Next meeting: Tuesday, April 12; 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. (EDT)

Location: [International Plaza Hotel](http://www.internationalplazahotel.com/), Mississauga ON – International Room C

Dial-in details: Toll-free: 1-866-234-0247

Local (Toronto): 416-443-4589

Conference ID: 612392

Attendees:

* Nick Kyonka (STAC)
* Clay Parchewsky (WesTower)
* Denis Darveau (Videotron)
* Yanic Raymond (WSP)
* Dave Ramdeane (Bell)
* Martin Lapointe (Cognibox)
* Jeanne Piercey (PSEC)
* Ali Raja (Rogers)
* Kurt Penfold (Trylon)
* Trevor Bolt (Varcon)
* Marc Durham (Advantage)
* Shane Hartlen (WSP)
* Nick Sarantinos (Netricom)
* Justin Sousa (Gravisys)
* Jason Wolf (WesTower)
* Marco Di Franco (WSP)
* Adam Gale (Vertical Specialties)
* Walter Wannamaker (Vertical Specialties)
* Etienne Robichaud (Varcon)
* Emilie Filion (Cognibox)
* Dominique Valdez (eSystem Training Solutions)
* Carm Cirillo (Rogers)

Action Items:

* Committee members to send to Nick any additional categories or bullet points that should be considered for inclusion in the STAC CTS documents
  + Please send by April 10
* Nick to contact equipment manufacturers and other companies that may provide relevant updates that can be used for STAC Alerts
  + Nick to contact by April 30
* To discuss at next meeting: should we include as an objective, that we want the STAC CTS to provide a skeleton for in-hour training programs

Meeting Notes:

1. STAC CTS Document

* Identification of project objectives
  + We generally agreed on last call to start working on a STAC Climber Training Standard (CTS) to help inform trainers of what STAC believes should be included in their programs
    - As a reminder, Denis specifically suggested on last call that we start by identifying bare minimum training requirements for riggers, and there was general agreement
  + General agreement that specific objectives we want to achieve through this document include:
    - Ensuring continued safety of tower-riggers across the country (ie: helping to improve safety in the industry)
    - Ensuring site owners know what training their contractors have received regardless of who they were trained by
    - Incorporate most stringent provincial standards to elevate quality of training across the industry nationwide
    - Answer questions relating to federal vs. provincial jurisdiction to help bring clarity to the situation (likely to be included in introduction or separate section)
      * Nick notes that local law firm has agreed to write a blog post for STAC website on this subject, which may help inform our discussion
  + Some discussion, but no formal ratification of the following potential objective (to be raised at next meeting):
    - Create outline of a training program that companies can follow in-house
  + Clay also notes that this document should be focused specifically on communications towers workers, and shouldn’t branch out beyond that in order to be useful
* Review of preliminary items to be included (see attached .doc file)
  + Nick sent around a list of preliminary items we would like to include, based off of NATE’s CTS document. Committee discusses how closely STAC’s document should resemble NATE’s
    - Points committee discussed:
      * Have different categories of climbers and rescuers; does it make sense to consider different types of training (ie: theoretical, online, practical)
        + General agreement that we will use at least the categories used in the NATE CTS, and will address at least the same sub-points
      * Progression timelines (ie: advance from authorized climber to competent after three months)
      * Minimum and maximum students in training sessions
      * Minimum time requirements for training programs
      * Ensuring that training is pertinent to industry
      * Ensuring training is fresh (ie: regular retraining)
      * Specific topics that trainers should cover to meet industry requirements
      * Certification of trainers: not something we can consider for now due to legal liability issues
      * Definition of different categories (ie: authorized climber has some online training, but can only work under a direct supervisor or someone qualified on site)
      * Implementation of climbing/training log books to ensure people are using their training before they forget it
        + Likely general guidelines as opposed to something that STAC could reasonably audit: burden of proof on employer or site owner
  + General agreement that we should also look at what Oil Sands Safety Association is doing as we prepare the CTS, as well as provincial associations like IHSA that administer provincial standards
  + Committee members to send additional categories or additional bullet points to Nick over next two or three weeks, to be discussed at next meeting
    - Will attempt to nail down general index after next meeting
* Request for volunteers
  + Nick notes that the CTS prep document may go down to a smaller team at some point that will converse via email and that those who want to be included on that list should let him know
    - Notes that people who are active in the conference calls will be automatically added
* Timeline development
  + Finalize general index following the week of April 11

1. Online alert system

* General consensus that STAC should be developing an alert system
* Clay suggests that we should reach out to safety manufacturers and other relevant equipment manufacturers, [CSSE](http://www.csse.org/), WAH news (ie: Wireless Estimator)
  + Nick to reach out to relevant parties in weeks ahead to get STAC on their mailing lists
* Nick notes that we can also post “lessons learned” types of blog posts when available: committee members can send along written blog posts or blog ideas

1. Conference session update

* STAC Best Practices: Clay and Keith to talk about STAC best practice development, including the CTS (brief intro to STAC at start of conference)
* Fall Protection: Ron O’Neil will be speaking on FP equipment for the tower industry and recent improvements, as well as changing standards and the thinking behind those changes. Specific attention will be paid to vertical ladder systems, including a new rigid rail system, a new Selection and Use Standard as well as fall protection for tools.
* STAC will also be holding face-to-face sub-committee meetings during the afternoon of the second day

1. Other business

* No other business raised

1. Scheduling of next call

* Face-to-face meeting at conference on Tuesday, April 12; 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m. (EDT)
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    - Local (Toronto): 416-443-4589
    - Conference ID: 612392