

Highlights of the October 2020 Virtual Technical Meeting

On October 14-15 2020, the Cordage Institute held its second 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.

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

Boiler Plate Subcommittee – Keith Buzzell, Chair

Keith Buzzell reported that the subcommittee was continuing to work on the Boiler Plate for Test Methods.

Braided Ropes Subcommittee – Keith Buzzell, Chair

Keith Buzzell reported that catalog data was submitted by members so the values in the physical properties tables in the following documents could be updated:

- CI 1305, Standard: Polyester (PET) Fiber Rope 12-Strand Single Braid Construction
- CI 1310, Standard: Nylon (POLYAMIDE) Fiber Rope Double Braid Construction
- CI 1311, Standard: Polyester (PET) Fiber Rope Double Braid Construction
- CI 1312, Standard: Nylon (POLYAMIDE) Fiber Rope 12-Strand Single Braid Construction

Fiber Suppliers Subcommittee – Amy Jenkins, Chair

Amy Jenkins facilitated a discussion regarding possible changes to the High Tenacity Fiber Chart in CI 2003, Comparative Reference: Fibers for Cable, Cordage, Rope, and Twine, including the 50% strength temperature column. There was also discussion of the effects of temperature and storage on fiber, as well as on what data comes solely from a supplier and what information is subject to peer review. It was noted that any technical changes to a CI technical document would require that an internal ballot be sent to CI members. Amy requested volunteers to serve on the subcommittee so a path forward could be determined.

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. There was discussion about including a list of documents published by CI members on inspection and retirement criteria in the body of the guideline or in the appendix, but it was instead recommended to include links to the documents on the CI website.

ISO Subcommittee – Loet Hoppe, Chair

Loet Hoppe provided an update on various ISO standards. Comments were received and reviewed for ISO 1140 (PA), ISO 1141 (PES), and ISO 1346 (PP), an amendment was proposed for ISO 18264 (HMPE Rope Slings), and ISO 1805 (Fishing Nets) was under review.

Life Cycle Management Subcommittee – Koen Van Goethem, Chair

Koen Van Goethem advised that he invited Fernando Eblagon with Lankhorst Euronete Portugal S.A., Joel Baziuk with Global Ghost Gear Initiative, and Mattia Comotto with Aquafil to present as guest speakers during the meeting earlier that day.

Life Safety Applications Subcommittee – Josh Walls, Chair

Josh Walls reported that CI 2004, Guideline: Safe Use of Life Safety Rope, was sent for another internal ballot, and that two of the three negative ballots were addressed and resolved. The remaining negative ballot would be addressed based on the decision of the Fiber Suppliers Subcommittee on 50% strength temperature. Josh noted that a paragraph addressing rope performance when wet would be added to the guideline.

Small Cords and Twines Subcommittee

Sarah Padilla advised that the values in the physical properties tables in the following documents needed to be reviewed: CI 1320, Standard: Multifilament Polypropylene (MFP) Fiber Cord/Rope, Solid Braid Constructions, CI 1321, Standard: Nylon (Polyamide) Fiber Cord/Rope, Solid Braid Constructions, and CI 1322, Standard: Polyester (PET) Fiber Cord/Rope, Solid Braid Constructions. Sarah noted that volunteers were needed to serve on the subcommittee since it was currently inactive.

Terminology Subcommittee – Patrick Yerger, Chair

Jessica Mannino advised that she was working with Patrick Yerger to discuss revisions to CI 1202, Standard: Terminology for Fiber Rope Used in Standards and Guidelines.

Testing Procedures Subcommittee – Keith Buzzell, Chair

Keith Buzzell reported that CI 2014, Cyclic Bend Over Sheave (CBOS) Testing Guidelines for Synthetic Fiber Ropes, was sent for another internal ballot. No negative comments were submitted, and editorial changes would be made to address affirmative comments. Additional affirmative comments submitted by John Flory would be held for the next review.

Rotating Wheel Abrasion Test Guideline – John Flory, Lead

CI 2017, Guideline: Rotating Wheel External Abrasion Test Guideline for Synthetic Fiber, completed external balloting with no negative comments. The ballot history would be reviewed by the Board of Directors during their November meeting.