



AWO Coastal Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: May 14-15, 2008

Location: New Orleans, Louisiana

Safety Subcommittee Meeting Report

March 14, 2008 10:30a.m.

1. **Firefighting Subcommittee:** Firefighting Subcommittee Chairman, John Lawrence, of K-Sea Transportation, reported that his subcommittee was continuing to work on a list of the common causes of shipboard fires and the development of a list of firefighting training providers. John reported that progress on these projects has been slow; however, the Subcommittee believes that this continues to be an important project. John will send an email asking Committee members to review what has been collected so far and solicit members to provide lessons learned from marine fire incidents that may have occurred at their companies. The Subcommittee will also consider reaching out to a training provider, such as Fremont Maritime, to address the advantages and disadvantages of carrying SCBAs as part of the vessel's equipment.

Members of the Firefighting Subcommittee are:

John Lawrence, Chairman – K-Sea Transportation
Susan Hayman – Foss Maritime
Bob Bennington – Dann Ocean Towing

2. **Leadership Skills:** While leadership skills remain an overall priority of the Coastal Safety Committee, attendees decided to postpone work on this issue until next year when the Committee can obtain a knowledgeable speaker to address techniques for improving shipboard emergency drills.
3. **Safety with Super-Strength Synthetic Lines Subcommittee:** A Subcommittee was organized to address structural concerns in the use of high strength synthetic lines that may place excessive strain on deck hardware and the vessel itself. The Subcommittee will reach out to Joel Altus, Foss Maritime, to research existing information and share those results with the Subcommittee which will then begin work on a project to share this information with the full Coastal Safety Committee and the general membership of AWO.



AWO Coastal Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Members of the Super-Strength Lines Subcommittee Committee are:

Doug Carlson, Chairman – Seabulk International, Inc.
Don Hinson – Penn Maritime, Inc.
Susan Hayman – Foss Maritime
Russ Johnson – Dunlap Towing

4. **Crew Travel Time Subcommittee:** A Subcommittee was organized to address the special concerns of coastal towing companies in addressing crew travel time. The Subcommittee will review the Coast Guard-AWO QAT on Crew Travel Time and consider ways in which it can support the recommendations contained therein and report to the full Coastal Safety at its next meeting

Members of the Crew Travel Time Subcommittee are:

Randy Perry, Chairman – Crowley Maritime Corporation
Jo Ann Salyers – Salyers Solutions
Rick Kimberly – Sause Bros.

AWO Coastal Safety Committee Spring Meeting Report

May 14, 2008 1:00p.m.

1. **Opening Comments:** The Spring meeting kicked off with a safety briefing by Eric Knott, Moran Towing, followed by opening comments from Chairman Gail Johnson, Safety Officer, Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Company. In attendance were 28 safety professionals representing 21 AWO member companies. Gail's comments focused on her desire to improve the Coastal Safety Committee by encouraging members to be more actively involved in Safety Committee work. Specifically by encouraging additional volunteers to pitch in and assist in the work of the Committee and participate more actively in the sharing of safety information and lessons learned.
2. **Comments of Chairman of the AWO Board of Directors H. Merritt Lane, III, President Canal Barge Company:** Coastal Safety Committee members were pleased to welcome Mr. Merritt Lane to their meeting who took time out of his schedule to stop by their meeting and talk to them about AWO's commitment to safety. Merritt began his remarks by saying that it was important to him to take the opportunity to let members of the Coastal Safety Committees know that he, and the rest of the AWO leadership, believe that the work of the Committee is a



AWO Coastal Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

very important part of AWO's mission. Merritt went on to say that "the enlightened owners and managers who represent the great majority of AWO members have fully embraced the idea that safety is our franchise to operate in the modern marine transportation industry. We recognize that the public demands flawless operations and so do our customers, employees, regulators and elected officials. And so should we demand that of ourselves. It's very clear that companies that make safety a priority are more able to attract and retain good employees and to grow their companies profitably. In short, safe operations is good business AND the right thing to do. Safety will remain fundamental to AWO's mission – there should be no doubt in any of our minds."

Merritt also told the group that he personally believes that "our safety mission will grow as we move into the Subchapter M environment. The demands on our industry to continuously improve our safety record will not stop just because we have a more stringent inspection regime." Merritt assured Safety committee members that "AWO's leadership is committed to staying in close communication with the Safety Committee and Bob Clinton to make sure that the safety committees' work aligns with AWO's strategic plan."

Merritt ended by saying that he, AWO's past-Chairman, Royce Wilken, and Vice Chairman, Tim Casey, all are committed to attend more Safety Committee meetings. We want to understand what you're working on, hear your concerns and make sure that we are using your talents to address priority issues. Additionally, we will ask the Safety Committee Chairs to provide regular Executive Committee briefings and encourage all of you to be more active participants in AWO regional and national meetings. I am sure that you have seen in your own companies that you get better results when the CEO and other executives are on the same page with the safety professionals. We will pursue this same strategy within AWO to further enhance the safety of our industry."

- Safety Committee Needs:** Gail reported on her meeting with Tom Allegretti, Jennifer Carpenter, Bob Clinton and Steve Brundrett, Chairman of the Interregion Safety Committee. She explained that she and Steve were assured that AWO recognizes the value and importance of the Safety Committees. She and Steve then discussed with AWO staff their perception of what members want and expect from AWO's Safety Committees, and the value they provide both members of the committees and AWO as an organization. Gail also advised Coastal Safety Committee members that the Executive Committee voiced its general agreement with all of these ideas and concluded that it should invite the Chairmen of the two Safety Committees to meet with them once a year to report on the Committees' work and progress toward achieving its safety priorities.



AWO Coastal Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

4. **Group Exercise:** The Safety Committee engaged in a group exercise which sought input from members on their views of the future direction of the Coastal Safety Committee. The exercise revealed that members look to the Coastal Safety Committee as a place where they can exchange information and ideas to promote safety at their companies. In addition, Committee members are anxious to work on safety tools that can be used by members to improve safety and support the overall goals of the association. Developing common solutions to common problems, sharing training techniques, the opportunity to hear presentations by industry safety experts, and sharing of lessons learned are areas on which the Committee will concentrate in the future.
5. **Lessons Learned:** The Committee agreed that lessons learned submitted by member companies was one of the most valuable features of Coastal Safety Committee meetings and asked staff to make every effort to ensure that one or more Lessons Learned are included in the agenda for each meeting.
6. **Presentations/Updates:**
 - a. *Ken Davidson, Regional Manager Gulf Safety & Training, American Commercial Line*, repeated a presentation given to the Interregion Safety Committee on the value of using checklists to improve operational safety. Ken's presentation focused on the history and functions of checklists in the commercial aviation industry and encouraged the Committee to consider using the aviation's lessons learned and encourage the use of checklists to improve safety in the tugboat, towboat and barge industry.
 - b. *Bert Cattoni, Cardiac Rescue Systems* gave a report on improvements to the Automatic Electronic Defibrillators supplied by his company to many members of the Coastal Safety Committee. It was gratifying to note that the vast majority of the Coastal Safety Committee members in attendance are currently carrying AEDs as part of their vessel lifesaving equipment.
 - c. *Bob Clinton, AWO Vice President – Safety* updated attendees on the current state of CEMS implementation within AWO. Bob also showed attendees a DVD of a recent 60-minutes article on the latest science concerning the detrimental effects of lack of sleep.

The next meeting of the Coastal Safety Committee will be held in conjunction with the Southern Region Meeting January 21-23, 2008 in New Orleans.



AWO Coastal Safety Committee Meeting Minutes

Attachments:

- Attendance List
- 2008 Priorities
- Airline to Maritime Checklist Presentation
- AWO Voluntary Safety Statistics Update
- Coast Guard/AWO Safety Partnership Statistics Presentation
- Disaster Response Sample Policy