

FEDERATION OF PILING SPECIALISTS

Minutes and Actions of a meeting of the FPS Safety, Plant and Operations Committee held online via Teams on Thursday 3rd March 2022

In Attendance:

Neil Abbott	GSS Piling
Craig Anderson	Soilmec
Warren Arnold	Bauer
Ellen Barrett	Murphy Group
Joe Cox	Pynford Piling
Shaun Davison	Keller
Nick Dewey	Rock and Alluvium
Laylee Eftekhari	Soletanche Bachy
Matt Groom	
Daniel Hatcher	Bauer Tech
Philip Hines	Soletanche Bachy
Paul Johnson	Vibro Menard
Simon Jones	Keller
Tomas Keaveny	Foundation Piling
Brian Kellaher	Keller
Peter Kerr	DAWSON WAM
Mark Lee	ABI
William Longhurst	Rock and Alluvium
Philip Matthews	Skanska
Malcolm Mears	Soletanche Bachy
Colin Newman	Central Piling
Andrew O'Donovan	BAM Ritchies
Kenny Peters	Murphy Group
Justin Redgrave	Roger Bullivant
Alasdair Revie	FK Lowry
Matthew Smith	Expanded
Robert Speakman	Aarsleff
Colin Williams	Balfour Beatty
Giuliano Peressini	Casagrande
Lindsay	Casagrande
Alex Burt	Liebherr

Present

Kathryn de Rochefort	FPS Secretariat
Ciaran Jennings	FPS Secretary

Owner	Action	Deadline
C Jennings	Circulate the eco operation of a plant document when it has been published.	On Going
ALL	To send names of those interested in participating in the Rig Operator Training trial to Ciaran.	Next Meeting
C Jennings	To contact Carl at NOCN to extend the Rig Operator Training trial.	Next Meeting
S Jones P Hines	To meet separately to discuss the process of the Rig Operator Training and arranging access to the simulators.	Next Meeting
ALL	Committee member to feedback any comments to add on the updated audit schedules, email Simon with comments before the next audit task group meeting.	9 th March
C Jennings	To provide Simon and Matt with the list of companies that have expressed interest in taking part in the Reinforcement Audit.	ASAP
C Jennings	Circulate AFR statistics when completed.	ASAP
C Jennings	Speak to Daniel Ball about removing the N/A option from 'Job Factors' and replacing with a text field.	Next Meeting
C Jennings C Williams	To meet separately to discuss how the data is broken down in the categories for the accident stats.	Next Meeting
All	To send information about any appropriate sites for filming in relation to a video around platform safety to either Matt or Kathryn.	ASAP
C Jennings	To send Andrew information on the Rig Operator Training.	Next Meeting

	Topic	Action
1.	<p>Apologies for Absence:</p> <p>Craig Macklin (Franki Foundations), Chris Fox (Murphy Group), Marc Nelson (Soilmec), Stephen Daniels (Foundation Piling), Nial Simmonds (Martello Piling), Martin Pedley (GSS Piling), Steve Hadley (Central Piling), Neil Harris (Roger Bullivant), Kenneth Henderson (BAM Ritchies) and Craig Murphy (Murphy Group).</p>	
2.	<p>Approval of the minutes from the meeting held on Thursday 11th November 2021</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.</p>	
3.	<p>Presentations from ABI, Bauer, Casagrande and Liebherr.</p> <p>First to present was Warren Arnold on behalf of Bauer, the presentation outlined safety, technology, sustainability, automation, and Environmental steps that Bauer are taking.</p> <p>Ciaran added that he attended a Plant Sector Representation Organisation meeting, currently they are working on a syllabus for the eco operation of a plant, which Ciaran will share with the group once it has been published.</p>	C Jennings

	<p>Ciaran queried what the timeframe is for Bauer to move to fully electric rigs, Warren stated it would be within the next 10-15 years.</p> <p>Second to present was Giuliano on behalf of Casagrande the presentation outlined safety, technology, sustainability, automation, and Environmental steps that Casagrande are taking.</p> <p>Ciaran questioned how they are achieving the electronic guards, Giuliano stated that all the parts stop moving before you can be injured, but they still retain physical guards on the back.</p> <p>Simon asked the group if they had any feedback on the use of Casagrande machines. Lindsay stated that there is an overall lack of use, Giuliano added that there has been great take up in the US but not much within the UK.</p> <p>Third to present was Alex Burt on behalf of Liebherr the presentation outlined safety, technology, sustainability, automation, and Environmental steps that Liebherr are taking.</p> <p>Kenny questioned if having the heating on in the cab effected the number of hours a machine would run, Alex recommended that it is best to keep the rigs plugged in colder climates which then does not affect the heating.</p> <p>Kenny queried how long a rig would run when charge without be plugged in, Alex stated that they can run for six hours.</p> <p>The question was asked that if you lease or buy the machines, what would happen if one of the cells blow up. Alex stated that they all come with a 3–4-year warranty and they would be leased.</p> <p>Phil queried if the weight bearing pressure was much different to a regular rig, Alex assured that there is no difference in weight.</p> <p>Fourth to present was Mark Lee on behalf of ABI the presentation outlined safety, technology, sustainability, automation, and Environmental steps that ABI are taking.</p> <p>Mark asked the group if there was an appetite for remote technology, Paul explained that they do use remote tech a lot but not for rigging and derigging machines.</p>	
	<p>Matter Arising</p> <p>I. Executive Board Meeting Update</p> <p>Ciaran reported that the main debate at the last Executive meeting was around labour agencies and the issues they bring to the industry. There was a consensus among Members that there needs to be a minimum standard set that labour agencies will be required to meet. There was also a debate about having labour agencies as Associate Members or possibly forming an FPS labour agency. Martin Pedley has been asked to create a minimum standard document that labour agencies will need to adhere to, and we are looking to create a formalised process to have labour exchange amongst FPS members.</p>	

	<p>Ciaran added that John Chick gave a presentation to the Technical Committee about Cages and Sonic Logging, the technical committee are looking to take steps to advise companies to avoid the use of sonic logging where possible to keep workers safe.</p> <p>II. Skilled Worker VISA update Ciaran reported that the Visa issue has been pushed through Build UK and through the Government and have taken it as far as it will go. The Home Office has been inflexible about changing the rules. Ciaran stated that he raised this matter at the last PSRO meeting, and the group stated that by the government's own standards a rig operator should be classed as a level 3 occupation and not a level 2, so we do have room to fight and dispute this matter as Level 3 occupations should be allowed in under the Home Office rules.</p> <p>III. Rig Operator Training Update Ciaran updated the committee that the training is live but there has been an underwhelming number of applications. The training is currently only available to HS2 workers, but we are looking to roll this out to all members, Phil Hines is currently establishing the training route that needs to be put in place to take this forward. Ciaran asked the committee to send forward any names of the possible candidates to take people through the process and help establish the training in the industry.</p> <p>We also need to draft guidance around how we would manage trainee rig operators onsite and how it would be managed; we will need volunteers to help put into the guidance. Colin question where the sudden rush had come from as he thought that we had 6 months to get the trial underway. Ciaran stated the trial started in September/October time last year but as we are still setting up the training route, we have not had any application come through, but we can have the trial extended, Ciaran assured that he will speak to Karl at NOCN. Phil stated that he and Simon need to meet separately to discuss the process and arranging access to the simulators.</p> <p>IV. Behavioral Safety No discussion.</p> <p>V. FPS Audit Update Simon reported that the FPS Audit is currently being updated and the relevant documents were circulated prior to the meeting. There have been efforts to reduce duplications between the FPS audit and the ISO accreditation. Simon asked the committee if they had any further comments to add, the committee had nothing to add. Simon stated that the audit task group would next be meeting on Wednesday 9th March, after which point, they will present the proposed changes at the next Executive Meeting for approval. Simon asked all committee member to email any comments they have before the meeting on the 9th.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>C Jennings</p> <p>P Hines S Jones</p> <p>ALL</p>
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6.	<p>Meeting Locations</p> <p>Simon asked the group, by a show of hands, to indicate whether the next meeting should be virtual or physical. 15 out of 22 members voted the next meeting to be virtual.</p> <p>Simon suggested that the next meeting will be held virtually but the one following on from that will be held in Derby.</p>	
7.	<p>Auger Gates</p> <p>Matt Groomer (Plant Manager from Bachy Soletanche) explained that they recently had an incident on site where an auger was blocked and needed to be cleared out, the gates were opened with the auger still turning. There were no injuries, but it has been seen as a training opportunity and the client has asked us to investigate automatic stops, so that if the gates are opened the auger will stop turning automatically.</p> <p>Andrew stated that they have automatic stops on all their auger gates that come with an override button should you need to keep the auger turning when you have the gates open.</p> <p>Matt and Andrew agreed to discuss in further detail outside of the meeting.</p>	
8.	<p>Videos/Campaigning</p> <p>Simon reported that this is in reference to a video about platform safety. We have a story lined up, approval from the executive board and we have started to look at potential companies to do the filming. We are also looking at appropriate sites for the filming to take place. Simon asked the group that if they have any sites that would be practical to email Matt or Kathryn with the details.</p>	All
9.	<p>CPCS Management Committee Documents</p> <p>Ciaran highlighted that we need to put together documents for the yellow card. Ciaran also added that the PSRO have created a competency framework for card schemes generally and this may start to influence the way card schemes work. The yellow card has already been embedded in that framework.</p> <p>Matt added that there had been a call for a volunteer to put together a 'touch screen' test.</p> <p>Simon nominated Colin Newman.</p>	
10.	<p>NOS Review</p> <p>Ciaran reported that CITB would like to do a NOS review of the 'Piling Rig Attendant' and 'Rig Operative'. We need a couple of volunteers to look at the National Occupational Standard.</p> <p>Colin Williams, Robert Speakman, Daniel Hatcher, Kenny Peters, and Matt smith volunteered to form the WG.</p>	

11.	<p>Early Careers Group Request</p> <p>Matt reported that the ECG group would like to get involved in the committees and the subcommittees. If anyone needs assistance with actions or would like extra participant in the committees then you can either contact Julia Hill or Ciaran.</p>	
12.	<p>AOB</p> <p>Daniel reported that there was a rig that went over in London, but nothing has been released about the circumstances, he asked the group if anyone had further details on the incident. It was stated that it was a Keltbray rig, but it should be left to them to disclose any further information.</p> <p>Daniel also raised an incident that happened with a BG rig we had a pin from the CAT head and apparently the same incident occurred again in the London area, but no further information has been shared.</p> <p>Andrew asked if information about the Rig Operator training could be sent to him as he has not heard of it, Ciaran agreed to send over the details.</p> <p>Peter highlighted that he has been trying to get some of his workers onto the simulators but did not know if this training would be available to them, Ciaran stated that a training path is still being developed but Simon and Phil will be working on this matter.</p> <p>Robert stated that his company have been looking at familiarisation training and how we document that which has led to a wider review. Would there be any value in the FPS have standard documentation around training. Simon suggested that this might be a good discussion point for the next meeting.</p>	C Jennings
13.	<p>Next Meeting Dates</p> <p>Monday 6th June 2022 Thursday 1st September 2022 Monday 7th November 2022</p>	