

**Interregion Safety Committee
Spring Meeting April 28-29, 2010
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

Minutes

Chairman Stan Knight opened the Spring meeting of the Interregion Safety Committee with the Doug Lambert memorial gavel honoring the Committee's old friend and safety advocate, who died in 2000. On behalf of himself and Vice Chairman Jim Smith, Stan welcomed 25 safety professionals representing 20 AWO member companies to the meeting. Stan started the meeting by reminding everyone that the Interregion Safety Committee is the only forum of its type for our industry, and it is up to members of the Committee to ensure that it meets their needs and the needs of the entire marine industry. Stan then introduced Peter Stephaich, Chairman, Campbell Transportation Company, and AWO's Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, commenting that Peter's participation is an example of the commitment of AWO's leadership to safety and the effort to better align the work of AWO's Safety Committees with the overall goals of the association. Stan also welcomed Jennifer Carpenter, AWO's Senior Vice President – National Advocacy, who would be facilitating the discussion of the future direction of safety within AWO. Stan told the group that this will be a great opportunity for everyone to express their views on how these Committees can improve and provide real value to us as members, to the association, and to the industry.

The Committee then participated in a Strategic Dialogue session led by Jennifer Carpenter on what AWO's new strategic plan, *AWO 21*, says about safety, and what Committee members think AWO should do over the next three to five years to implement the strategic plan's vision. Jennifer told the group that this vision starts with leading and supporting members on their path to improved safety and environmental protection, which is the very foundation of AWO's advocacy work. Public awareness and safety, she said, are not "nice-to-haves"; they are the starting point for effective advocacy with Congress and the Administration. The new plan reflects this emphasis by putting them right at the top of the list of strategic goals. What this means in the real world of AWO is that safety is more important than ever, and we need to put our money where our mouth is. In other words, we can't rest on our laurels and assume that since we have the Responsible Carrier Program, the Coast Guard-AWO Safety Partnership, and the Interregion and Coastal Safety Committees in place, we're doing what we need to be doing on safety. The new plan challenges us to take a fresh look at what it means to be a safety leader today – not what it meant 15 or 16 years ago, when all of these great programs were developed. The plan also says that we're going to be proactive, continuing the focus toward playing offense and getting ahead of public policy challenges that we can expect in the future. Results of this discussion will be shared with the new Future of Safety Task Force when it holds its first meeting this summer.

Bob Clinton, AWO Vice President – Safety, then reviewed changes to the RCP and RCP audit protocol approved at the April AWO Board of Directors meeting. Bob highlighted changes to address member concerns in the areas of: dispute resolution; audit due dates; scope of internal RCP audits; and auditor qualifications. Several non-required Crew Endurance Management (CEMS) questions were added to the RCP Management and Vessel checklists to encourage

member participation in the CEMS program. In addition, the Board of Directors also approved a new section of Addendum B that allows for a one-time adjustment of a company's audit due date. This change only applies to seasonal operators whose vessels are not operated for part of the year. Finally, the Board approved a 180-day window for RCP-certified members completing the audit early to maintain their current audit due date. This change was also added to RCP Addendum B.

The Committee then adjourned for the day and enjoyed a cocktail reception hosted by Campbell Transportation, CONSOL Energy Sales Company and Amherst Madison, Inc., followed by a social dinner at the Duquesne Club, the self-described preeminent and most respected private city club in America. This one-of-a-kind experience was arranged by Peter Stephaich and greatly appreciated by all who attended.

The following day the Committee reconvened at 8:00 a.m. and continued its meeting with an RCP Puzzler Contest, a fun and interesting way to test attendees' knowledge of changes to the RCP Protocol just approved by the Board of Directors (a copy of the Puzzler can be found by following this link:

http://www.americanwaterways.com/commitment_safety/Puzzler_Answers.pdf). Attendees also heard presentations by Bob Clinton on the history of the development of Subchapter M and by Stan Knight on a new ZERO HARM initiative at AEP River Operations, followed by a presentation by Gary Johnson, AEP River Operations, on a new Fall Overboard Video being developed at AEP. The meeting ended with a lively discussion of safety performance goals and lighting issues at barge fleets. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: The Summer meeting of the Interregion Safety Committee will be held on September 8 and 9 in St. Louis.

Attachments:

- AWO Man Overboard Presentation
- RCP Changes
- Subchapter M Development
- New Federal Regulations
- Towing Vessel Inspection: From Vision to Implementation
- CEMS Refresher Presentation