

Distribution Date:
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Minutes
American Petroleum Institute
COMMITTEE ON REFINERY EQUIPMENT
RISK-BASED INSPECTION SOFTWARE USER GROUP
February 22, 2006
Marriott Greenspoint, Houston, TX

ATTENDEES:

M. Geisenhoff – CHAIRMAN, Flint Hills Resource Group	R. Goodman – API
K. Gottselig, VICE-CHAIRMAN – Lyondell Chemical	S. Haines – Amerada Hess
G. Alvarado – Equity Engineering	A. Hardy – Lyondell Chemical
B. Aupperle – Flint Hills Resources	P. Henry – Equity Engineering
D. Baham – ConocoPhillips	L. Kaley – Equity Engineering
J. Britton – DNV	V. Magyari – Equity Engineering
J. Bumgarner – Placid Refining	P. McAndrew – Sunoco
G. Cevag – Istituto Italiano della Saldatura	P. McGhee – Saudi Aramco
A. Correia da Cruz – ISQ	H. Mead – Shell Global Solutions
S. DeVillier – Equity Engineering	S. Pinca – Istituto Italiano della Saldatura
K. Doggett – ConocoPhillips	B. Ray – Marathon
R. Downie – Lyondell Chemical	C. Roberts – Total Petrochemicals
B. Eckstein – PETROBRAS	T. Rutkowski – Sunoco
V. dos Santos Ferreira – PETROBRAS	J. Shomette – Berwanger
E. Franz – Ashland Chemical	B. Smith (for L. Roberts) – Irving Oil
R. Goderie – Dow Chemical	S. Smith – Petro-Canada
	K. VanLoon – ConocoPhillips

1. OPENING AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mark Geisenhoff called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. The meeting attendance sheet is attached as [Attachment 1](#).

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The meeting agenda ([Attachment 2](#)) was approved as originally distributed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The committee approved the minutes from the September 1, 2005, meeting as distributed. These minutes can be found on the API RBI website at:
<http://committees.api.org/standards/cre/scrbi/mtginfo/mtghm.html>.

4. NEXT MEETING

- A. User Group Meeting – The next User Group Meeting will be held on October 4-5, 2006 in Houston, TX. The location of the meeting will be determined at a future date.
- B. Training – Equity is tentatively scheduling a training sessions for June 2006. This session will focus on RBI basics for new users and will probably be three-day course. Additional details on this training will be distributed to the User Group when the plans are finalized.

5. PROJECT HISTORY & FUTURE DIRECTION

Lynne Kaley gave a summary of the history of the API RBI project to help give current members some perspective on where the group has been in order to plan the future course. The API RBI Sponsors Group began in 1992 to develop a risk-based approach for fixed equipment in refining and petrochemical facilities. After publication of the first of edition of API 581, it was decided that software would be necessary in order to practically implement the methodology in the document. This decision led to the User Group having more of software focus in recent years.

The Steering Committee has concluded that as the software matures it is important for the API project to again emphasize the development of RBI technology. This will require the involvement of additional subject matter experts from User Group member companies. The Steering Committee is also discussing how the structure of the group can be modified to support this re-emphasis on new technology.

6. SOFTWARE ISSUES

- A. Software Working Group Update – Ken Gottselig provided an update on the status of the Software Working Group ([Attachment 3](#)). Since the volume of software-related problems has been reduced the justification for having a separate working group to address these issues.

DECISION: The SWG will be disbanded and these issues will now be addressed in the full User Group meetings.

- B. IT/Network Administrators Working Group – Ken Gottselig reported on the initial meeting of the working group via conference call on February 16, 2006 ([Attachment 4](#)). The objective of this group is to provide a forum to communicate problems experienced in doing network installations and sharing best practices to help solve these problems. Ken also demonstrated the SCARAB website that the User Group can use to document software-related problems.

DECISION: Software issues must be reported via the SCARAB site in order to initiate resolution by Equity. The link to this site is <http://208.40.63.53/scarab/issues>.

ACTION: Equity will distribute the list of issues reported on the site to the User Group on a quarterly basis.

- C. Version 8.0 March 2006 Release – Lynne Kaley presented information on the upcoming release of Version 8.0 ([Attachment 5](#)). The presentation included a history of the previous versions that led to the release of V8.0. Lynne’s presentation summarized the upcoming changes to the software that is planned for release by March 31, 2006.

7. TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

- A. Technical Working Group Update – Hearl Mead presented the current status of projects being worked by the TWG ([Attachment 6](#)).
- B. External Damage Module – Allison Hardy presented the differences between what is currently published in API 581 and the recently approved ballot of revisions to the External Damage Module ([Attachment 7](#)). This revised module is now approved and will appear in the second edition of 581.
- C. Storage Tank Module– Lynne Kaley presented a summary of the revisions to the Aboveground Storage Tank Module ([Attachment 8](#)).
- D. Change from ar/t to RSF Approach for Thinning – Lynne Kaley presented an overview of the change to the Remaining Strength Factor (RSF) approach for thinning ([Attachment 9](#)). An outline of the basis and limitations of the ar/t approach was presented for historical reference. Lynne offered two case studies that compared the new RSF approach with calculations using ar/t.
- E. New Fluids Website – Phil Henry demonstrated the new website that Equity has established for users to enter the properties of new fluids for inclusion in the software. The link to the site is <http://www.equityeng.com/fluid/>. The fluids will be added to the software on a first-come, first-entered basis.
- F. API 581 BRD Update – Lynne Kaley reported on the progress of the second edition of API 581 ([Attachment 10](#)). The new BRD will reflect the technology and modules to be included in the initial release of V8.0 of the software. Given the complexity and size of the document, each major part will be balloted to a targeted group of members based on their voting preferences. All members will be able to review and comment on the entire document even if they do not wish to vote.

8. INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF API RBI

Greg Alvarado provided a summary of the use and acceptance of RBI by jurisdictions worldwide ([Attachment 11](#)).

9. NEW BUSINESS

The following suggestions were made as input to technical topics at the Fall User Group meeting:

- Tank module – software use and limitations.
- Bundle module – FHR use and limitations.

- Development of Risk target guidelines.
- Update on RSF development.
- Regulatory acceptance – discussion and possible presentations by Users who have submitted and had RBI approved by a local regulatory authority. Share experiences about what needs to be done and how to present information for this purpose.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Having no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Roland A. Goodman
goodmanr@api.org