

THE PRINTING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE SIXTY SEVENTH MEETING OF THE PRINTING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 18TH JULY 2002

Present

Mr A D Porter
Mr M Wilcock
Mr I Hobson
Mr R A Hudspith
Mr I Wilcock
Mr G Mcintyre
Mr P Larkin
Mrs T Stonley

Representing

HSE Chairman
HSE Secretary
HSE
GPMU
Heidelberg Graphic Equipment
NUJ
Newspaper Society
HSE Minute Secretary

Apologies

Mr D Barker
Mr M Griffiths
Ms S Whittaker
Mr B Purkis
Mr T Usher
Mr W Stothard
Mrs S Peace

Observers

Mr D Wallis
Ms L Ferrier
Mr P Chambers

Summary of Action Agreed

1. (Min 3.1) Development of costed solutions for the safeguarding of Auto Platens and preparation of a draft protocol for discussion at PIAC.

ACTION Safety and Human Factors Sub Committee

2. (Min 3.2) Data from the research project into accident in the printing industry to be reviewed to try to identify the predominant causes of slips, trips and falls in the printing industry.

ACTION Safety and Human Factors Sub Committee

3. (Min 5.3.1) PIAC Bulletin to be issued concerning safety of Herold guillotines

ACTION Ian Hobson

3. (Min 5.4.2) PIAC Bulletin highlighting the issues surrounding the guarding of the delivery end on Sheet Fed Litho Presses to be issued following fatality in Germany.

ACTION Sector Group

3. (Min 5.4.2) Secretariat to issue statements to the industry following serious incidents within the printing industry such as the fatality in Germany.

ACTION Sector Group

3. (Min 6.2) Members concerns at the standard of guarding on machines at IPEX to be raised with the NEC Safety Team.

**ACTION Ian Wilcock
Mike Wilcock**

3. (Min 10) Members to forward ideas for Open Meeting format to Sector Group

ACTION All Members

1.INTRODUCTION AND APOLOGIES

1.1 The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked the BPIF for acting as hosts. He extended a particular welcome to Mr Paul Larkin who was attending the committee for the first time.

1.1 Apologies were noted.

2.MINUTES OF THE SIXTY SIXTH MEETING

The Minutes were agreed.

3.MATTERS ARISING

3.1 (Min 3.2) Development of costed solutions for the safeguarding of Auto Platens and preparation of a draft protocol for discussion at PIAC. This item has not been progressed but will be picked up by The Safety and Human Factors sub committee.

Item Carried forward

3.2 (Min 3.3) The data from the research project into accidents in the printing industry to be reviewed to see if information about the predominant causes of slips, trips and falls could be identified. This item has not been progressed but will be picked up by the Safety and Human Factors sub committee.

Item Carried Forward

3.3.1(Min 6.2.2) Members to forward ideas for an International Health and Safety Conference to the Sector Group by the end of May 2002. No substantial comments were received by the deadline. Members were asked for their views at this meeting.

3.3.2 Members were told that the European UV Forum had offered to fund three seminars on UV Technology and had asked if PIAC would like to be involved. Members expressed some initial reservations about being seen to endorse what could be purely a marketing event. The committee were reassured that they would be able to influence the agenda for the events. Some members had attended a similar event in Belgium and said that provided the seminars in this country followed a similar format then they would have no problem contributing. Following further discussion the committee agreed that provided the agenda included Health and Safety of UV as a key theme and that the Printers Guide to

Health and Safety and COSHH Essentials for Printers are promoted then PIAC would support the events.

3.3.3 Members discussed the possibility of including Digital Printing in the agendas for the UV Seminars but following this discussion it was agreed that a separate event was needed for this emerging sector of industry. It was agreed that following the completion of the Mapping Exercise which will identify relevant intermediaries the Sector Group would try to organise a smaller event and will invite not only the intermediaries but also the larger suppliers.

3.3.4 At the last meeting members were asked for their views concerning a proposal to hold an International printing health and safety conference in the autumn of 2003. At this meeting the matter was discussed in more detail and the committee agreed that an International event which promoted the Branch Initiative, COSHH Essentials The UV Protocol and cross European Partnerships and initiatives being done by other member states should be held in the UK and supported by PIAC.

4. REPORT FROM THE HEALTH SUB COMMITTEE

4.1 The sub committee last met on 14th May 2002.

4.2 The sub committee has been looking into the development of an agreed safe level for UV light exposure for some time. Currently the exposure limits used are taken from a 1976 report from the American Conference of Industrial Hygienists which has been adopted by the BG. The sub committee Chairman went on to say that the BG had taken this report a step further and identified in broad terms very low, low, medium and high risk irradiance values and also suggested the instruments needed to carry out this measurement. However the measurement would not be easy to carry out without specialist involvement. The sub committee Chairman said that the sub committee would keep PIAC informed of progress.

4.3.1 The sub committee had a lengthy discussion how to promote and communicate the occupational health message to the printing industry. The discussion concluded that the Mapping Exercise currently being undertaken on PIAC's behalf should identify the largest 30 – 50 printing companies and that these should then be invited to a seminar or conference on occupational health. The sub committee also suggested that some of these companies should be invite to PIAC's Open Meeting in October 2002. PIAC discussed this proposal and agreed that this would be an appropriate course of action.

4.3.2 The Chairman reported that as a during the above discussion two actions were identified for SME's and these were:

- Prepare a ready made checklist of occupational health services for use by printers when obtaining occupational health services
- To draw occupational health providers attention to the health problems within the printing industry and the type of services SME's may require.

The sub committee Chairman said that he had undertaken to contact the central auditing office of NHS Plus and all the main institutes whose members provide occupational health services. The sub committee hoped that this approach would encourage some providers to contact companies direct thus raising awareness and the level of actual provision.

4.4 The sub committee were informed that one of the Chairman's' Employment Nursing Advisers would like to do a project looking at MSD in the printing industry. The Chairman said that they would draw up a draft protocol to present to the sub committee at its next meeting.

4.5 The sub committee were asked to review the PIAC publication "The Safe Use of Iocyanates in Printing and Laminating". Following review the sub committee decided that there was not enough new information to warrant the publication being revised and republished. Following discussion the sub committee agreed that an addendum to the publication containing the new information should be produced. PIAC agreed this course of action.

4.6 The sub committee also discussed digital printing inks but this has already been discussed at Agenda Item 3 of this meeting.

5. REPORT FROM THE SAFETY AND HUMAN FACTORS SUB COMMITTEE

5.1 The sub committee last met on 27th June 2002. The minutes of which were distributed at this meeting.

5.2 The sub committee were told that the work to improve PIAC's effectiveness and efficiency when communicating with small businesses has been agreed. The work has several key elements to it all of which are at various stages of development. These key elements are:

- A mapping exercise to identify intermediaries in the printing sector
- Evaluation of the Head Teachers in industry imitative
- Evaluation of how other departments communicate with small businesses
- An internal review and revision of training for operational inspectors

5.3.1 The sub committee were given information about an HSL report regarding the safety of Herold Guillotines. The sub committee were told that a review was underway by both mechanical and electrical specialists and that following this an Information Sheet would be produced to alert the industry to the problems, the

modifications required and the Enforcement Action HSE Inspectors will take if they find a guillotine without the modifications in place.

5.3.2 PIAC were told that since the Safety and Human Factors meeting the engineers had identified most of the failures and that the Sector Group would shortly be issuing the Information Sheet. The Secretary went on to say that Prohibition was the most likely course of action Inspectors would take if they found an unmodified guillotine.

5.4.1 The sub committee also discussed the safeguarding of the delivery mechanism on sheet fed litho presses following a fatality at a printers in Germany and a proposal to amend prEN 1010 in the light of the lessons learnt. The sub committee felt that the industry as a whole needed to be made aware of the incident and warned of the dangers. The sub committee agreed that as soon as full details were available a PIAC bulletin would be issued.

5.4.2 PIAC also discussed the incident and its implications and agreed that a bulletin should be issued as soon as possible as all presses of this type have the potential to cause this kind of accident. The Sector Group agreed to circulate the draft bulletin to members of PIAC and the Safety and Human Factors sub committee for comment before it is issued. The information will also be forwarded to BPIF and GPMU for them to publicise in their journals. The committee asked if the Secretariat could issue statements for serious incidents of this nature similar to the ones issued by PABIAC. This was agreed. Members were asked to let the sector group know of any incidents that they felt should be publicised in this way.

6. COMMUNICATION WITH THE INDUSTRY / IPEX 2002

6.1 Members were given a copy of the IPEX Evaluation and were asked if they felt that HSE attendance at future IPEX Exhibitions was worthwhile. The committee unanimously agreed that HSE should have a stand at future IPEX exhibitions and that consideration should be given to having a smaller HSE presence at exhibitions such as Northprint and Southprint.

6.2 Members of the committee expressed some concern about safety and guarding standards of some machines at the exhibition. The Secretary undertook to raise these concerns with the NEC Safety Department.

6.3 Communication with the industry had already been discussed at agenda items 3 and 5 so were not discussed further.

7. REVIEW OF PLAN OF WORK AND NEW PLAN OF WORK

7.1 A copy of the current Plan of work was sent to members with the agenda for this meeting.

7.2 Members were updated on progress as follows

- Sales of and reaction to the Printers Guide to Health and Safety: The review has been completed and the second edition launched at IPEX 2002. 679 copies of the new edition have been sold since its' launch in April 2002. Advertising literature has been produced and distributed.
- Improve health and safety awareness in printers: The mapping exercise has been started and good progress is being made.
- Use of substitute solvents. There has only been limited progress on this issue. Only 941 copies of COSHH Essentials for Printers have been sold since its launch in 2000 - more work is needed.
- Frequency of dermatitis amongst printers. Good progress has been made with the promotion 22,000 dermatitis leaflets have been sent to Printing Colleges by The Sector Group, HSE Books have sent out about 3,000 and several thousand were distributed at IPEX, making a total of about 30,000. The second part of the research is well underway and a meeting has been scheduled for 23rd September to discuss progress with the second phase.
- Exposure to high levels of noise: This issue has not been progressed because the health sub committee felt that it would be more appropriate to wait for the Physical Agents Directive to be produced before starting work. PIAC agreed with this but also said that the Health sub committee should start planning the way forward by the end of 2003.
- Frequency of Musculoskeletal Disorders. This work is ongoing and PIAC agreed to the strategy proposed by the health sub-committee
- Level of health and safety competence amongst printers. Work is progressing well. The printing colleges have been identified and contacted. The Sector group has started work on a training CD with the Printers Guide as the basis
- Frequency of machinery related accidents. There has been little progress on this to date but the Safety and Human Factors sub committee is now active again and will move this issue on at their next meeting.

7.3 Members discussed progress with the Plan of work and decided that at this time no amendment to either content or timescales was required.

8 REVITALISING FOD

8.1 The Chairman drew member's attention to the paper PIAC 67/02 Explaining FOD's Revitalising Approach which sets out the changes in FOD and the way it will be working from April 2002. What it means is that Inspectors will be

concentrating on the Revitalising Health and Safety Issues and “poor performers”. The Chairman said that the changes set out in the paper will mean large changes in the way Inspectors work and for some there will be a steep learning curve. He asked that members bear with the inspectors whilst they are going through this period of change but would welcome any feedback from the committee and the people they represent.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

9.1 Members attention was drawn to paper PIAC 67/01 Summary of Dangerous Substances and Explosive Atmospheres Regulations 2002. This paper was distributed for information only at this stage. The committee were told that these proposed Regulations will replace the existing Highly Flammable Liquids and Liquefied Petroleum Gases Regulations.

9.2 Members were reminded that the Duty to Manage Asbestos in Buildings Regulations comes into force in October 2002.

9.3 The committee were told that the theme for this years Health and Safety Week will be Managing stress in the Workplace. A newsletter has recently been issued and the Secretariat said that they would send a copy to members.

10 DATES AND VENUES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

22nd October 2002 - GPMU Quorn (Open Meeting) – Please could members' forward ideas for format of the day to the Secretariat. Intermediaries will be invited.

12th March 2003 - HSE East Grinstead

17th July 2003 - BPIF Birmingham