three new foundries information sheets have been publications and are available free of charge from HSE Books:

No 10 - Assessing the need for action

No 11 - Hand arm vibration in foundries - furnace and ladle relining operations

No 12 - A purchasing policy for vibration reduced tools in foundries

Information sheets 11 and 12 are to form part of a free mailshot to foundries. The mailshot will comment on the risk of HAVS in foundries. (Letter attached to minutes)

FIAC members thanked the work that the Sub-committee had carried out.

Action Agreed: The Secretary to send copies of each information sheet to every foundry with attached covering letter.

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

7.1 Five foundries are taking part in this training initiative which will be completed and evaluated July 2002.

8 Noise Best Practice Project, G Morley

8.1 Project expected to be completed by mid/late autumn. 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

9.1 Visited twelve foundries. Free information sheets will be sent out in a mail shot to foundries.

Action Agreed: Members to send any issues/photographs of best practice to M Birtley at HSL, Broad Lane, Sheffield

10. Any Other Business

10.1 J Parker - competent persons

No clear definition of what a 'competent person' is, however it is certain that someone given specific responsibility should:

Know and understand what they need to do; have the technical skills to be able to do it; have sufficient expertise in the subject area to be able to

carry out the tasks to the required level (including awareness of the limits of their knowledge and where to gain any further necessary expertise); and have sufficient resources and the authority.

S Griffiths - Howart Metals/Howcan

Safety Footwear - Item not discussed decided to put down as a agenda item for the next meeting.

11 Dates and venue of next meetings

17 October 2002 next meeting to be hosted by:
Cast Metals Federation, The National Metal Forming Centre,
47 Birmingham Road, West Bromwich, Birmingham.