

MIDLANDS CONSTRUCTION SAFETY ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 12th August 2010, Meeting No 185

1	<p>Apologies for absence Pat Phillips, Clare Maxwell, David Watson, Steve Croasdale, Helen Marshall, Doug Ball, Andrew Hall, John Shipman, John Morley, Chas Szychowski, Mark Randle.</p>
2	<p>New Members Sam Burton NFU Mutual.</p>
3	<p>There were 36 members and guests in attendance.</p>
4	<p>Minutes of the last meeting Approved as a true record. There were no matters arising</p>
5	<p>Guest Speaker – Colin Smith, Central Weighing Ltd. Colin gave a most informative talk on vehicle overloading and offered much advise on how employers should tackle the problem. In 2008/9 VOSR weighed 9000 LGVs in a blitz across the country. 67% were found to be overloaded and banned from immediate further travel. A further blitz was made on HGVs where 31% of the 14000 checked were found to be overweight. It is the LGVs however that is most dangerous as it is these vehicles that are driven by the less professional driver. Of the European countries, worst record goes to Spain, the Eire then UK. The driver of an overloaded vehicle can, in fact be fined three times for one overload situation : Fines can be imposed per axle and gross weight. Why does overloading occur?: 1 Ignorance of the law, the vehicles carrying capacity and the risk being taken 2. Negligence – aware of issues but careless and practicing poor procedures 3. Profit – blatant disregard of the law for gain.</p>
6	<p>Guest Speaker – Ray Johnson Safety and Access Ltd Most members will know Ray as a stalwart member of MCSA who keeps us up to date with what is going on in the scaffolding world. NASC SG\$:10 is about to be published. BS5973 is to be withdrawn at the end of 2010. CISRS – this is a new certificate aimed at those who practice as scaffolding inspectors. Applicants must hold a basic scaffolders card before embarking on the course. NASC Membership is rapidly expanding and is being demanded by more and more major clients as a measure of competency. New “standard” pavement licence is coming on stream to replace the massive variation currently found. Under SG4:10 there will be a Scaffolders safe Zone. This is a position of work where suitable edge protection and a completed platform exists. This is the only place where the scaffolder need not be clipped on. Notable increase in the use of MEWPs as an aid to scaffolding erection.</p>
7	<p>HSE Update. No business to report</p>
8	<p>AOB None</p>
9	<p>Date of next meeting : Tuesday 14th December</p>

Roy Perkins

Honorary Secretary

05th December 2010