

Highlights of the Virtual June 2020 Technical Meeting

On June 3-4, 2020, the Cordage Institute held its first Virtual Technical Meeting. The two-day meeting consisted of Technical Subcommittee and Task Group meetings, as well as a meeting of the full Technical Committee.

A virtual Special Meeting of the membership was held on June 4th to review and approve the Cordage Institute's operating budget.

During the full Technical Committee Meeting, reports from each Subcommittee and Task Group were provided.

3 and 8 Strand Ropes Subcommittee – Keith Buzzell, Chair

Keith Buzzell reported that CI-1501, Standard: Hardness Test Method, 3 and 8-Strand Fiber Rope, was approved by the Board of Directors during their meeting held earlier in the week.

Arborist Ropes Subcommittee – Keith Buzzell, Chair

Keith Buzzell advised that CI-2200, Standard: Performance and Test Methods for Arborist Climbing Ropes, was approved by the Board of Directors in 2019.

ASME B30.9 Task Group – Greg D'Elia, Lead

Greg D'Elia reported there has not been much activity from ASME since the pandemic; however, he reported that a new chair of the B30.9 subcommittee was appointed.

Boiler Plate Subcommittee – Keith Buzzell, Chair

Keith Buzzell reported that a draft of the Boiler Plate for Test Methods is being prepared.

Braided Ropes Subcommittee – Keith Buzzell, Chair

Keith Buzzell reported that the value tables in all the braided rope documents are being adjusted, and he requested that members who manufacture single braid 12-strand or double braided polyester or polyamide rope submit their catalog data to the CI office or Technical Director. A reminder will be sent by email.

Coatings Subcommittee – Koen Van Goethem, Chair

Koen Van Goethem reported that CI-2013, Guideline: Use and Need of Overlay Finishes on Synthetic Fibers and Ropes, was approved by the Board of Directors during their meeting held earlier in the week.

Cut Protection Guideline Task Group – Greg D'Elia, Chair

Greg D'Elia reported that the task group has decided on a direction they want to head with CI-2016, Guideline: Cut Testing Guidelines. The group has also proposed a definition for the term "cut." The subcommittee will meet over the summer to continue work on the document.

Fiber Suppliers Subcommittee – Amy Jenkins, Chair

Amy Jenkins reported that she will follow-up with a member who recently resigned, and if no response is received by July 1, 2020, the company will be removed from CI-2003, Comparative Reference: Fibers for Cable, Cordage, Rope and Twine, since only current members are included. Amy also noted that the subcommittee is discussing the strength temperature range in the fiber chart, and she requested volunteers to participate in the discussions.

Guidelines Subcommittee – Wes Conger, Chair

Wes Conger reported that the subcommittee was continuing to work through comments submitted on CI-2001, Guideline: Inspection and Retirement Criteria for Fiber Rope, and the subcommittee planned to meet over the summer to continue work on this.

High Tech Constructions Subcommittee – Danielle Stenvers, Chair

This subcommittee had no updates to report.

ISO Subcommittee – Loet Hoppe, Chair

Loet Hoppe reported that ISO held a virtual meeting on March 24, 2020. At that meeting, they discussed ISO 1140 Polyamide, ISO 1141 Polyester, ISO 1346 Polypropylene.

Loet then updated the committee about the Status Machinery Directive. The Eurocord Workgroup held two official meetings with the experts and national representatives. In the last meeting, the workgroup asked for detailed feedback on the proposals.

The Taskforce has rewritten its comments accordingly and has prepared slides for presentation. The full Eurocord presentation is included as Attachment B. At the next meeting, the group will discuss the following key topics:

- More focus on system design (less strength), introduction of risk assessment
- Introduction of installer and lift plan
- Harmonized standards that need to be updated

Life Cycle Management Subcommittee – Koen Van Goethem, Chair

Koen Van Goethem reported that two workshops took place on this topic in Europe. Eurocord will be sending out documents and sharing his notes regarding how Europe will legislate Life Cycle Management and for what manufacturers will be liable. Koen asked attendees to please send any information on how the United States is handling this issue to him.

Life Safety Applications Subcommittee – Josh Walls, Chair

Josh Walls reported that the internal ballot results for CI-2004, Guideline: Safe Use of Life Safety Rope, were reviewed by the subcommittee. Two ballots with negative comments were submitted:

- Danielle Stenvers with Samson submitted negative comments that were accepted and will be addressed with editorial changes.
- Bill Fronzaglia with DSM Dyneema submitted negative comments regarding the values presented for HMPE in table 1. These comments were found to be non-persuasive by the

subcommittee, and this ruling was upheld by a majority vote of the Technical Committee, with negative votes from DSM Dyneema and Honeywell.

OCIMF MEG Task Group – Amy Jenkins

Amy Jenkins reported that there has been no progress since the January meeting. There will be a conference call this summer to restart the initiative.

Reduced Recoil Risk Rope Subcommittee – Elizabeth Huntley, Chair

This subcommittee had no updates to report.

Roundslings Subcommittee – Greg D’Elia, Chair

Greg D’Elia reported that a draft of CI-1905, Standard: Synthetic Roundslings, will be submitted for internal ballot.

Terminology Subcommittee – Patrick Yerger, Chair

On behalf of Patrick Yerger, Pete Lance advised that an updated draft of CI-1202, Standard: Terminology, is being prepared, and that anyone working on documents with new terms should submit them to Patrick.

Testing Procedures Subcommittee – Keith Buzzell, Chair

Keith Buzzell reported that the subcommittee reviewed the comments from the internal ballot on CI-2014: Cyclic Bend Over Sheave (CBOS) Testing Guidelines for Synthetic Fiber Ropes, and they were able to resolve the remaining comments, including negative comments submitted by John Flory with Tension Technology International. The document will be submitted for another internal ballot.

Rotating Wheel Abrasion Test – John Flory, Lead

As decided at the Cordage Institute’s January 2020 Technical Committee meeting, CI-2017, Guideline: Rotating Wheel External Abrasion Test Guideline for Synthetic Fiber Ropes, was revised from a standard to a guideline and submitted for an internal ballot in February. Two ballots with negative comments were submitted:

- Danielle Stenvers with Samson submitted negative comments that were accepted and addressed with editorial changes.
- Forrest Sloan with Kuraray submitted negative comments indicating that the document is specific to one setup and procedure, and more like a company-specific test method than a standard or guideline. These comments, which could not be resolved, were found to be non-persuasive by the subcommittee, and this ruling was upheld by a majority vote of the Technical Committee, with negative votes from Phillystran, Samson, Teufelberger, and Yale Cordage.

CI-2017 will be submitted for external ballot.