

**18 May 2005
NHA Safety C&S Steering Committee Teleconference
Draft Minutes & Actions**

Related Documents, meeting dates and other Committee information is located on the Members Only site. Click on the C&S Steering Committee link.

Karen Hall began the meeting at 2:05PM EDT.

Ms. Hall explained that Tom Joseph and Susan Townsend would not be able to attend the call due to unexpected meeting conflicts.

Roll Call:

Karen Hall-NHA

Patrick Serfass--NHA

Susan Townsend-GE (absent-meeting conflict)

Bob Boyd-BOC

Bill Collins-UTCFC

Bill Hoagland-Hydrogen 2000

Tom Joseph-Air Products (absent-meeting conflict)

Larry Moulthrop-Proton Energy

Krishna Sapru-Ovonics (absent)

Chris Sloane-GM (absent—some comments received after the call are included in the minutes)

Mike Swain-U Miami

Updates/Breaking News

Ms. Hall provided an update on ASTM and CGA activities related to her by Mr. Joseph. ASTM held its first workshop on Hydrogen yesterday and will follow-up with a task group meeting today. They are planning on developing test standards for Hydrogen - starting with Hydrogen Embrittlement. These test standards will help other SDOs to cite them in their component standards.

The CGA Hydrogen committee is meeting at their headquarters on June 1st and 2nd. A number of Hydrogen related publications, including below grade storage of gaseous hydrogen and side-by-side storage of hydrogen with other flammable gases like CNG, will be finalized at this meeting.

A reminder that the DOT RFP on hydrogen CFR gap analysis is due on May 31, 2005.

Consolidation of NFPA Hydrogen Requirements

Ms. Hall reported that the NFPA Standards Council wants to consolidate all hydrogen requirements into one document. She asked the committee to provide input on whether there is industry support for this idea. Ms. Hall reported that in the past (with the ICC) industry has been opposed because they want the requirements to appear in the appropriate code. She reported that in conversations prior to the call, Mr. Joseph expressed Air Products' support of

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consolidating hydrogen requirements. Bill Collins explained that he expected that Glenn Scheffler would be opposed to consolidation unless it alleviated current difficulties in gaining consensus in some controversial NFPA documents (like NFPA 52). After the teleconference, Chris Sloan said that she agrees with the view point that Bill Collins attributed to Glenn Scheffler.

ACTION: Karen will circulate an email with opinions expressed so far to gain a committee decision on which position the NHA should take. DONE

NFPA letter

The NFPA would like the NHA to write a letter expressing support for the development of a hydrogen and fuel cell handbook for code enforcers. At this point, there is one outstanding issue to resolve before the letter can be sent to NFPA. Ms. Hall explained that Susan Townsend had received an e-mail from Chris Sloan voicing concerns about the NFPA requirements for the vehicles, which are already regulated by DOT. The NHA would like to see useful tools developed, and that the NHA does not endorse any NFPA requirements having to do with hydrogen on board vehicles. She explained that she will attempt to resolve these issues with Chris Sloane and send the letter to the NFPA. **ACTION**

Update on Funding

- DOE—in Jan 2005, we had \$40k of \$75k left in a contract that has typically had \$150k or more in it each year. Funding will get us through the end of next month and then we will rely on dues. Karen will share the quarterly report when it is finalized. **ACTION**
- NREL—Staff received an RFP to continue our outreach work for codes and standards—mostly the *Hydrogen Safety Report*. For CY05, staff expects NREL to provide \$100k, with about 10% NHA cost-share. \$16K has already been provided for the April and May Hydrogen Safety Reports. The RFP expresses some changes in the nomenclature used on the Safety Report which will be more inclusive to fuel cells and other content changes. Mr. Collins asked NHA staff to make sure coordination happens with Tony Androsky of the USFCC to eliminate any duplication of effort. **ACTION**

Patrick Serfass gave a review of the changes that the RFP explains and Ms. Hall explained some of the quantitative value that we want to make sure we retain in any modifications to the report:

- i. Over 24,000 Hydrogen Safety Report emails sent annually
- ii. Over 40% of recipients read the Hydrogen Safety Report
- iii. The Hydrogen Safety Report website receives almost 40,000 hits monthly and half a million hits annually
- iv. HydrogenSafety.info is the #1 Hit when you search for "Hydrogen Safety" on Google.com
- v. HydrogenSafety.info is the #1 hit when you search for "Hydrogen Safety" on Yahoo.com

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The committee was then asked what other values members see in the *Hydrogen Safety Report* that should be retained. Larry Mouthop said that —the *Hydrogen Safety Report* is a convenient interface for article, links and archives; the operative word is safety. People who want to continue to find out information about safety, may not find the new page as obvious. Having a pointer page may be good.

RABQSA

Mr. Mouthrop reported that the RABQSA working group has not gone much further due to lack of movement with RABQSA. The scheme committee seems to be stagnant in its development until confidentiality agreements are signed. Mr. Moulthrop's legal council doesn't want him to do more on the scheme committee until the agreements are finalized. As a result the working group has no reason to move forward at this time.

Update on the Scheme Committee:

Not much has changed since the last call; the exam is not finalized. Mr. Moulthrop advised the Committee that until the scheme is finalized, we can't fully understand the content of the certification scheme that they want us to endorse. When prompted by Mr. Collins, Mr. Moulthrop said it was possible that the effort may die of its own volition unless they can develop critical mass.

Mr. Collins suggested that maybe the best thing to do is nothing and in his opinion, the concern is not the existence of the certification, it's how the certification is applied. Mr. Moulthrop stated based on questions he's seen so far, the exam needs work if it's going to be thorough.

SC Member Survey on C&S Participation

Staff is attempting to collect information on which activities SC Members are active in an effort to identify gaps and determine how NHA resources should be allocated. To date, Ms. Hall reported that UTC, Praxair and Proton have responded to the request for information in a template. Ms. Hall needs feedback from other members by May 31, so she can have info prepared for next conf call. **ACTION** SC represents a broad range of interests, so all input is important. Ms. Hall reviewed how to fill in the spreadsheet template. Discussion ensued on who is most involved in certain C&S activities.

Next meeting (conf call before July meeting in Troy, MI?)

- June 23, Thursday 2:00 PM EDT [**TENTATIVE**]
- If you have a conflict, please contact Karen Hall at [**hallk@hydrogenassociation.org**](mailto:hallk@hydrogenassociation.org)
- Use the same call-in numbers and plan on this date tentatively

Ms. Hall closed the meeting at 2:50PM EDT