

**MINUTES OF THE 73rd MEETING OF THE
PRINTING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD ON 24TH JUNE 2004 AT
HEIDELBERG GRAPHIC EQUIPMENT, TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE**

Present

David Snowball
Bud Hudspith
Phillip Adams
Paul Larkin
Eddie Barker
Dale Wallis
Dick Barker
Ian Wilcock
Gary Marshall
Terri Miller
James Copeland
Maureen Kingman
Ian Hobson
Claire Mason
Wendie Drammeh

Representing

HSE - Chair
GPMU
BPIF (Field Group)
The Newspaper Society
GPMU
BPIF
GPMU
PICON (Heidelberg Graphic Equipment)
BPIF (Polestar Group)
GPMU
Central Science Laboratories (Speaker)
HSE – Secretary
HSE – Manufacturing Sector
HSE – EMAS
HSE - Minutes Secretary

Apologies

Phil Chambers – Strategic Safety Systems
Jim Raeburn - Scottish Print Employers
George McIntyre
Mike Griffiths - GPMU

Observers

David Hoy – NPA (Trinity Mirror Group)
Dave Blanchard – British Coatings Federation
Ray Hill – Heidelberg Graphic Equipment
Paul Machin – PICON & SPA

Summary of actions agreed:

- 1) (Min 3.5) **Mr Hobson** agreed to get further clarification on the employment status of newspaper delivery personnel.
- 2) (Min 4.2) **Members** to submit views on the scoping of further research into the development of bio-solvents for use in printing.
- 3) (Min 5.1) **Secretary** to e-mail members with the outcome of the reconstitution paper when available.

- 4) (Min 5.2) **Secretary** to hold TU vacancy until GPMU had fully merged with AMICUS.
- 5) (Min 6.3) **Mr Hobson** to circulate details of the new HSE web site and manual handling module towards end of August.
- 6) (Min 6.4) **Members** to send Mr Hobson confirmation of the number of Health & Safety Packs for Printers they required for distribution by 2nd July 2004.
- 7) (Min 7.1) **Mr Hobson** to meet with **Mr Wilcock** to obtain further information about the guillotine knife failures and to consider the issue of an alert to the industry.
- 8) Min 7.2) **Members** to promote transport safety in European Health & Safety Week.
- 9) (Min 7.3) **Mrs Drammeh** to distribute HSC/04/69 report on Migrant Workers to members.

1.0 CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Chairman explained that he was standing in for James Barrett who sent his apologies. He introduced James Copeland, a speaker from the Central Science Laboratories, David Hoy, Health & Safety Manager for Trinity Mirror Group who was attending as an observer, and Ray Hill from Heidelberg Graphic Equipment. Claire Mason was welcomed as HSE's new EMAS representative.
- 1.2 The Chairman indicated that the Manufacturing Sector's budgets were being severely restricted and there was a possibility that future meetings would need to be curtailed.
- 1.3 The Committee was advised that the Commission was adopting a more hands-on approach in its management of HSE and was widening its role in the engagement of stakeholders. Commissioners were to be paid £15,000 a year to attract high quality candidates to discharge their new responsibilities, including acting as champions of health and safety amongst external stakeholders. He told the meeting that Judith Hackitt was likely to become the Commissioner for Manufacturing.
- 1.4 The Chairman reported that the Manufacturing Sector's programme of work has been agreed by HSE and the process of prioritising industries had begun. In the interim, work to progress the PIAC plan of work would continue.

2.0 MINUTES OF THE 72ND MEETING OF PIAC HELD ON 26TH FEBRUARY 2004

The Minutes were agreed.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1 (Min 3.1 It was proposed to set up a small working group to examine PIAC's marketing strategy). Dealt with at Item 6. Item discharged

- 3.2 (Min 4.1 Secretary to circulate press release on EMAS 2-year Campaign on WRULD's). Ms Kingman advised that this had been done and the release had been carried by Print World in the 17th June edition. Item discharged.
- 3.3 (Min 5.2 Members were given a two-week deadline for proposals to be included in the PIAC work plan). Item Discharged.
- 3.4 (Min 6.1 The Chairman agreed to discuss with the Secretary the future arrangements for chairing meetings). It had been agreed that Mr Barrett would continue as Chairman but that a substitute may take his place as necessary. Item discharged.
- 3.5 (Min 8.1 Mr Hobson agreed to make enquiries regarding the employment status of newspaper delivery personnel). Mr Hobson reported that Solicitors' Office advice had been inconclusive. Mr Larkin referred to uncertainty arising from the outcome of an employment tribunal case in which a newspaper deliverer had been deemed to be self employed. Mr Hobson agreed to get further clarification on this issue.
- 3.6 (Min 8.2 Mr Machin to approach PICON to ask if John Jeffries could give PIAC an update on prEN 1010). Mr Jeffries was unavailable to attend the meeting but Mr Hobson gave a brief update. Item discharged.
- 3.7 (Min 9.0 Members were asked to consider suggestions for venue and topics for the next open meeting). The Secretary proposed that the meeting be held at Gloucestershire County Cricket Club, Bristol, and that the 'manual handling' theme of the previous open meeting be repeated. Mr Hudspith agreed that the meeting would target a different audience. Mr Wilcock suggested that the PIAC brand be explained more fully at the open meeting, as there were many companies not aware of PIAC. Mr Hudspith called for the need to promote the Printers Guide and COSHH Essentials at the event and to market the health message; he referred to 8 recent reports of bladder cancer amongst printers. The venue and topic were agreed.

4.0 **FEASIBILITY OF USING VEGETABLE BASED CLEANING AGENTS IN PRINTING – JAMES COPELAND, CENTRAL SCIENCE LABORATORIES**

- 4.1 James Copeland presented the findings of a previously circulated report on a short trial of the use of vegetable-based cleaning agents on printing machines and invited discussion.
- 4.2 Mr Machin had consulted on the report's findings and relayed the comments of a supplier who had previously found that cleaning solvents derived from rape-seed could not be used in automatic wash-up systems and had found that they could cause spontaneous combustion in rags contaminated with metallic inks. In discussion it was also suggested that increased drying time of bio-solvents caused the solvents to be thrown off the cylinders during automatic wash-up and this could cause problems of slipperiness. Mr Copeland said that there were newer alternative crops being produced that could be trialed in future research. There was also discussion of the report's comparison of the hazards of bio-solvents and traditional naphtha-

containing cleaning solvents used in printing; as formulated naphtha-containing solvents did not attract the use of the R45 risk phrase 'may cause cancer' and thus the comparisons were not as stark as may have appeared.

However, despite the likely obstacles bio-solvents would face, the Committee was encouraged by the positive outcomes and was prepared to support further tightly-scoped research, targeted at developing a bio-solvent that would work on sheet-fed off-set lithographic machines. It was agreed that members would submit views on scoping the research by the end of July.

5.0 PIAC Reconstitution – Maureen Kingman

5.1 The Secretary advised that a paper recommending reconstitution of the Committee had been submitted and she would email members with the outcome when this became known.

5.2 The Secretary reported that after the initial paper had been circulated for comment, two nominations had been received from the Newspaper Publishers Association: David Hoy who was at the meeting as an observer and Mick McGilly from Westferry Printers Ltd. To maintain balance on the committee Ms Kingman asked the TU side if she should seek an additional nomination from the TUC. Mr Hudspith asked that the vacancy be held pending the GPMU's full merger with AMICUS which should be completed by October.

6.0 PIAC Work plan – Progress reports – Ian Hobson

6.1 The Chairman praised the work plan as clearly focussed and forward thinking.

6.2 Workblocks 1 & 2: eCOSHH Essentials for Printers/Dermatitis

The 15 control guidance sheets being revised would be completed at the next working group meeting on 14th July.

6.3 Workblock 3: Manual Handling Project

Mr Hobson reported that filming of the good practice solutions in printers had started and would be complete by 9 July. The video footage would then be edited for incorporation into the new HSE printing web pages, which were still under development.

Mr Hobson proposed to circulate details of the new HSE web site and manual handling module to members for comment towards the end of August. If necessary, an ad hoc meeting of those interested could be held to discuss any issues raised.

6.4 Workblock 4: PIAC Marketing Activities

The PIAC Marketing working group had met to agree the content of a pack of leaflets containing key messages on the main sources of accidents and ill health in printing. The packs were to be delivered in

face-to-face, scripted presentations by members of the representative bodies. Initial piloting of the pack by Mr Larkin had been positive. Mr Hobson reported that the design work of the pack and the introductory leaflet was well advanced and he was seeking agreement from the Committee for the printing of 4000 copies for distribution by members. This was agreed. The project was expected to run for 2 years (or until the packs ran out.)

GPMU, BPIF, The Newspaper Society and SPIF have already signed up to deliver the key messages from the pack direct to industry. Mr Hobson asked members to confirm the number of packs they each required by 2nd July 2004. Mr Adams suggested that the packs needed to get into companies just before the companies set out their business plans for the following year or they would not be put to the best possible use.

6.5 Workblock 6: WRULD's

Ms Mason reported that the EMAS project had started and questionnaires had been distributed to the inspectors involved. The first year's reports and results were expected in April 2005.

7.0 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

7.1 Mr Wilcock alerted members to two failures on guillotine knife imported from the Indian subcontinent; parts of the knives had disintegrated in use. Mr Hobson agreed to meet with Mr Wilcock to obtain further information and discuss the issue of an alert to the industry.

7.2 Mr Hudspith alerted members to the European Health & Safety Week commencing 18th October 2004 and stressed the importance of becoming involved. Members agreed to promote transport safety.

7.3 Mr Hudspith raised his concerns on the increasing use of migrant and agency workers in the printing industry. He referred to the HSC paper 04/69 which addressed the needs of migrant and other vulnerable workers. A general discussion ensued on health and safety issues associated with the employment of staff who did not have English as their first language. Mrs Drammeh agreed to distribute the report to members.

8.0 **DATES & VENUES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

8.1 11th November 2004 – Open Meeting at Gloucestershire County Cricket Club.

3rd February 2005 – Bradford. Mr Adams to arrange venue at one of his member companies.

23rd June 2005 – GPMU Training Centre, Quorn.

9.0 **CLOSE**