

**JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
HELD MONDAY SEPTEMBER 25, 2006 AT 1:00 P.M.  
LOCATION: 5<sup>th</sup> FL. BOARDROOM OF THE BCMEA  
349 RAILWAY STREET, VANCOUVER**

**Attendees:**

**BCMEA**

**ILWU**

R. Meyer (Co-Chair) – Vancouver Wharves	A. LeMonnier (Co-Chair) – ILWU, Canada
P. Fry – P & O Ports	C. Zuckerman – ILWU, Local 500
A. Schwingenschloegl – TSI	D. McEachern – ILWU, Local 508
S. Dixon – TSI	R. Dickens – ILWU, Local 505
T. Gutenberg – Fraser Surrey Docks	D. Dosen – ILWU, Local 500
T. Genest – Cerescorp Co.	S. Nolan – ILWU, Local 502
E. Ferguson – Cerescorp Co.	
D. Parry – Neptune Bulk Terminals	
P. Vieweg – Western Stevedoring	
B. Webster – Seaboard Shipping	
G. Beatch – Westcan Stevedoring	
G. Mebs – BCMEA	
J. Beckett – BCMEA	

**AGENDA**

- I) **Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting – April 25, 2006**
- II) **Approval of the Agenda – September 25, 2006**
- III) **Business Arising from the Minutes**
  - .01) Industry Supplied High Visibility Coveralls
  - .02) Notification of Injured Workers
  - .03) Request to issue Defibrillators to First Aid Attendants
  - .04) Working at Heights on a Vessel
  - .05) Lighting Levels at Docks
  - .06) Caulk Boot Replacement Program
  - .07) Ro-Ro Air Quality
  - .08) Container Detaching from Top-pick
  - .09) Contingency Plan for Potential Avian Flu Pandemic
- IV) **New Business**
  - .01) Policy for Gradual Equipment Conversion: Diesel to Bio-Diesel/Natural Gas as per U.S. ILWU Initiative
  - .02) Muster Station Awareness
  - .03) Establish Sling Inspection Training
  - .04) Plastic Banding Standard

- .05) Container Inspection Policy or Procedure
- .06) Adoption of Industry Policy Regarding Radioactive Containers; Forward to ISP for October 2006 meeting
- .07) Status Quo of General Waterfront Safety Training Program

**V) Open Discussion**

**VI) Next Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 13:20.

**I) Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting – April 25, 2006**

The minutes of the previous meeting of April 25, 2006 were adopted as circulated.

**II) Approval of the Agenda – September 25, 2006**

The agenda was approved.

**III) Business Arising from the Minutes**

**.01) Industry Supplied High Visibility Coveralls**

The three-month pilot project began July 19, 2006. Coveralls and overalls have been distributed from a temporary trailer located in the Despatch parking lot. Employees despatched to lashing jobs at Centerm or Vanterm have been asked to sign out a pair of coveralls/overalls prior to leaving Despatch for their shift. Recent discussions with Terminals Systems Inc. and P & O Ports have concluded that the distribution may be extended past the end date of October 18, 2006.

*CLOSED*

*Responsible: Association/Container Terminals*

**.02) Notification of Injured Workers**

An information form has been distributed by member companies to first aid attendants and injured workers.

*CLOSED*

*Responsible: Direct Employers*

**.03) Request to Issue Defibrillators to First Aid Attendants**

The Employer group requested that a comprehensive review of costs, training and liability issues, etc. would be provided before a decision could be made. The sub-committee met with Dr. Franklin on May 29, 2006 at the BCMEA to review this information. This item will be held in abeyance until other issues have been addressed.

*OPEN*

*Responsible: Association/Direct Employers*

**.04) Working at Heights on a Vessel**

The sub-committee met on September 18, 2006 to write a draft version of an Industry-wide Fall Protection Policy; this was circulated to all attendees. Suggestions were made regarding the language and inclusion of the Training Department at the next meeting. The sub-committee will meet again on October 24, 2006 to finalize the draft and subsequently forward it to the Direct Employers.

OPEN

*Responsible: Direct Employers & Union*

**.05) Lighting Levels at Docks**

The Union has appealed the HRSDC Officer's decision regarding which Lighting Schedule applies to the Waterfront. The Union had requested that all sites conduct a review of their lighting levels; the employers have already conducted lighting inspections and feel that they are meeting current regulations. Both parties are awaiting HRSDC's decision with respect to which Lighting Scheduled must be followed.

OPEN

*Responsible: Direct Employers/Union*

**.06) Caulk Boots Replacement Program**

The BCMEA will propose a policy for the replacement of caulks and/or caulk boots. The Association will also identify if a distribution policy is necessary. Currently, workers despatched to logs have not attained enough hours to qualify for caulk boots and those workers that have received them are often not working log jobs.

OPEN

*Responsible: Association*

**.07) Ro-Ro Air Quality**

The Vancouver Island Local expressed a concern regarding the air quality aboard the Ro-Ro vessels on Vancouver Island. The stevedoring superintendents have been equipped with carbon monoxide meters to measure levels in the cargo spaces as the loading progresses. The owners have made an effort to ensure that the ventilation fans are meeting the system's optimum operating levels. The ship owner informed the group that the diesel fuel consumed by the running equipment is being treated with Combustal, a fuel additive that reduces emission of particulate matter by equipment. The owners also stated that they were investigating changing over to bio-diesel. The number of flat deck trucks employed on Vancouver Island is more than the number used at other BC loading ports and this additional equipment may result in having excess equipment idling and could be a contributing factor to the build up of fumes in the cargo spaces. The owners will investigate this further and where there is excessive idling of units will look into reducing the number of trucks employed. It was agreed upon by both parties that Mr. Dosen (ILWU Local 500) would attend an inspection of a Ro-Ro ship in Vancouver the following week.

OPEN

*Responsible: Employers*

**.08) Container Detaching from Top-pick**

The Union provided the committee with copies of the *International Maritime Organization's* notice regarding this incident (refer to DSC 11/6/4). This was provided for informational purposes only.

CLOSED

*Responsible: Employers*

**.09) Contingency Plan for Potential Avian Flu Pandemic**

The Union had previously raised concerns with respect to contingency plans for a potential avian flu pandemic. The Union suggested that the Association should verify with Health Canada how it is anticipated that they will be affected. The employers conceded that if there is a pandemic, it will impact the general population, not just transportation-oriented industries. The basic approach to limiting the spread of a pandemic flu would be via basic hygiene (face masks, antibacterial hand gel stations and implementing social distances); however, each site will need to make arrangements for the procurement of necessary items. In addition, the direct employers will be responsible for business contingency plans.

OPEN

*Responsible: Direct Employers*

**IV) New Business**

**.01) Policy for Gradual Equipment Conversion: Diesel to Bio-Diesel/Natural Gas as per U.S. ILWU Initiative**

The Union recommended that the Industry should adopt a policy to reduce emissions across the Waterfront. Employers responded that they are already undertaking site initiatives and further issues should be discussed by the maintenance committees.

CLOSED

*Responsible: Direct Employers*

**.02) Muster Station Awareness**

It was agreed that the individual sites are responsible for employee awareness of emergency response plans and the location of muster and/or meeting areas. The Union suggested that Industry-wide information should be published with respect to general guidelines to follow in case of emergency; however, this information is already disseminated via the Safety Orientation Program and will continue on with the General Waterfront Safety Training program.

CLOSED

*Responsible: Direct Employers & Association*

**.03) Establish Sling Inspection Training**

The Union would like the Industry to create a 'wear standards' document for slings as it is believed that some slings do not meet standards. Although workers currently have procedures to follow, including inspection of the certificates, many cannot determine which slings meet standards despite the certificates. It was suggested that employees should receive more in-depth training on this topic; it was agreed that this issue would be further discussed with the Training department in order to schedule training of the trainers, superintendents and foremen on sling standards.

OPEN

*Responsible: Direct Employers & Association*

**.04) Plastic Banding Standard**

It has been observed that the mills are now using plastic bands more often than the metal bands on pulp, which are breaking more easily. The Industry has no control over the type or material used by the mills, but will ensure that the plastic bands meet the same standard as metal bands, as set out by COFI.

CLOSED

*Responsible: Direct Employers*

**.05) Container Inspection Policy or Procedure**

It was recommended that a visual container-inspection procedure be implemented at the container terminals in order to avoid an incident occurring due to damaged and/or worn containers. Currently, under the International CSC, containers are certified by the manufacturer at the manufacturing date, 5 years later and then every 30 months. However, due to a recent incident where a container fell a short distance due to worn corner pockets. The employers requested that information should first be gathered regarding current inspection procedures, identification of site employees that have contact with the containers and identification of employees that will have time to perform visual or cursory inspections.

OPEN

*Responsible: Direct Employers, Association and Union*

**.06) Adoption of Industry Policy Regarding Radioactive Containers;  
Forward to ISP for October 2006 meeting**

The Union requested a copy of radioactive container inspection policy to be forwarded to the ISP for its October 2006 meeting. The container terminals agreed to this request but would also like to supply the ISP with additional information regarding the inspection process before containers arrive at the terminals.

CLOSED

*Responsible: Union & Direct Employers*

**.07) Status Quo of General Waterfront Safety Training Program**

The General Waterfront Safety Training Program is scheduled to begin during the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter. The BCMEA will shortly select and train individuals as instructors.

*CLOSED*

*Responsible: Association*

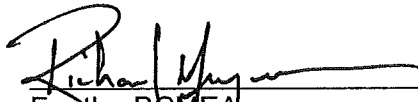
**VI) Next Meetings:**

.01) Joint Industry Safety Committee Meeting - December 7, 2006 at the Maritime Labour Center.


.02) Working at Heights – Fall Protection Policy Meeting on October 24, 2006 at the BCMEA.

The meeting adjourned at 16:00.

Signed,

  
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For the BCMEA  
R. Meyer – Co-Chair

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Date signed

  
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For the ILWU - Canada  
A. Le Monnier – Co-Chair

11/15/06  
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Date signed