

Meeting Report FEIBP WG “Technical Brushes” 26th September 2014 in Brussels

Chairman: Dr. Florestan von Boxberg

Participants: see enclosed list

1. Opening

Mr. von Boxberg welcomes the participants and gives a short retrospect on the last years of his chairmanship. He stresses, that the WG should be active also between the yearly congresses in order to give an added value to its members. On his request, each participant introduces himself.

2. Cooperation with Mr Holland-Letz (FWI-Germany) / chairman proposal

Mr. von Boxberg explains his proposal to establish a secretariat of the WG by Mr. Holland-Letz of the Association of German Tool Manufacturers (FWI) in order to prepare, support and coordinate future activities of the WG. He stresses, that the public awareness of the brush technology needs to be improved, also in the fields of research and education. Other important issues of the WG are product safety and standardisation.

Mr. von Boxberg informs about the decision of the FEIBP Board, to support the WG secretariat with 50% of the costs for working time (65 € / hour) and travels up to 1.750 € / for the first year under the condition that also the WG members make a contribution. The participants agree unanimously to finance the WG secretariat with an amount of ca. 100 € per company for 2014.

The FEIBP General Manager will ask all members if they agree to this solution. It is proposed that in future only companies will be involved in the work of the WG, who are ready to make such a regular contribution.

3. Report of the meeting of the Working Group Technical Brushes, held on 13 September 2013 in Copenhagen

The minutes of the last meeting, which have been prepared by Mr. Holland-Letz, are approved unanimously.

4. Economic issues

Mr. Holland-Letz presents some information on the economic situation of the European car and machine tool industry and the business climate of the German supplying industry (forging and casting, metalworking, plastics, rubber, technical textiles), which covers a lot of brush users (see annex).

He also presents the business climate of the German brush makers, which are members of FWI (see annex). The business climate is the balance between the positive and negative judgements of the current situation and of the outlook, based on a monthly inquiry. It is decided to do such an inquiry quarterly also in the FEIBP WG Technical Brushes as part of the secretariat service offered by FWI. The judgements of the single companies will be weighted based on the number of employees. All information will be kept confidential.

Regarding the current situation in the single countries and branches, the following comments are made:

- **Machines:** Better than 2013, but still below 2008.
- **Filaments:** Industry: - , dental: +, abrasive filaments: +.
- **Italy:** Slight downturn in industry, but DIY growing. Industry has reached the level of 2010, but still below 2008.

- **Netherlands:** Industry stable, consumer products positive.
- **Germany:** 2014 positive with a slight downturn since summer.
- **France:** Companies are very specialised. Situation stable.
- **International competitors:** No new developments.

5. Raising awareness for the European brush industry

Mr. von Boxberg recalls the previous discussion, that the PR regarding brushes has to be intensified. The benefits of brushes compared to grinding tools (noise, safety etc.) should be made more clear to the end users. Mr. Holland-Letz presents some proposals on possible activities (see annex). It is decided to provide a template file to all WG members, including the filament and the machine manufacturers, for neutral reports on interesting applications. The reports will be published on the relaunched FEIBP website. Also material from the exhibition of the French association should be used for the PR activities.

6. Technical and legal issues

Mr. Holland-Letz informs on the current state of the revision of EN 1083-1 and -2 (see annex). It is decided to involve the WG members in the discussion of some open points regarding part 2, before the German proposal is finalised. Companies, which are interested in an active involvement, should notify FEIBP. To discuss the proposals for part 1 and part 2, before they are sent officially to the national standard organisations, a special WG meeting will be organised in March 2015.

The updated American standard ANSI B165.1 has been published as edition 2013.

Mr. Acquaderni informs that he has drafted an Italian version of the ABMA Safety Slips (annex), which could be the basis for a future FEIBP Safety Slip.

The issue “California 65” will be discussed at the next regular meeting based on updated information from ABMA.

Th. Holland-Letz

9.10.2014

Participants:

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| • Andrea Acquaderni | S.I.T. Soc.It.Tecnospazzole S.p.A. |
| • Marco Acquaderni | S.I.T. Soc.It.Tecnospazzole S.p.A. |
| • Alessandro Acquaderni | S.I.T. Soc.It.Tecnospazzole S.p.A. |
| • Florestan von Boxberg | Osborn International GmbH |
| • Fons Ceelaert | FEIBP General Manager |
| • Ralf Hellinger | Hahl Filaments GmbH |
| • Thomas Holland-Letz | Fachverband Werkzeugindustrie (FWI) |
| • Rainer Langelüddecke | Fachverband Werkzeugindustrie (FWI) |
| • Gabriele Modesti | Radici Chimica S.p.A. |
| • Günter Muckenfuss | Hahl Filaments GmbH |
| • Cyril Pelissier | Zahoransky AG |
| • Danièle Quemper-Nguyen | Fédération Française de la Brosserie (FFB) |
| • Peter Spitzer | BWT-Spitzer GmbH |
| • Ralf Steiner | HATHO GmbH |
| • Evert Zuiddam | Rizz BV / FEIBP President |