

DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL & INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING

SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

MARCH 3, 2003

ATTENDEES: Sanjeev Chandra, Len Roosman, Mike Smith, Joe Baptista, Tom Bernreiter, Maurine Kwok, Markus Bussmann

ABSENT: Yvonne MacNeil, Esther Oostdyk

NEXT MEETING: tentatively scheduled for June 9 at 2:00 in MC331.

ONGOING ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

1. Since the last meeting, Sanjeev and Len formulated a reply to a draft report of a UofT Internal Audit of MIE, that was then sent to the auditors via Jim Wallace. A few minor recommendations were subsequently acted upon. However, the recommendation to perform monthly safety inspections was countered with the suggestion that such an inspection schedule would require a dedicated person. Lab inspections are presently done twice a year.
2. Len will continue to try to get MIE people into a two-day first aid class sponsored by the UofT. Previously proposed classes have been cancelled due to lack of sufficient interest.
3. 43 graduate students attended Len's January 10th safety course. This has cleared the backlog of students who had not received training. Sanjeev will contact Tony Sinclair regarding a mechanism to verify attendance, and a means of enforcing this requirement.
4. Joe and Maureen will revisit the issue of a phone line in MC51D, as requested previously by Jan Spelt.

NEW ITEMS:

1. The current round of inspections of MIE facilities will be completed by April 30, 2003. Len will involve Mike in some of the lab inspections, to allow him to designate Mike as an alternate inspector. Joe will inspect common areas. Joe is not properly certified as an inspector: appropriate training needs to be identified and completed.
2. Len will also work with Tom to inspect MIE facilities in the Bahen Centre, so that Tom too can be designated an alternate inspector. Joe will collect a list of facilities in the Bahen Centre for which MIE has responsibility.
3. Len provided a site safety course to 28 students (Jan Spelt's and others) on March 5, 2003.
4. Len announced the closure of the Faculty of Medicine machine shop, effective March 14, 2003. The student shop facility will remain open until June 30, 2003. Maureen will meet with David Esdaile to schedule the hours of operation. The committee raised concerns about operating the facility without the presence of shop staff. Maurine will provide Sanjeev with a schedule and staffing information once available
5. Annual inspections of MIE lifting devices took place on January 10, 2003. Two missing labels and a worn chain were replaced.

6. Residents of offices on the 2nd and 3rd floors of the Rosebrugh building have complained about fumes coming from the construction site that was Taddle Creek Road. The site contractor has agreed to purchase and install a charcoal filter for the nearby Rosebrugh air intake. As well, windows will be caulked, although it is unclear whether this implies every window, or just those of people bothered by the fumes.
7. Joe presented the committee with the findings of an audit conducted by CUPE 3261, that represents primarily the caretakers. Three areas were noted as potential fire risks due to clutter: MC203A, MC203K, and MC306. Ron Lewis with the Fire Prevention office at the UofT has been made aware of the audit. Len agreed to take responsibility to address the three complaints, and then report this to Ron Lewis.
8. Sanjeev noted complaints from residents of several new offices in the Haultain building, who reported noxious fumes coming from the ventilation system. The reason appears to be that the intake for the air conditioning unit for the Haultain building is adjacent to a fume exhaust connected to one remaining piece of plasma spray equipment, that is likely to move to the Bahen Centre this summer. Sanjeev has agreed that the spray equipment will be operated after hours, but wondered whether the Heat Engines labs were not also connected to the same exhaust line.
9. Finally, Joe reports that the construction on King's College Road will only start up again when warmer weather takes hold. In the meantime, the path between Mechanical Engineering and Sir Sanford Fleming is often icy, and will require regular application of salt.