

**Safety Training Standards & Delivery Fall Protection SME
February 25, 2009**

Invitees	Affiliation	Attend?	Invitees	Affiliation	Attend?
Bob Schenek	Carpenters	No	Lonnie Cope	Suncor	Yes
Blair Allin	Boilermakers	No	Gary Krumholtz	Shell	No
Dave Lambert	CSAO	No	Jamie Cockerham for Tom Hennessy	IEC	Yes
Jim Joncas	NOVA	Yes	Kevin Mackowski	IOL	Yes
Tracy Verdone for Paul Healy	LamSar	Yes	John Huybers	Curran	Yes
Harry Smitts	DCCL	No	Paul Spearman	IOL	No
Victor Horvath	Laborers	Yes	Ron Mombourquette	ALUMA	Yes
Brian Strong	Millwrights	No	Dave Taylor	Chemfab	Yes
Doug McKay - Scribe	Kel-Gor	Yes	Moe Carson	UA	Yes

Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes accepted as written

Template

Ron provided the Table of Contents (attached). The template should be delivered prior to the next meeting. The Steering committee has clarified that they expect this group to provide a completed training program as its main deliverable.

Follow Ups from Previous Meeting

1. Tom to send contact list

Doug has sent out the contact list to everyone in its current form. If there are any changes, please e-mail Doug.

2. Feedback Loop on IEC Website

Ongoing – Ron to follow up

3. Guiding Principles

Draft provided to the committee (attached). There was not enough time in this meeting to discuss

Debate on 7 Items Identified in Previous Meeting

6) Height at Which Fall Protection Should be Required

After discussion, all in attendance agreed that a limit of 1.8 metres is probably appropriate as a Valley standard for fall protection.

The discussion then led to the costs associated with making a change across the board. There would be a requirement for Clients and Contractors to purchase additional equipment (self retracting lanyards etc.). Imperial Oil recently made this change at a total equipment cost of approximately \$45,000.00. It is likely that Contractor costs would be higher because they are more likely to use the equipment on a regular basis. Enough of the Clients in the area already require tie off at 1.8 M that most contractors are already in the process of purchasing this equipment anyway.

Another issue raised was the potential for reduced productivity

Lonnie asked for the statistics related to fatalities and injuries at 3 M or 1.8 M. Jamie provided the statistics and Tracy volunteered to put them into a spreadsheet that would provide a snapshot of the issues.

This item is to be taken to the Client/Contractor group for their agreement that the standardization is appropriate.

7) Donning/Doffing of harnesses

Everyone in attendance agreed that there should be a component in the training program dealing with donning and doffing of harnesses. Hands on ensures better learning.

The question was, to what level should the hands on component be taken?

Everyone agreed that it is the Employer's responsibility to ensure that their workers are trained in the use of the specific equipment being used by the employer. This means that there will always be an on-site component to the training.

The group felt, though that during the training it was important that the trainee be required to don and doff a piece of equipment in order to get the feel of how it is done. Most harness types and manufacturers are similar in the way they operate so familiarity with the general process makes it likely that the worker will have little trouble adapting to an employer's style of harness.

8) Harness age issues (should there be an expiry date?)

9) Lanyard age issues (should there be an expiry date?)

These items were discussed as one, since the issue is the same for both.

The group felt that it was appropriate as a general rule to follow the manufacturer's recommendations in relation to expiry dates on equipment.

Tracy agreed to review all manufacturers' requirements and report to the group.

In any case, it is the employer's responsibility to ensure that the equipment is maintained and inspected at least annually. Most programs include at least the annual inspection and in many cases there is an additional either monthly or quarterly inspection by a competent worker. Also, it is important to ensure that workers are trained to inspect the equipment daily prior to use.

9b) What types of lanyards should be used in what situations?

While every situation is different and requires an analysis by the workers to determine the appropriate equipment to be used in a specific situation, the group felt that there should be some exhaustive examples provided in the training program to provide a point of reference to the trainees.

15) Mandatory use of relief straps

The group agreed that the use of relief straps is an appropriate addition to the use of fall protection equipment. The increased level of safety was felt to far outweigh the moderate cost. There is currently no formal requirement to do so.

After discussion, the group agreed that it is probably appropriate to make this a requirement for use of fall protection equipment in the Valley. This would require agreement of the Client and/or Contractor groups to include it as a mandatory element in working at heights programs and procedures.

The group agreed to include this item in the list of issues to be discussed with the Client/Contractor group.

16) Anchor points – to be defined

Several questions were raised in relation to this issue. The most important was what is the appropriate requirement for the weight to be supported by the anchor point? (3600 lb or 5000lb).

The group agreed that it was appropriate to include some element of what is considered appropriate anchor points in the training but that there was no way to make it all inclusive. The group also discussed the likelihood that a worker would be able to determine whether or not an anchor point would hold the weight. It was felt that, in the field, this was unlikely to be thought of when looking for an anchor point.

The group also agreed that inclusion of a video showing drop forces would be of value

The group agreed that this item should be tabled until we can get clarity on what constitutes an appropriate anchor point since there is more than one cited in various available information.

Action Items

1. Tracy agreed to do the legwork on the items requiring information from the manufacturers – thank you Tracy
2. Tracy also agreed to compile the information on injuries related to falls
3. Tracy should be exempt from any actions at the next meeting.

Next Meeting

March 4, 2009 – 1:00 – 3:00 IEC Board Room