

Foundries Industry Advisory Committee

Minutes of the 7th meeting of the Foundries Industry Advisory Committee held on Thursday 22nd February 2007 at 10.00am at the Health and Safety Executives Offices, 1 Hagley Road, Birmingham.

Present

Dr P Smith

Mr T Hay

Mrs L Weston

Mr M Shenton

Mr G Morley

Mr D Oddy

Mr N Talbot

Mr B Hudspith

Mr K Gilroy

Mr J Parker

Representing

HSE - Chairperson

HSE- Secretary

HSE – Minute Secretary

James W Shenton Ltd

CTI

Federal Mogul

Terrill Bros (Founders) Ltd

AMICUS

Doncaster Group

Cast Metals Federation

Apologies

Mr S Nicholas

Saint – Gobain

Mr R Turley MBE

Roger Turley Engineering Consultancy

Mr R Sneddon

Community Trade Union

1. Personalia

The retirement of one FIAC members was noted. FIAC expressed it thanks for the work and commitment over the years of Tony McCarthy – NUDAGO. Chair to send thank you letter.

Action – Chair

Mr Bud Hudspith discussed membership with regard to trade union representatives on this committee. He saw FIAC as an important voice in the industry and was happy to make some formal arrangement to obtain some union reps on the committee.

2. Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th October 2006 and actions arising

Noted: The retirement of Martin Shenton was incorrect information.

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record. Matters arising under SHIFT and FIAC were discussed under agenda items at the meeting.

3. The Future of FIAC

Phil Smith summarised the interim findings from the Greenstreet research regarding the performance of their initiative, which the committee accepted was underperforming and have taken a numbers of steps to rectify this.

The committee was alerted that Trevor Hay would mainly be working in the future on the waste program and that FIAC and preventive work in the foundry sector would have minimal band three support. This resource however would not be an inspector and would not have the knowledge to provide technical/legal assistance, but Trevor Hay could still be contacted if this kind of information was required. HSE proposed that SHIFT be brought within the remit of FIAC, with FIAC acting as the steering group for the initiative.

Points raised:

Members accepted that things needed to change but some were reluctant to this proposal, they felt that SHIFT was an accident reduction programme whereas FIAC dealt primarily with health issues and as a means of ensuring a dialogue between the industry and HSE. However some members seemed to be behind bringing SHIFT within the remit of FIAC and had a desire to have a deliverable workplan.

Next steps:

John Parker – CMF will consider the proposal for bringing SHIFT within the remit of FIAC and will carry out a consultation round with his members.

A further meeting will be held in June/July before the scheduled meeting in October to discuss this further and hopefully bring about the necessary actions.

4. Formaldehyde and Furfuryl Alcohol

The secretary agreed to write to the ACTS secretariat expressing the concerns held by the Foundry Industry following suggestions that there may be moves to set Workplace Exposure Limits for Formaldehyde and Furfuryl alcohol substances and that they consider themselves unlikely to be able to achieve any further reduction in the WEL for these substances. Furthermore, they would like to be formally consulted as to their concerns should any reduction in the WEL be under consideration.

Action – Secretary

Bud Hudspith as a member of ACTS agreed to find out what the current position was and report back to members.

Action – Bud Hudspith

5. SHIFT

John Parker presented a paper on accident data for 2006. Results showed a drop in annual accident rates since 2002 to date. Members were informed of the quarterly forums that CMF have set up under the SHIFT banner. Workshops have been held on MSD and HAVs, with further hot topics planned for Workplace Transport, Working at Height and Managing Contractors.

6. What HSE is doing in terms of inspections

Nothing targeted in next years programme, however inspectors visiting any premises in the Manufacturing Sector will be looking at the following topics:

- Safe interventions
- Slips/trips
- MSD
- Noise & Vibration issues
- Work place transport issues

7. Social Dialogue

CMF will be holding 3 regional seminars in Birmingham/Bradford & Guildford during March/April 07 on Respirable Crystalline Silica. HSE holding a seminar on 26th March 07 in HSE's offices in London.

8. Any Other Business

John Parker asked for an update with work being carried out on the EMF Directive. The secretary agreed to contact Arwel Barrett (HSE).

Action - Secretary

David Oddy asked if HSE had any guidance on guarding around a fully automated moulding line. The secretary agreed to take this forward.

Action - Secretary

9. Date and Venue of the meeting

Tuesday 25th September 07 at HSE's offices, Birmingham