

## MINUTES

### CONSTRUCT Health & Safety Committee Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, 10 December 2014

**Time:** 10:00am

**Venue:** Putteridge Bury Conference Centre  
Putteridge Bury, Hitchin Road,  
Luton, Beds LU2 8LE

**Present:** Terry Casbolt (Chairman); Sarah Bloom (Stephenson); Mick Bray (Tamdown); Sean Brosnan (C J O'Shea); Chris Burke (GCL); Lee Cowen (PERI); Martin Cragg (MPB); Emma Dodge (P J Carey); Colin Hailing (Parkstone); Steve Hemsley (Stephenson); Robin Holdsworth (CONSTRUCT); Scott Jarratt (Whelan & Grant); Paul Johnson (P J Carey); Richard Knight (Anderson); Craig Moorcroft (Coinford); Emma Pagan (PAD Contracts); Ray Perry (Schwing Stetter); Richard Sanders (A J Morrisroe); Tracey Stafford (CONSTRUCT); Zena Tebboth (PRS).

**In attendance:** Michelle Aldous (Constructing Better Health)

**Apologies:** Stuart Accleton (Swanton Consulting), Peter Cleeve (Fischer Fixings), Jake Du Rand (Structural Systems UK), David Edwards (Construction Forms Inc), Dave Faulds (P C Harrington), Ged Gallagher (Biggins & Gallagher), Richard Harradine (MEVA), Trevor Larkin (Leada Acrow), Carl Lee-Rose (Ischebeck Titan), Martin Lever (CEMEX UK), James MacDonald (Cementaid UK), Joe Mitchell (Mitchellson), Robert Morrison (Dunne), Mike Mungroosingh (Expanded), Hakim Nazerali (A J Morrisroe), Tom Nolan (Toureen Group), Alastair Seaton (Cordek), Ian Watson (MACE), Martin White (Putzmeister).

1. **Apologies and Introductions**

A brief round of introductions was made.

2. **Minutes**

Minutes of the previous meeting (24 September 2014) were accepted.

3. **Council and NSCC Feedback**

Robin Holdsworth (RH) spoke about the growth in CONSTRUCT members during 2014 and hoped it would continue. A very successful CONSTRUCT Day was held in October attended by over 450 people. RH then spoke about NSCC stating that talks were to take place with UKCG to bring supply chain and contractors together. One new federation had joined - Chartered Institute of Heating and Plumbing Engineers. CSCS card changes underway.

4. **CONSTRUCT Training Update**

Tracey Stafford spoke about the CPCS Roadshow identifying the Category reviews for A73 Traffic and Vehicle Marshaller as well as for the Appointed Person (Crane) and Slinger Signaller revisions. New Categories include Overhead Travelling Crane and vacuum excavators with 3-6 endorsements. The Tower Crane categories are under review and revisions to some practical test specs eg A59B and theory questions as well as a review of hoist, mobile crane and crane supervisor categories.

She gave a brief update on the CONSTRUCT run Construction ILM course successfully run over 5 days. It is hoped to hold it again in 2015. She also introduced the Skill Bank Training Database which will use the Smart technology of the CSCS cards.

5. **Occupational Health**

A presentation on Occupational Health (OH) was given by Michelle Aldous, CEO of Constructing Better Health (CBH). She emphasised that construction had now got its act together in terms of on-site safety but not with health. As an example she gave some statistics which showed deaths from accidents were down to 42/year (Safety) compared with over 300 cancer deaths/year (Health). This was in addition to problems with dermatitis, silicosis, HAV, cement burns and respirable silica dust. She mentioned the problem of fatigue risk and poor rehabilitation were increasing. Mental health issues have led to 10 suicides/week in construction.

It is clear that OH standards need to rise. The Faculty of Occupational Medicine website ([www.fom.ac.uk](http://www.fom.ac.uk)) has an accredited list of OH providers. She suggested that OH should be integrated into risk management by, 1) Identifying responsible person; 2) Defining a strategy; 3) Identifying those at risk; 4) Involving employees/supply chain and 5) Checking competency of OH provider.

CBH has an annual membership scheme to help with standards/policies and procedures. It provides a knowledge portal, training awareness campaigns, toolbox talks and soon a helpline for mental health issues.

Lively discussion followed the presentation and covered company costs eg t/o £5m company would pay £10,275/year and an OH matrix related to employees carrying out different work tasks.

CONSTRUCT will meet Michelle to find out how CONSTRUCT might offer membership of CBH as members' benefit.

6. **Discussion about use of disposable slings.**

Terry Casbolt had attended a BAR meeting and found that they had the same concerns that CONSTRUCT members have about the re use of slings for reinforcement and falsework. Reliability, Certification and Cost were major considerations. Terry Casbolt will evaluate sling usage issues and contact suppliers if necessary.

7. **Accidents and near misses**

An example of incorrectly fitted edge protection falling off a structure was given. Fortunately there were no resultant injuries. This example allowed Sean Brosnan to introduce the Edge Protection Association's Code of Practice which has been accepted by UKCG.

8. **Any Other Business.**

Terry Casbolt gave a résumé of the achievements in 2014: a) The publication of Accident Statistics relating to CONSTRUCT contractors; b) Collation and publication of Environmental Register (now available on our website); c) Pictorial Best Practice Guides (again on the website) with more to come in 2015. These three items were covered by a CITB grant. In addition there has been the issuing of a number of Safety Alerts.

9. **Next Meeting**

Thursday 12 March at 10.00am

To be held at: Ground Construction Ltd  
2 Little Burrow,  
Burrowfields,  
Welwyn Garden City,  
Hertfordshire AL7 4SP

Please find attached the CBH Health Assessment Matrix which (for those of you who may not have seen it) may be of some use.

**As ever could I ask if you would please let Carmen know as soon as possible whether or not you can make the meeting in order that she can let our Hosts know what catering arrangements need to be made.**

An agenda will be sent out in the next few days.