

Technical minutes of ITCO Board Meeting in London on 30th Sept.2003

Agenda Item no. 11

JH briefly reported on various technical meetings attended by ITCO.

United Nations TDG	: Geneva	: Dec. 1-4 2002.
ADR/TDG	: Brussels	: Dec. 8-10 2002.
ADR/TDG	: Brussels	: Apr. 7-8 2003.
ADR/TDG	: Brussels	: June 4 2003.
HSE	: London	: June 11 2003.
United Nations TDG	: Geneva	: June 30- July 4 2003.
HSE	: Skelmersdale	: Aug 16 2003.
HSE	: Manchester	: Sept 15 2003.

ITCO now have our own allocated desk/markings at both the TDG meetings in the front section of the technical observers.

When I first attended these meetings ITCO were not allocated a chair. I feel ITCO is now viewed as a valuable regular contributor to these technical meetings.

JH reported that it was hard to reduce the length of time spent at the United Nations meetings because the agenda items were taken out of sequence. The actual sequence was not agreed until the first morning. This increases the amount spent on hotels but not my labour costs.

JH asked the Board for guidance on how they wished Technical Reports to be presented. CR advised he would like to see brief notes on any proposed amendments with cross references to sections in regulations which must be consulted.

JH briefly outlined the reservations of the HSE Working at Heights proposals. (See attached minutes of the latest meeting for a full report.)

JH to write a report with bullet points as to why handrails are not a desired attachment on tank containers.

WF will arrange the publication of this report in various selected papers. Photographs of handrails on tanks and other means of tank access platforms would seem as strengthening ITCO's case.

The Board request that all our tank operators and lessors contact their local HSE office outlining their objections and the case why handrails should not be fitted to tank containers.

The HSE Project Leader is

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JS reported on the latest advise from the US Authorities on CFR49 regarding the Thermal Fusible Link fitted to bottom outlet valves.

This differed from advice given to JH in July which illustrates the various interpretations even with in the US Administrations.

JS was advised that the USA would be submitting their proposal for further consideration by the United Nations. We think it is too late for it to be considered during the next UN session in Dec 2003.

JS advised that the Spanish proposal to amend the IMO/CSC regulation for maintenance issues has been totally rejected.

This was seen as a job well done by Jim on behalf of ITCO.

Jack Hopkins 6th Oct 2003.