



**WPAC Safety Committee
April 17th, 2019 Conference Call
Minutes & Action Items**

Recorded by Fahimeh Yazdan Panah

Attendees:

Dustin	Meierhofer	BC Forest Safety Council
Gordon	Murray	WPAC
Rob	Irwin	Vanderwell Contractors (1971) Ltd.
Steven	Mueller	Pinnacle Renewable Energy
Phillipe	Landry	J.D. Irving, Limited
Scott	Bax	Pinnacle Renewable Energy
Frank	Wall	Premium Pellet Ltd.
Shahab	Sokhansanj	UBC -Biomass and Bioenergy Research Group
Fahimeh	Yazdanpanah	UBC -Biomass and Bioenergy Research Group
Jeff	Mycroft	Fike Canada Inc.
Greg	Rye	West Fraser
James	Snow	Premium Pellet Ltd.
Sirois	Serge	J.D. Irving
Jimmy	Boudreau	Canfor

Call to Order & Introduction

Scott Bax called the meeting to order at 11:01am

Approval of the Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the March 13th, 2019 meeting are approved.

Approval of the Agenda

The agenda is approved.

Review of Action Items of Previous Meeting

1. **June 11 Safety Conference.** The conference steering committee is comprised of Gord, Dustin and Fahimeh. The proposed keynote speaker is Curtis Weber. Gordon has booked the venue. Gord has talked to WorkSafeBC for the afternoon/evening meeting on June 10 and has booked the room. The Safety Conference website is done and registration is open (<https://www.woodproductsafetysummit.com/>). Promotion is done through Canadian Biomass Magazine. **ACTION** – The committee is to propose a preliminary agenda to the safety committee within 7-10 days (by April 29th) and provide an updated action list and budget.

2. **Process Safety Management** – It was agreed that the next workshop will take place in the fall. It will be open to all forest sectors, not just wood pellets. The workshop focus will be on preparing bowties for the most common hazards on the wood pellet industry. Gordon has talked to Jenny and she is willing to do it. **ACTION** – Gord is to coordinate with Jenny Colman on a proposed workshop date in the fall. Gord, Scott, Dustin and Fahimeh to propose a few ideas for incidents for bowtie analysis to the safety committee. The proposed ideas are to be discussed in the next meeting (May).

3. **HCI Monitoring and Alarm Systems**
Control room operators are critical to the safety success of a plant. Growing our collective understanding of leading practices with respect to Human Computer interface (HCI) and alarm usage and ultimately be able to put into practice some of those leading practices. Gord have talked to Jenny Colman on the session during the June 11 Safety conference. **ACTION** – Gord, Scott and Steve to narrow down the focus of this session.

4. **Plant Operator training** – Dustin is to lead. Control room operators are critical to the safety success of a Using our HSA, developing a list of core competencies for being successful in that position. Upon having an experienced 3rd party establish the list, the SC can choose a couple competencies to focus on. A quote is provided by Clover Consulting on development of plant operator competency material (Gordon distributed the quote prior to the meeting). Scott went through the quote provided. Dustin mentioned that Russ Robertson is retired and thus have had some difficulties on that front. He is working with Greg Shorland who is taken over some of the roles that Russ has been responsible for. Greg is fully prepared to launch the work mid summer if he gets the go ahead. Safety committee chair is supportive of proceeding. All committee members present in the call showed support and agreed to proceed.
Dustin mentioned they would be reaching out to membership for any material that currently exist that relates to operator responsibility, training, safe work procedures, etc. Greg plans to build a databank of the existing material, which could help with the development of the plant operator competency material.
Comment from Greg (West Fraser): This is a big topic and if not careful, a lot of money and time will be consumed. West Fraser is concerned about the relevance to their operation.
ACTION – Dustin: Engages Greg Shorland (BCFSC) to proceed with launching the work. Breakdown of the activities to be developed by Greg.

5. **Combustible Gas & Confined Space Webinar** – Gord and Dustin are to discuss potential for Kevin Ericsson or alternative to present during the June 11 safety conference. Dustin has discussed with Kevin to present during the Safety Conference and indicated that the plan is to have it video tapes to be used as a webinar and be freely available to everyone. Kevin has slight concerns with the webinar being fully available. A budget (~\$3500) has prepared by Kevin and was distributed by Gordon prior to the safety meeting. **ACTIONS** – Dustin to follow up on Kevin if there is any further reservation in regards to the distribution of the webinar. Otherwise get Kevin engaged and go ahead with preparing for it.

6. **Work Plan** – **ACTION** Gord is to write an article for publication regarding activities of the safety committee and the work plan.

7. **Work Plan Review** – A complete review of the work plan was done in March meeting. It was decided to revisit the plan in few months from now.

Safety Sharing – Scott Bax – Pinnacle - Scott shared some details from Pinnacle's Feb 11, 2019 rotary dryer explosion at their Entwistle plant. Pinnacle committed to publishing a safety alert once the investigation is completed. Rob Irwin asked if anything regarding isolation gates could be included.

Other business

Wood Dust Training course is happening on May 9 and 10 in Richmond. Scott emailed the details to the safety committee.

James Snow reported that WorkSafeBC has done the annual site visit of Premium plant and no issues were found.

Greg reported that WorkSafeBC has done the site visit of West Fraser recently.

Scott mentioned that an engineering company called Ramboll (<https://ramboll.com/>) do the wood dust flow modeling through conveyors to minimize dust. They have worked with some utilities in Europe that have converted from coal to wood pellets. If interested email Scott or Gord for a copy of their presentation.

Darren Marutt will do the May safety sharing.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, May 08, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. Pacific Time.**