**STAC Workplace Health & Safety Committee Notes**

Meeting: March 2; 1:00 p.m.-1:30 p.m. (EST)

Next call:

Will be scheduled for the week of March 21

DIAL IN INFO: Toll-free: 1-866-234-0247; Local (Toronto): 416-443-4589

Conference ID: 612392

Attendees:

* Nick Kyonka (STAC)
* Clay Parchewsky (Westower)
* Jason Wolf (Westower)
* Ryan Brown (Wire IE)
* Scott Martin (Ericsson)
* Dave Ramdeane (Bell)
* Iain Harrison (PSEC)
* Jeanne Piercey (PSEC)
* Mike Morgan (PSEC)
* Shawn Hoffmeyer (PSEC)
* Craig Holtz (PSEC)
* Greg Gasbarre (Netricom)
* Clem Tang (TELUS)
* Ofir Smardja (COMsolve)
* Denis Darveau (Videotron)
* Dominque Valdez (eSystems)
* Nick Sarantinos (Netricom)
* Rick Guenette (Gravisys)
* Justin Sousa (Gravisys)

Follow-up Activities:

* Nick to start conversation via email about suggestions as to how to identify alerts that should be sent out to members
* Committee members to send Nick contact info for trusted trainers
* Committee members to send Nick information on what they believe should be included in minimum training requirements
  + Nick to aggregate information and send to committee once or twice weekly
* Clay to send copy of NATE document, which he says should be our starting point for developing our own best practices
* Nick to circulate Mike Amyotte (Skysafe Solutions) training proposal document

Meeting Notes:

1. Introductions

* Nick introduces self and confirms who else is on the call
* Notes that this is the first WHS sub-committee call and will be used to establish what we’ll be working on in the weeks ahead and how we see that work playing out
* Provides disclaimer about discretion on calls and CWTA Competition Act compliance policy

1. Committee structure

* Nick notes that STAC committees are structured to encourage inclusion while recognizing that everyone has other time commitments as well
  + As such, the WHS sub-committee will at times be broken down into smaller teams to complete individual tasks or projects
  + Individuals are not obligated to take part in committees or project teams, but we do expect that everyone will follow-through on the commitments they make
  + Clay Parchewsky is the subject matter expert lead for this sub-committee, Nick will typically be leading the calls and “assigning” work to volunteers

1. Proposed committee activities

* Clay provides brief overview of the WHS committee and the type of issues that this committee could help address
  + Intention is to provide safety resources to membership and industry
    - Following up with potential resources such as future climbing standards, fall protection standards and industry best practice for working at heights/rescue at heights
    - Can also do work in the area of listing and improving training providers and recommending additional education programs such as COR programs, etc …
* Nick says primary activity identified for this committee in weeks ahead will be to identify any pressing industry safety issues, if any, and to make recommendations as to how STAC can address these issues or assist in doing so
* Nick notes that we also have some proposed projects that the committee can start working on:
  + One project is to develop an online alert system that will facilitate STAC Members receiving alerts about important product and safety information
    - Nick notes that we have the capability to do this through the STAC Members website, but we must first develop a system for identifying alerts that should be sent out
      * Nick to start conversation via email about suggestions as to how to identify alerts that should be sent out to members
  + Another project we can work on is to identify minimum requirements for tower climbing training, and to work with trainers to coordinate sessions as deemed necessary by our members
    - Can help coordinate training sessions for members when necessary
    - Rick asks if we have identified qualified trainers to see if they can offer special pricing to STAC members
      * Nick says we haven’t identified any specifically yet but would like to develop a list: asks for committee members to send suggestions to start building a list via email over the next few weeks
    - Denis says Videotron has been auditing contractors for past two years and has found that it is a problem to compare training
      * Riggers all come through different trainers, don’t know how those trainers compare in terms of content, hours of training, rescue training type
      * Denis would like to see a bare minimum training requirements for riggers identified and attempt to identify typical costs for this type of training at different locations

General agreement that this should be the first step

* + - * + Denis would like to see standardized rigger training, rescue trainer
        + Rick says in Alberta they discovered that they had to have standardized content (not necessarily standardized hours) because otherwise trainers just find ways to drag out their programs if they only have a few students
        + Rick suggests having books that guys could sign off on to verify amount of hours
        + Clay suggests minimum and maximum number of students allowed in a class
        + Rick notes that once a program is developed, we could identify trainer prices for each region
        + Dave says we should also think about what employers/contractors/supervisors’ legal responsibilities are ensuring there are guidelines in place to ensure people working on sites are trained properly
      * First task is to identify what it is that we want included in minimum training requirements: Nick will start email chain with sheet requesting initial input
        + Individuals to send information to Nick and Nick to aggregate and send to wider committee every couple of days
        + May take it down to a smaller team at some point
* Nick notes that we will also encourage the members of this committee to submit blog ideas or blog posts for the STAC blog, and to participate in discussions on the Members message board

1. Other business
   * Nick notes that there will obviously be several sessions at our conference dedicated to working at heights and fall protection safety
   * Adds that we are also looking to line up a two-day training seminar immediately following the conference on April 13, 14
     + Clay provides information about this seminar:
       - We are looking for participants to attend 2-day fall protection training seminar facilitated through Skysafe Solutions
       - Working at heights training on day 1 and tower rescue training on day 2: both will include in-class and onsite components
       - Skysafe, like other trainers, follows NATE’s CTS program
       - Trainer Mike Amyotte covers climbing, rescue and fall protection, federal regulations, etc …
       - Clay to send copy of NATE document, which he says should be our starting point for developing our own best practices
         * General agreement
       - Nick to circulate Mike Amyotte’s training documents

* Clay notes that anyone can contact either himself or Nick at any time if there is ever anything that they want to bring up at the committee

1. Scheduling of next call
   * General agreement for a call on the week of Mar. 21