

REPORT OF A MEETING OF THE FeRFA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

DATE: Wednesday 5th December 2018

AT: Smart Marketing Works, Stone ST15 0HG

PRESENT:	Mark Spowage	Chairman
	Shamshad Ali	Instarmac Group
	Dr Malcolm Bailey	Radlett Consultants
	Alison Bishop	Altro Floors
	Gary Chapman	Flowcrete
	John Green	DCP
	Richard Hobson	Resdev
	Dr Derrick Hulett	John Lord & Son
	Miqesh Jassal	Fosroc
	Lee Moreland	Sherwin Williams
	Heloyza Remoaldo	Altro Floors
	Mike Rhodes	Ronacrete
	Stijn Roekaerts	Huntsman Polyurethanes
	Emma Shenton	Ardex UK
	Tamsin Strathdee	BASF Construction Chemicals
	Neil Taylor	Fosroc
	Stuart Whiteley	BSI CB/300

APOLOGIES: Matt Baldry (Degafloor), John Brown (Veitchi Industrial Flooring), Daren Chambers (Ronacrete), Tracey Glew (The Preparation Group), Chris Orme (PPG Architectural Coatings), James Wright (Conica)

1. **APOLOGIES** **ACTION**
Apologies are noted above.

2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 18th JULY 2018**
The Minutes were confirmed as a correct record.

3. **MATTERS ARISING**
All matters arising are dealt with in the minutes.

4. **EN 13813 REVISION**
As previously reported, the final draft (FprEN 13813:2017) has been circulated for formal vote and approved. However, the CEN consultant does not support that the prEN is submitted as a harmonized standard for publication in the European Journal. The reasons for this are detailed in a seventeen page reply. Any ammendmments are expected to be mainly editorial.

S Whitely

A meeting of CEN/TC 303 has taken place in Milan on 10th December, one of the items on the agenda being an update on the revision of this standard. A second formal vote is expected. Stuart Whitely has agreed to report back on this meeting to the FeRFA Technical Committee. Any updates will be circulated to the committee.

5. **FERFA GUIDANCE NOTES**

5.1 **FeRFA Guide to the Selection of Synthetic Resin Flooring**

The Performance Categorisation matrix has now been incorporated into the FeRFA Selection Guide as an Appendix and the final draft was approved by the committee for publication.

Sec

5.2 **FeRFA Guide to Cleaning Resin Floors**

The committee was requested to submit editorial for the next revision of this document. Tracey Glew has volunteered to supply up-to-date information on cleaning pads suggesting that colour coding as described in the current revision can be misleading as different manufacturers use different colours for the same type of pad. Referring to the abrasive grading of the pad is preferable. When this information is received MS will create a draft revision and circulate for comment. Further contributions should be sent to mark@ferfa.org.uk for inclusion in this draft.

T Glew / All
committee
members

It was also reiterated that mechanical scrubbers must be used for textured floor surfaces (cylindrical or disc style). This will be expanded upon in the document.

6. **RECYCLING SCHEME**

CEO requested all companies to sign up to the Recycling Scheme if they haven't done so already. FeRFA continues to receive monthly waste recycling data which is published on the FeRFA website and within the monthly enews. Unfortunately, only around a third of FeRFA members are reporting their waste figures so please check if your company is submitting figures. We only need the total waste disposed of per month and the amount diverted from landfill. All data is confidential. See appendix for the latest recycling graph.

All
members

7. **RISK MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR HANDLING DIISOCYANATES IN THE WORKPLACE**

7.1 **Update from ISOPA and ALIPA**

FeRFA is a member of the PU Exchange Panel which represents industrial and professional users of diisocyanates at European level. In October this organisation published a new website which gives information on the proposed restrictions – <http://safeusediisocyanates.eu/>. The final draft restriction dossier was published in May and the European Commission is due to put forward a proposal before the end of 2018. The good news is that there is likely to be exemptions on restriction in the construction chemicals sector but it will be mandatory for training to take place. Ferfa can be instrumental in delivering this training to our members. Information available so far indicates that training can be conducted in various ways, including off-site and on-site and by E-learning. Users of diisocyanates will have to document the completion of the training and check the validity once a year; Each employee will have to be trained once every four years, with the content and training duration depending on the risk of exposure; A transition period is expected of about 4 years for the development of the training material and the actual training of workers. CEO to make further contact with ISOPA to make sure that FeRFA are as involved in the process as thoroughly as possible.

M Spowage

7.2 **Isocyanates & Workers with Asthma**

Derrick Hulett raised an issue regarding a Safety Data Sheet for a Huntsman isocyanate which states "Persons with a history of skin sensitisation problems or asthma, allergies or chronic or recurrent respiratory disease should not be employed in any process in which this product is used". Derrick went on to explain that many employees within the industry have mild asthma and respiratory issues, mainly from smoking. Given that previous advice has always been that MDI used at standard site temperatures, mixed using slow speed techniques and applied by brush, roller or trowel (i.e. not sprayed) does not pose a risk of airborne exposure due to the low vapour pressure and that other manufacturer's do not give the same warning Derrick

Stijn
Roekaerts

asked for clarification on the subject. Stijn Roekaerts agreed to seek clarification and report back to Derrick and the committee.

8 **RESIN BOUND TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

8.1 **Technical Performance Standard**

Outline technical performance standards were agreed at the last meeting on 11th September 2018 around the following properties:

Compressive & flexural strength before and after UV exposure using a standard mix design and following an agreed test cycle
Slip resistance – fully formulated systems/specifications
Chemical resistance
Colour change after artificial weathering – thin film test/binder only

Manufacturer members of the committee agreed to cooperate on an initial test programme and to have results ready for discussion at the next meeting on 22nd January 2019.

8.2 **Training Standard**

A standard training presentation is in development so that all FeRFA members involved in the sector deliver the same advice to their applicators and customers. This will be reviewed at the next meeting on 22nd January.

9. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

9.1 **Training Material for Apprenticeship Schemes**

CEO asked for the committee's input in updating the training material delivered in FeRFA's apprentice schemes. Specifically, interesting, open source video material would be useful based around Health & Safety and Work Practice & Project Planning.

All

9.2 **Surface Microroughness**

Tamsin Strathdee asked the committee for comments on the relevance of surface microroughness (Rz) in relation to resin flooring. Dr Malcolm Bailey explained that there is no evidence of correlation between Rz and the test methods outlined in BS 8204-6 i.e. pendulum and ramp/trolley and therefore Rz is not a relevant test for resin flooring.

9.3 **Training**

Although training is available through FeRFA for applicators of resins and screeds and surface preparation operatives, there is a lack of training for formulators and the industry may be approaching a skills gap in this area. CEO to contact PRA and BCF to find out if any courses are offered specifically for resin flooring formulation.

M Spowage

9.4 **Impact of Brexit on CEN Membership**

CEN and CENELEC have agreed at their General Assemblies of 23rd November to apply a transition period from the date of Brexit (expected to be 29th March 2019) until 31st December 2020. During this transition period, BSI will continue to have its full member's rights and obligations, independent from political agreement or otherwise between the EU and the UK. This approach protects BSI and its UK stakeholders after the "Brexit" date maintaining amongst other things, their membership of Technical Bodies, chairmanships and secretariats.

9.5 **Consultants**

Dr Malcolm Bailey brought up the issue of the lack of independent consultant within

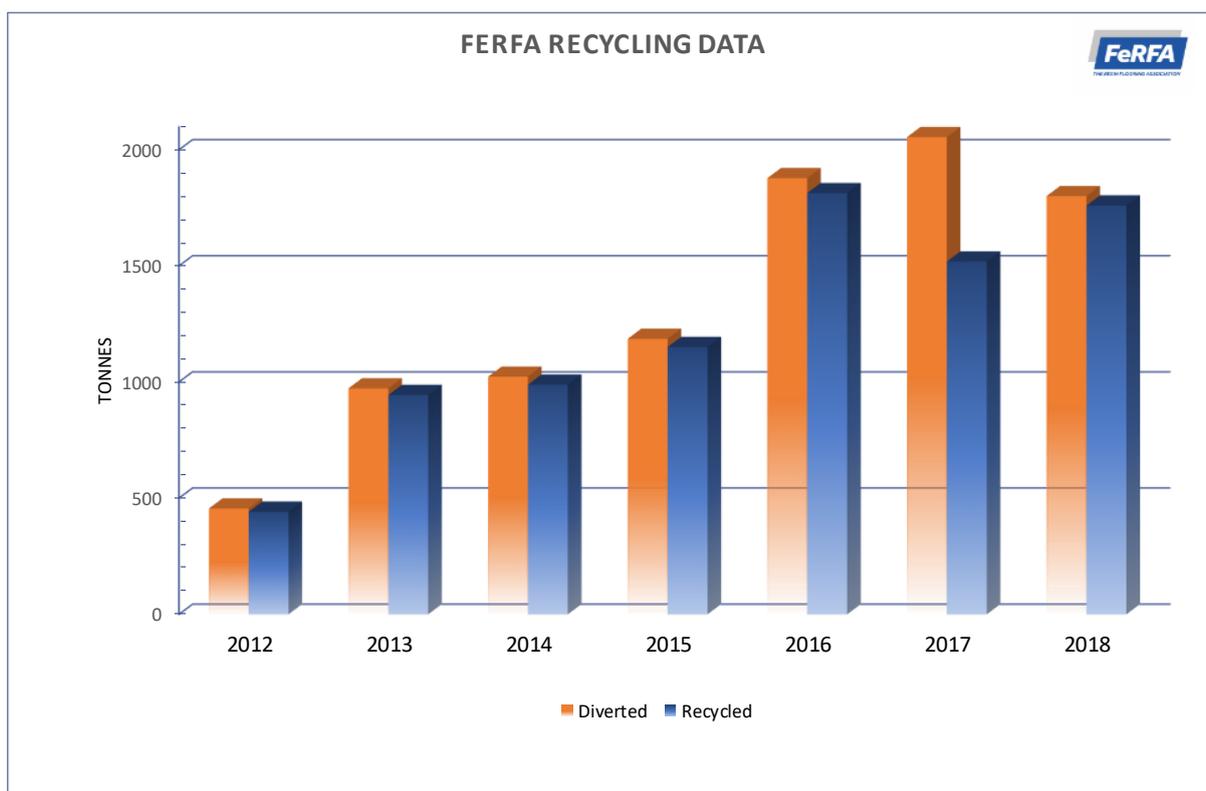
M Spowage

the industry. Malcolm himself has recently retired and others within the industry may be close to doing the same. FeRFA have recently removed the category of Consultant from membership but the office has received many enquiries for consultant services in recent months. Mark Spowage will raise this issue at the next FeRFA Council meeting in March.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Resin Bound Technical Committee Tuesday 22nd January 2019 SMW, Stone
 Technical Committee Tuesday 26th February 2019 SMW, Stone

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING



ITEM	ACTION	BY	NOTES
4.	prEN 13813:2017	SW/MS	Report on CEN TC303 meeting of 10/12/18 and circulate any updates.
5.1	FeRFA Guide to the Selection of Synthetic Resin Flooring	Sec	Publish to FeRFA website
5.2	FeRFA Guide to Cleaning Resin Floors	TG/MS	TG to provide information on abrasive cleaning pads to MS. MS to circulate draft amendments
7.1	Diisocyanates	MS	Make closer contact with ISOPA
7.2	Isocyanates & Workers with Asthma	SR	SR to report back to DH and the committee on SDS phrasing
9.3	Training	MS	Contact PRA and BCF to enquire on available training for resin flooring formulators
9.5	Consultants	MS	Raise the issue of lack of Consultants with FeRFA Council