

PABIAC MEETING 13th November 2007 CORRUGATED SECTOR SUMMARY

Accident Statistics to end September 2007

The rolling RIDDOR Accident rate (Fatal, Major & over 3 day) for the twelve months to end of September was 1226 per 100,000 employees. This represents a plateauing of the accident rate and it appears most unlikely that the Sector will achieve the March 2008 target of 1000.

Machine Accidents, represented 33% of the total reportable accidents, an encouraging improvement from the previous quarter (where the rolling 12 month figure was 40%) but still well above the 17% level experienced in other manufacturing industries. The theme of the CPI Biennial Conference, held on 7th November, was machinery accidents and this was designed to give further emphasis to the need to address the unacceptably high level of machinery accidents.

The Corrugated Sector Council has approved the programme recommended by the Health & Safety Committee that CEO's of member companies of the Corrugated Sector be invited to sign up to a Machine Accident Reduction Programme. Appropriate representatives of those companies that sign up will be invited to attend a one day workshop on "A Task Analysis Approach to Reducing Machine Accidents", to be delivered by Graham King early in 2008. The representatives will then roll out the training on this approach within their own companies, giving a commitment that the tools and techniques learned will be, at least, tried out for machinery risk assessment within the company. They also commit to providing feedback to the health & safety committee on the success or otherwise of the initiative in reducing machine accidents.

The objective is to improve the quality of risk assessments associated with machine intervention, establish better standards of control, take appropriate account of human factors and, through the programme, reduce the number of machine accidents in the sector.

The health & safety committee will support the programme by including appropriate elements in the 2008/9-action plan, which are designed to reduce the risk of machinery accidents.

The Materials Handling Equipment Guidance is now at the final draft stage, with some refinement of the section on strapping and palletising lines necessary. A good selection of photographs has been made available to supplement the guidance. The target is for the final draft to be put to the Health & Safety Committee at their meeting on 21st November.

Roger de Toney
5th November 2007