



WPAC Safety Committee
December 09th, 2020 Conference Call
Minutes & Action Items

Recorded by Cherie Whelan

Attendees:

First name	Last name	Company
Chris	Cloney	Dust Safety Science
Chris	Zuberec	BFL Canada
Cody	Huls	Kozar Engineering Inc.
Daryl	Davidson	Pacific BioEnergy
Fahimeh	Yazdanpanah	WPAC/ UBC
Gordon	Murray	Wood Pellet Association of Canada
Jeff	Johnston	Pinnacle Renewable Energy
Jimmy	Boudreau	Canfor
John	Arsenault	Quebec Wood Export Bureau
Lori	Saretsky	West Fraser
Michael	Fantillo	Sinclar
Rick	Taylor	Drax
Robert	Boyd	Shaw Resources
Scott	Bax	Pinnacle Renewable Energy
Shahab	Sokhansanj	UBC -Biomass and Bioenergy Research Group
Shawn	Gamble	Platinum Pellet
Steven	Mueller	Pinnacle Renewable Energy
Todd	Bjorgen	Pinnacle Renewable Energy
Bill	Laternus	BC Forest Safety Council
Cherie	Whelan	BC Forest Safety Council

1. Call to Order & Introduction

Scott Bax called the meeting to order at 11:02am.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda is approved.

3. Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the November 18th,2020 are approved.

4. Discussion of Action Items

- a. **Safety Foundations Webinar Series-** Fahimeh and Gordon provided an update:

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- All 6 topics have been recorded. Currently working on videos and editing. First draft of videos expected in 1.5 weeks. Will start communicating in January. Will be able to watch love or recorded.
- All Webinars will have a quiz and attendees will get a certificate for each webinar and then one upon completion of all six.
- WorkSafeBC and UBC are sponsors.

ACTION: Safety Foundations Webinar Series: Fahimeh provide an update at the next meeting.

- b. **Plant Operator Training:** Todd Bjorgen provided update. Piloting practical assessment review process this coming Friday. 10 people have been identified for review. Todd will facilitate the session with Greg Shorland (BCFSC contractor) support. Process going really well. Once this next phase is completed they will start identifying training/learning resources to support assessments.

ACTION: Steve Mueller/Todd Bjorgen to provide update at next meeting

- c. **Info Share:** Scott Bax will send out the traction control information to the group
- d. **Critical Control Implementation Project:** Cherie Whelan provided an update on the extension request. She met with Mike Tasker and Jeff Thompson about the change in pilot timing because of COVID constraints. Both Canfor Chetwynd and Premium Vanderhoof have been provided extensions for their WorkSafeBC submissions until March 31, 2021.
- e. **Critical Control Implementation Project:** Cherie Whelan provided an update. Had a brief conversation with Greg Rye about the plans for West Pine as the bowties from the rest of the project will not be applicable to their facility. BCFSC and WPAC will ensure that WestPine is supported through the project and will work with them to coordinate resources through Dalhousie Process Safety Engineering dept to support their bowtie development.
- f. **Safety Share:** Gord Murray in agenda for Safety Share.

5. **Bed Dryer Working Group Update:**

Gord Murray and Fahimeh provided an update. Event took place on November 25, 2020 11:00am-1:15pm PST., and was very well attended (>70 attendees) WPAC members, WorkSafeBC, suppliers, etc. Thanks to Steve Mueller and Nathan Bond for providing information around incidents that occurred at their facilities. Comment that it was helpful to have Stella on the call.

Fahimeh indicated that they will be circulating a meeting recap and will start the Bed Dryer working group in the near future. If anyone wants to participate and hasn't already provided their name, please let Fahimeh or Gord know.

WorkSafeBC made a comment in the meeting about how effective isolation of equipment is important. WorkSafeBC also commented on the results that they are seeing with the collaboration of the group and the positive relationship that they have built with industry.

ACTION: Fahimeh to provide update on progress next meeting

6. Dec 14 WorkSafeBC meeting and 2021 preliminary work plan focus areas

Gord Murray provided an update on the meeting. Not everyone is able to attend, but didn't want to reschedule and encourages everyone to make an effort to attend. WPAC has been having these meeting with WorkSafeBC twice a year, but this year with COVID the meeting in June was postponed. Gord reviewed the agenda:

1. WPAC Safety Committee, 2020 Work Plan, progress review
2. Critical control/bowtie project
3. Belt dryer symposium follow-up
4. Discussion of priorities for 2021
5. WorkSafeBC feedback and concerns
6. Other issues.

Gord provided some potential areas of focus for the 2021 Workplan that he would like to review with WorkSafe BC at the meeting (see attached presentation):

- Plant Operator Training and use of Alarms -
 - Finish development of a basic plant operator training plan and general competency assessment.
 - Hold a workshop to launch the training plan
- Critical Control Implementation Plan
 - Complete implementation of the June 2020 plan.
- Training and Supervision of Workers
 - Launch the safety foundation webinar series
 - Online safety conference
- Belt Dryer Safety
 - Follow up on safety symposium. Establish working group
- Incident Reporting
 - Plan for how to interpret and use the data we've been collecting.
- Communications
 - Hold monthly Safety Committee conference calls
 - Changes to WPAC website
- Local Nitrogen Supply Initiative
 - Complete recommendations for effective emergency response for wood pellet industry in case of self-heating and silo fire

Gord asked for everyone to review and provide any feedback on the items prior to the meeting..

ACTION: Gord to send invite to the December 14, 2021 meeting

ACTION: Gord and Fahimeh are to prepare the first draft of the 2021 work plan for presentation at the next safety committee meeting.

7. Critical Control Implementation Project (CCIP) update:

Cherie W. provided an update. BCFSC just got the completed set of bowties from Dalhousie University. BCFSC has been provided access to Bowtie XP software through Dalhousie. BCFSC currently working with BowtieXP to extract/build spreadsheets from the bowties to expedite the identification of critical controls from the bowties, and to help with the documentation of how each critical control is managed at the site level. This will provide the content required for the submission to WorkSafeBC.

BCFSC is working with Canfor Chetwyn for the first demo of how to use the spreadsheets. Next pilot planned for Premium Pellet and will be completing fire/explosion in Pelletizer, Silos and Rotary dryer and has had to be postponed due to travel restrictions due to COVID. Bill Laturnus is managing logistics for the rescheduling and is looking at first two weeks in January 2021. Still need to complete Direct Fire Bed dryer and that will be part of the Bed Dryer working group project now and will be doing that in the new year

ACTION: Critical Control Implementation Project Cherie Whelan to provide update at next meeting

8. Safety Share: Gord Murray: WPAC Safety Committee history and accomplishments

Gord provided some of his thoughts on the history of the WPAC Safety committee and how far it has come. Originally in 2010 it was formed due to some plants having issues with getting insurance. They asked BCFSC to provide a presentation to the group but there was no appetite back then to pursue that. In 2012 after the Lakeland Babine explosions, WorkSafeBC were inspecting a lot of plants and there was a fair amount of animosity between the regulator and industry. Al Johnson, in charge of enforcement WorkSafeBC at the time, called all the operators into a meeting at WorkSafeBC and advised them of WorkSafeBC's authority to shut down plants if needed. At that time, wood pellet producers made a collective decision to deal with combustible dust and that was the start of the WPAC Safety Committee. Since then there have been monthly meetings, published workplans and the WPAC Safety Committee has seen tremendous growth with industry, suppliers and BCFSC.

The relationship with WorkSafeBC has done a 180 degree turnaround and he is excited with initiatives like the Critical Control Implementation Project and the recent Belt Dryer Symposium.

Scott Bax asked for a volunteer for the next safety share and three members volunteered:

January 2021-Jimmy Boudreau

February 2021- Fahimeh Yazdanpanah

March 2021- Steve Mueller

ACTION: Safety Shares scheduled:

- o January 2021-Jimmy Boudreau
- o February 2021- Fahimeh Yazdanpanah
- o March 2021- Steve Mueller

9. Other Business:

Gord Murray said that there was a possibility to look at research grants through WorkSafeBC and there might be some opportunity to look at work to further enhance the CCIP work. Some discussion to look at equipment isolation as a possibility given the comments from WorkSafeBC at the Bed Dryer Symposium. Gord indicated that there was time for this as the proposal did not need to go in for a couple of months. He asked anyone with suggestions to send them to him.

Scott Bax shared that Pinnacle had a fire/explosion on November 25, 2020. It was not related to combustible dust and looked like natural gas. Three workers injured but have been able to return to work. Are still investigating, and once that is completed they will share with this group.

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10. **Next Meeting** is currently scheduled for **Wednesday, January 13th 2021** at 11:00 a.m. PST. It is not currently in the calendar. Cherie Whelan will send out the invitation for the year.

ACTION: Cherie Whelan to schedule 2021 WPAC Safety Committee meetings for the 2nd Wednesday each month 11-12PST.

Meeting adjourned at 12:06pm.

Actions arising from meeting

Meeting Date	Action Item	Accountable
Dec-20	Safety Foundations Webinar Series: Fahimeh provide an update at the next meeting	Fahimeh
Dec-20	Plant Operator Training: Steve Mueller/Todd Bjorgen to provide update at next meeting	Steve Mueller/Todd Bjorgen
Dec-20	Info Share: Scott Bax to send info on Pinnacle's pamphlet on traction control devices for distribution.	Scott Bax
Dec-20	Bed Dryer Working Group Update: Fahimeh to provide update on progress next meeting	Fahimeh
Dec-20	WSBC meeting: Gord to send invite to the WPAC WorkSafeBC December 14, 2021 meeting	Gord Murray
Dec-20	2021 Workplan: Gord and Fahimeh are to prepare the first draft of the 2021 work plan for presentation at the next safety committee meeting	Gord & Fahimeh
Dec-20	Critical Control Implementation Project: Cherie Whelan to provide update at next meeting	Cherie Whelan
Dec-20	Safety Shares scheduled: o January 2021-Jimmy Boudreau o February 2021- Fahimeh Yazdanpanah o March 2021- Steve Mueller	Jimmy Boudreau Fahimeh Yazdanpanah Steve Mueller
Dec-20	Cherie Whelan to schedule 2021 WPAC Safety Committee meetings for the 2nd Wednesday each month 11-12PST	Cherie Whelan