

**MINUTES OF THE 72nd MEETING OF THE
PRINTING INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
HELD ON 26TH FEBRUARY 2004 AT
QUORN GRANGE HOTEL, QUORN, LEICESTERSHIRE**

Present

James Barrett
Bud Hudspith
Philip Adams
Paul Larkin
Eddie Barker
Dale Wallis
Dick Barker
Maureen Kingman
Ian Hobson
Dr Frank Gallagher
Wendie Drammeh

Representing

HSE - Chair
GPMU
Field Group
The Newspaper Society
GPMU
BPIF
GPMU
HSE – Secretary
HSE – Manufacturing Sector
HSE – EMAS (Speaker)
HSE - Minutes Secretary

Apologies

Ian Wilcock – Heidelberg Graphic Equipment
Jim Raeburn - Scottish Print Employers
Gary Marshall - Polestar
Mike Griffiths - GPMU
Tom Usher - GPMU
Terri Miller - GPMU
Dave Blanchard – British Coatings Fed.

Observers

Phil Chambers – Strategic Safety Systems
Paul Machin - PICON

Summary of actions agreed:

- 1) (Min 3.1) Secretary and Mr Hobson to set up small working group to examine PIAC's marketing strategy.
- 2) (Min 4.1) Secretary to circulate press release on WRULD's when it is available.
- 3) (Min 5.2) A two-week deadline was agreed for members to give the Secretary their proposals for work to be included in the PIAC Workplan.
- 4) (Min 6.1) The Chairman agreed to discuss with the Secretary the future arrangements for chairing the meetings.

- 5) (Min 8.1) Mr Hobson to make enquiries regarding the employment status of newspaper delivery personnel.
- 6) (Min 8.2) Mr Hobson to send out accident statistics between 1997 & 2003 to members.
- 7) (Min 8.2) Mr Machin to approach PICON to nominate speaker to address the next PIAC meeting.
- 8) (Min 9.0) Members asked to consider suggestions for venue and topics for next open meeting and report their preferred options to the Secretary within two weeks.

1.0 CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Chairman introduced himself and explained that, subject to the discussion at item 6, he would be standing in for one meeting only. He welcomed Dr Gallagher who was to speak at agenda item 4.

2.0 MINUTES OF THE 71ST MEETING OF PIAC HELD ON

The Minutes were agreed.

3.0 MATTERS ARISING

- 3.1 (Min 3.7) To organise a conference for printing intermediaries, concentrating on health issues. Ms Kingman advised that research amongst intermediaries had found little interest in attending such an event, mainly because they could see little return. Mr Hudspith expressed his concern at the lack of interest and asked whether the aims of the conference could be achieved in other ways. In response to a query from Mr Wallis on the continued availability of funding, the Chairman advised that the funds had been forfeited for that financial year, but that another bid could be made for the following year, once a firm project plan had been worked up. Following a general discussion on how to engage with and work through intermediaries, it was agreed that small working group would be set up to discuss PIAC's marketing strategy.
- 3.2 (Min 4.2) Letter of thanks was sent to delegates who attended the PIAC Open meeting and information forwarded to those who were unable to attend. Item discharged.
- 3.3 (Min 5.3) Members were asked to forward examples of PIAC working in partnership, for inclusion in reconstitution paper. Item discharged.
- 3.4 (Min 5.3.2) Members were asked to forward ideas on Chairmanship of PIAC committee. Item discussed at agenda item 5.

3.5 (Min 6.1) Secretary and Mr Wallis to progress talks with DEFRA on working up a biosolvent demonstration project. This item was discussed at agenda Item 7

4.0 **Project on Work related upper limb disorders (WRULDs) in Printing – Dr Frank Gallagher, Employment Medical Advisory Service (EMAS)**

4.1 Dr Gallagher gave a presentation on an EMAS national inspection project due to commence in April 2004, which would run for at least 2 years. Occupational Health Inspectors would be visiting printers to identify processes with the potential to give rise to WRULDs, advising on legal compliance, and gathering intelligence to enable the Sector to target its resources. Examples of good practice would be put on to HSE's Printing web pages.

Ms Kingman advised that she would be issuing a press release on the project and would circulate it for agreement before release.

4.2 Following discussion it was agreed that Mr Hobson would include a work item in PIAC's plan of work on publicising and supporting the WRULD project.

5.0 **PIAC Reconstitution (Paper PIAC/72/2) – Maureen Kingman**

5.1 Ms Kingman said that the draft PIAC Reconstitution paper presented a good case that met the Tudor-Hamid indicative criteria for the continuation of an industry advisory committee. The paper proposed to move away from standing sub committees, and replace them with project groups working on a 'task and finish basis'. The planned work items supported HSC's Chemical Strategy and the Priority Programme on Musculoskeletal Disorders. The work item on the marketing strategy also supported the aims of HSC's proposed strategy on working with and through our stakeholders.

In discussion it was agreed that the front page of the document should list some of the Committee's achievements.

Mr Chambers raised concerns that since the standing sub-committees had been disbanded not as much has been achieved. Mr Hobson disagreed stating that a project group had already begun work on the eCOSH Essentials work and further project groups were due to be established once the work had progressed to an appropriate stage.

5.2 Mr Machin asked for the digital printing industry to be included in the eCOSH work as this was the future of the printing industry. Mr Machin also suggested including the issue of UV light as a work item in the reconstitution document. Ms Kingman said this would be revisited when an existing project came to an end. It was agreed that she would give members two weeks to give her feedback on the

document before it was submitted.

6.0 Arrangements for Chairing Future Meetings (Paper PIAC/72/1) – Maureen Kingman

6.1 The Chairman advised that as Head of Manufacturing Sector, he was unable to chair all of the industry committees that fell within the umbrella of the Sector and this paper presented a protocol for the appointment of a chair from the membership.

The Committee was not in favour of having a non-HSE chairman. Both Mr Hudspith and Mr Wallis agreed that the neutrality of the chair was essential; although the Committee had been non-adversarial this could be difficult to sustain where the chair was a member of one of the representative bodies. Mr Wallis suggested that if the Manufacturing Sector were unable to provide a chair then someone else from HSE might be seconded to chair the meetings.

The Chairman agreed to take the Committee's comments on board and resolve the issue in discussion with the Secretary.

7.0 PIAC Workplan – Progress reports – Ian Hobson

7.1 Workblock 1: eCOSHH Essentials Project – Revision of Existing Guidance

Mr Hobson reported on a meeting of the Project Group held in January when work was started on revising the existing COSHH Essentials for Printers control guidance sheets on lithographic printing.

7.2 Workblock 2: Dermatitis Project

For the benefit of the observers at the meeting Mr Hobson explained that HSE was conducting research into correct glove selection for the mixtures of chemicals used in printing. The research was also looking at chemical absorption as a result of glove abuse. He said that HSE's Specialist on Dermatitis would address the subsequent meeting to update them further on progress.

7.3 Workblock 3: Manual Handling Project

Mr Hobson updated the Committee on the development of web-based good practice manual handling solutions to the tasks that had been identified as causing the most manual handling injuries.

There was some concern from the Committee that they had not been involved in this work. Mr Hobson explained that the video and web page development work could only be done by HSE but PIAC would have a significant role once the project was ready to roll out.

In discussion it was agreed that the Marketing project group would meet to discuss PIAC's role in publicising and supporting the projects in the workplan.

7.4 Workblock 5: Biosolvent Project – Feasibility Study into Solvent Substitution for Cleaning Agents

Mr Hobson advised that DEFRA's initial proposal that BPIF with HSE assistance should lead on this project foundered because of difficulties with budgetary constraints. The Central Science Laboratory in York is now undertaking the project and it is understood that trials of biosolvents were underway in printers.

Mr Hudspith welcomed this and said that the need for printers to substitute with safer solvents was increasing in view of the trend towards shorter runs and more frequent wash-ups.

8.0 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1 Mr Larkin raised a query about the status of children delivering newspapers and the provision of aids e.g. trolleys etc. The Newspaper Society's guidance 'Safe Delivery Guide' did not address issues such as responsibility for the provision of manual handling aids. Before the matter could be taken further Mr Hudspith suggested the young people's employment status should be clarified in the light of a forthcoming Employment Tribunal decision. Mr Hobson agreed to make further enquiries.

8.2 Mr Machin commented that the workplan did not include anything on the safety of equipment and suggested that it be included as machinery was the 3rd most common cause of accidents in printing.

It was agreed that Mr Machin would liaise with PICON to put forward a speaker to give PIAC an update on the European Standard 1010.

Mr Hobson also agreed to send out a copy of the most recent accident statistics to members.

8.3 Mr Hudspith referred to the Recovered Paper Document that had been launched the previous day. Mr Hudspith and Mr Wallis said that they would promote this document when it became available as a pdf file on the HSE website.

8.4 Mr Larkin asked if publishing was included in the reconstitution document. He was assured, by the Committee that publishing matters were included.

9.0 **DATES & VENUES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

Dates of Next Meetings

24th June 2004 – Heidelberg at Tamworth

11th November 2004 – Open Meeting to be held in the Bristol area - venue to be confirmed. Mr Hobson suggested dermatitis, glove selection, skincare and solvent absorption through the skin as suitable topics for the Open Meeting. The Chairman asked members to consider the options and report back to Ms Kingman in the next few

weeks.