



International Mines Rescue Body (IMRB) Minutes

Date: Sunday October 05, 2013

Location: Queenston Heights, Ontario, Canada

Chair: Alex Gyska, Secretary Treasurer International Mines Rescue Body and Barrie Simoneau, Safety Director, Mining Association of Manitoba

Attendees:

Steve Tonegato, CS NSW Australia

Wayne Hartley Queensland Mines Rescue, Australia

Wilhelm Schoen, Austria

Alex Gyska, Canada

Barrie Simoneau, Canada

Muneer Naseer, Canada

Wang Zhijian, China

Guo Zhiwu, China

Wang Jing, China

Alois Adamus, Czech republic

Wolfgang Roehl, Germany

Roman Presler, Germany

Akhmetov Serik, Kazakhstan

Gabbassov Askhat, Kazakhstan

Trevor Watt, New Zealand

Mirosław Bagiński, Poland

Wojciech Kedzia, Poland

Artur Gaman, Romania

Constantin Lupu, Romania

Alexander Sin, Russia

Anna Kakirova, Russia

Christo de Klerk, South Africa

James Johnston, South Africa

Adam Allen, United Kingdom

David Brinkley, United Kingdom

James Dean, United States

Pham Van Huyen, Viet Nam

Nguyen Thi Thanh Hien, Viet Nam

Guests

Helmut Ehnes, ISSA Germany

Catalina Gheorghe, Colombia



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Agenda

1. Meeting attendees and visitors were introduced and voting rules were reinforced. Each nation has a single vote.
2. IMRB new Member applications
 - a. Applications for membership were received from the following jurisdictions/nations :
 - I. The Republican State Enterprise "Central headquarters of professional militarized emergency rescue services" of the Committee for State Control of Emergencies and Industrial Safety of the Ministry for Emergency Situations of the Republic of Kazakhstan.
 - II. FOGARE DO BRASIL, Brazil
 - III. YOU LEARN IT/EMERGENCY RESCUE NETWORK GHANA
 - IV. TUPRAG Efemcukuru Gold Mine Rescue Team Turkey
 - V. Grande Cote Operations SA Senegal

- b. Section 4 (3) of the regulations governing the International Mines Rescue Body stipulates that members from the organization are obliged to participate at meetings in order to remain "active".

Kazakhstan was the only applicant that sent delegates to the conference and meeting. The made a presentation and presented a video detailing mine rescue in their country. The Republican State Enterprise "Central headquarters of professional militarized emergency rescue services" of the Committee for State Control of Emergencies and Industrial Safety of the Ministry for Emergency Situations of the Republic of

Outcome: Kazakhstan and was accepted as the newest member of the IMRB. No other applicants were accepted.

3. Minutes from the 5th IMRB meeting minutes held in China were reviewed and accepted
4. Germany affirmed their intention to host the 7th IMRB conference in 2015 and indicated they had prepared a video which will be presented at the closing ceremony of the 6th IMRB conference in Niagara Falls.
5. Russia confirmed their intention to host the 8th IMRB conference in 2017. Russia will prepare a package for presentation in Germany. Zambia indicated an interest in hosting the IMRB in 2019 however did not send delegates to Niagara Falls.

Action: The Secretary Treasurer was asked to contact Zambia regarding their position respecting hosting the IMRB conference in 2019.

6. IMRB Website Development – Upgrades to the IMRB website are made regularly.

Action: Key areas of website enhancement will include the following:

- a. History of the IMRB
 - b. Mine Rescue Related Research



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- c. Mine Rescue Resources
- d. International Competition Section
- e. Cataloging of papers/presentations presently on the IMRB Website

7. Potential collaboration with ISSA. Helmut Ehnes made a presentation regarding potential collaboration with the International Social Security Association (ISSA). ISSA is a well- established (not for profit) global organization which has the following mandate:

“The International Social Security Association (ISSA) is the world's leading international organization for social security institutions, government departments and agencies. The ISSA promotes excellence in social security administration through professional guidelines, expert knowledge, services and support to enable its members to develop dynamic social security systems and policy throughout the world. Founded in 1927 under the auspices of the International Labour Organization, the ISSA counts more than 340 member organizations in over 160 countries.”

IMRB members indicated they recognize the value in potential collaboration however there a concern with losing the unique “mine rescue” identity.

Action: Artur Gaman, Romania; Wayne Hartley, Australia; James Dean, USA and James Johnston, RSA agreed to investigate further and provide a recommendation regarding potential areas of collaboration.

8. Wolfgang Roehl provided an update (refer to attached presentation) regarding the ISO TC 94 Personal protective equipment SC 15 Respiratory protective Devices which included a potential plan for establishing a European RPD standard.

Action: IMRB members are asked to provide their comments to Wilhelm Weihofen at wilhelm.weihofen@bgrci.de liaison between IMRB and ISO TC 94 SC 15 committee.

9. IMRB Membership Fees

Alex Gryska indicated that to this point in our evolution, his parent organization has funded (direct and indirect costs) associated with the IMRB since 2005 and include establishment and maintenance of the IMRB Website and ongoing Administrative support to the IMRB. Workplace Safety North is pleased to assist in advancing mine rescue globally however we need to address funding.

Members agreed the IMRB continues to mature and grow and requires a sustainable source of funding. IMRB Canada 2013 agreed to include an ‘attendance’ fee to all participants attending the conference and this will be used as seed money. Furthermore options regarding membership versus associate membership were discussed. It was felt that associates are potentially valuable contributors to the IMRB however they should not be voting members. Associates may represent organizations such as, academia, training associations, researchers etc. but not manufacturers or suppliers.

IMRB agreed that typical fees should be approximately \$500 per member nation and \$250 for associates. Furthermore members indicated that a budget be prepared and fees per adequate to offset operating costs.

Action: James Johnson RSA agreed to prepare a DRAFT amendment to the IMRB regulation that will clarify membership and associate membership.



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Action: Alex Gryska will prepare a budget for the next meeting scheduled for Germany.

10. International Mine Rescue Competition

a. Review of 8th International Competition Donetsk Ukraine 2012

Twenty- six teams from 13 nations competed at the 8th IMRC in Ukraine and this was the largest and most diverse international competition to date. A summary of final scores is attached.

b. Future Mine Rescue Competition Hosts

The 9th International Competition 2014 will be held in Poland from September 6 to 13. Our Polish delegates presented a video that will be used to promote the event.

Currently there is no host for the 10th International Competition in 2016

Russia has agreed to host the 11th International Competition 2018

c. International Mines Rescue Competition connection with the IMRB

Alexander Sin- Russia recommended that the IMRB participate more actively in organizing and overseeing international competitions which will help to establish universal standards. Competitions are extremely valuable in advancing safety standards. It was indicated that Australia's approach to competition is to focus on learning and competency of performance of specific tasks which is similar to the approach in Canada. The Polish delegates recommended that standard international competition rules be established and these are consistent at biennial international competition events. The Russian and Polish delegates suggested that competitions be judged with neutral international judges in order to remove perceived judging inaccuracies.

Action: International competitions are not within the scope of the IMRB. IMRB has agreed to continue to assist with identifying competition hosts, promoting the events and providing intellectual support. It was agreed that IMRB would not take on the responsibility for organizing International Mines Rescue Competitions. IMRB and individual members will continue to assist Competition hosts increase standards and may be willing to act as advisors and neutral competition judges.

11. Other Business

Key Contacts

In order to ensure we have a comprehensive global communication network attendees were asked to identify who the key contact is for each member. This person does not need to be the most senior individual representing the jurisdiction however they need to understand English and be the liaison with the key individuals from their organization.

Action: Each Member nation is asked to provide the contact information (mailing address and e-mail).

11. Closing remarks by Meeting Chairs/IMRB Secretary Treasurer