

## Foundries Industry Advisory Committee

**Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Foundries Industry Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at 11.00am at the National Metalforming Centre, Birmingham Road, West Bromwich**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Dr P Smith	HSE – Chairperson
Mrs C M Lyons	HSE
Mr M Shenton	James W Shenton Ltd
Mr G Morley	CTI
Mr D Oddy	Federal Mogul
Mr N Talbot	Terrill Bros (Founders) Ltd
Mr K Gilroy	Doncaster Group
Mr J Parker	Cast Metals Federation
Mr D Bartlett	W H Rowe
Mr C Keen	HSE – Speaker
Mr A Barrett	HSE – Speaker

### **Apologies**

Mr S Nicholas	Saint – Gobain
Mr B Hudspith	UNITE
Mr R Sneddon	Community Trade Union
Mrs L Weston	HSE

### **1. Personalia**

Dave Bartlett, (W H Rowe) and Claire Lyons (HSE) were welcomed to the committee.

### **2. Apologies, Minutes of last meeting and matters arising.**

Bud Hudspith was unable to attend due to a change to the agreed meeting date

Martin Shenton will be looking for someone to replace him at FIAC now that he has semi-retired. He will remain working at the foundry part time.

The minutes were agreed as a true and accurate record. .

The relationship of FIAC and SHIFT were confirmed. It was agreed that SHIFT would be a standing agenda item at FIAC meetings.

Members were reassured that any discussions at ACTS on formaldehyde and furfuryl alcohol would be fed back to FIAC by Bud Hudspith. Claire Lyons would also liaise with HSE colleagues to obtain updates. There were no further outcomes at this time but a watching brief would be kept.

**Action 2.1** Claire Lyons to maintain watching brief over ACTS work involving formaldehyde and furfuryl alcohol

**Post meeting note:** Trevor Hay has previously advised FIAC members that they can contact ACT's secretary direct at [androulla.michael.hse.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:androulla.michael.hse.gsi.gov.uk).

### **3. Silica Update – Social Dialogue Agreement (SDA)**

John Parker provided an update on the SDA to FIAC members and confirmed that he would also provide feedback to all foundries, not just those who were members of CMF.

Meetings to explain what changes SDA would require had already been held in April and May 2007.

John reminded members that the Nepsi webpages ([www.nepsi.eu](http://www.nepsi.eu)) provided additional information and guidance. A checklist (*Guidelines concerning the implementation of SDA on crystalline silica at site level*) has also been produced which provides a step-by-step guide through the agreement.

It is important that everyone is aware of SDA as HSE inspectors may ask foundries to demonstrate what they are doing to reduce workplace exposure to silica and implementation of the SDA Good Practice Guidance is equivalent to following COSHH *Silica Essentials*. CMF will continue to act as the official contact between UK foundries and EMF.

**Action 3.1** SDA to be a standing agenda item

### **4. Silica update – Health Surveillance**

Phil Smith reminded members that the guidance note (EH59) on respirable crystalline silica has been withdrawn following the revised WEL of 0.1. EH59 gave prescriptive guidance on health surveillance. This has been replaced by G404 of the COSHH Silica Essentials series. A working group for interested bodies is being formed to discuss what constitutes adequate health surveillance. John Parker will be invited to attend. The working group will also have representatives from silica-using industries including the construction industry (although they are not signed up to the SDA). HSE's view is that industry should be guided by an occupational health surveillance scheme produced by their occupational health provider (physician or nurse). However, currently there are differing opinions on what this should be and a level playing field is needed to ensure a more consistent approach. The working group will be able to offer assistance to occupational physicians who set up health surveillance schemes and to HSE staff who will be checking on how the schemes perform.

**Action 4.1** HSE to report on progress with the Health Surveillance Working Group

### **5. Silicosis and pneumoconiosis data**

Claire Lyons presented statistics on the number of reported cases of silicosis and pneumoconiosis in the manufacturing sector (glass, metal ore, foundry, stonemasonry and mining).

She outlined the difficulties in obtaining data and reminded members that the results were subject to under reporting. Data was presented from HSE's internal system, (which recorded investigated incidents), death certificates for the UK and Scotland,

and from two databases within The Health and Occupational Reporting Network (THOR).

**Action 5.1** Claire Lyons to provide annual update on silicosis stats

**Action 5.2** Claire to circulate a copy of the presentation to all members

## **6. EMF Directive**

Arwel Barrett (HSE) provided an update on the EMF Directive. (His previous visit to FIAC had been in 2003 when the Directive was first being discussed). Arwell outlined the terms of the Directive and what impact this would have on the foundry industry. Members were reminded that the Directive would not impose any additional restrictions on industry than those already required under existing health and safety regulation. Foundries using induction heating, buzz bars and electromagnetic fields will need to take action to reduce exposure levels and assess possible risks. Action values have been assessed for exposure levels and these can be used to indicate when additional measures are required i.e. what additional measures will be required if the action values are exceeded. There was no evidence of carcinogenic effects from EMFs and no risks to workers providing the proposed Action values were not exceeded. Although implementation was originally intended for April 2008, it has been proposed to the European commission that this is delayed (for a period as yet not specified).

The Health Protection Agency website details the action values and what steps industry will need to take to reduce exposures

[www.hpa.org.uk/radiation/understanding/information\\_sheets](http://www.hpa.org.uk/radiation/understanding/information_sheets)

Duty holders should keep a record of risk assessments carried out and how they have achieved reduced exposure levels Members were advised to act now in assessing the risks to exposure from their activities and taking steps to reduce exposure.

**Action 6.1** Members to report to next meeting on what measures they have taken to comply with the Directive.

**Action 6.2** Members to consider, for next meeting, need for targeted guidance for the industry

**Action 6.3** Claire to circulate copy of presentation to members

## **7. HSE Disease Reduction Programme - Cancer Programme**

Chris Keen (HSL) provided a summary of the 2007 cancer programme and an update on plans for a further programme in 2008. Research showed that components of ferrous foundry particulate might be carcinogenic. The exposed population was 31,300 in 540 foundries.

There are two strands to the project:

- Epidemiology (updating estimates of prevalence of occupationally related cancer)
- Occupational hygiene baseline survey to identify the current UK situation regarding occupational exposure to carcinogens

The epidemiology study has reported that, in 2004, there were 29 reported lung cancers in steel foundry workers as a result of FFP exposure. This was identified as an area of concern by members and more information was requested.

The 2008/09 programme includes assessing current controls (via the LEV programme which will include proposed visits to over 50 foundries to check on the adequacy of local exhaust ventilation (LEV) and engineering controls) and developing biological monitoring programmes where appropriate.

Work will also begin on looking to improve the culture of risk perception amongst workers exposed to chemical carcinogens.

New guidance is planned to replace HSG37 and HSG54.

CMF was invited to consider holding a workshop before the work programme begins to raise awareness and advise members what they could expect from an inspection visit.

**Action 7.1** Claire to circulate a copy of the presentation and a translation of the German presentation on aromatic amines to all members.

**Action 7.2** Chris to provide further details relating to the 29 steelworkers with lung cancer

**Action 7.3** Carcinogens project to be standing agenda item

**Action 7.4** CMF to consider holding an awareness-raising workshop on the Cancer Project to include the forthcoming inspection programme on LEV and control measures.

## **8. SHIFT update**

The May 2007 Forum considered accident statistics for the industry. 52 companies had responded to the request for statistics. Changes to the way the statistics were recorded and produced had been suggested to expand on some of the detail, e.g. separate out chemical and eye injury.

The statistics had helped to inform the SHIFT agenda by identifying accident hot spots.

There had been an overall fall in the number of injuries but this was now starting to plateau. SHIFT had held a behavioural safety and culture workshop in September to provide added momentum to driving the injury numbers down. The December forum is to consider workplace transport, falls from height and contractors to link to HSE '*Falls from vehicles*' campaign.

The SHIFT website was going to be updated and would include details of accident cases and examples of '*best practice*' so others could learn from them.

There had been a high incidence of eye injuries and SHIFT would be looking at possible causes and holding a presentation on the selection, maintenance and use of eye protection.

**Action 8.1** SHIFT to be standing agenda item

**9 Date and time of next meeting:**

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2008, Large Conference Room, HSE, Birmingham.

## Summary of Actions from meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2007

<b>2.1</b>	Claire Lyons to maintain a watching brief over ACTS work involving formaldehyde and furfuryl alcohol	Ongoing.
<b>3.1</b>	SDA to be a standing agenda item	Noted
<b>4.1</b>	HSE to report on progress with the Health Surveillance Working Group	Noted
<b>5.1</b>	Claire Lyons to provide annual update on silicosis statistics	Noted
<b>5.2</b>	Claire Lyons to circulate a copy of the presentation to members	Cleared
<b>6.1</b>	Members to report to February 2008 meeting on what measures they have taken to comply with the EMF Directive	
<b>6.2</b>	Members to consider, for next meeting, need for targeted guidance for the industry	
<b>6.3</b>	Claire Lyons to circulate a copy of EMF presentation to members	Cleared
<b>7.1</b>	Claire Lyons to circulate a copy of Cancer Programme presentation and a translation of the German presentation on aromatic amines to all members	Cleared
<b>7.2</b>	Chris Keen to provide further details relating to the 29 steelworkers with lung cancers	
<b>7.3</b>	Carcinogens project to be a standing agenda item	Noted
<b>7.4</b>	CMF to consider holding an awareness-raising workshop on the Cancer Project to include the forthcoming inspection programme on LEV and control measures	
<b>8.1</b>	SHIFT to be a standing agenda item	