

Minutes of the ERFMI Technical Committee Meeting
4th April 2019 from 09:00 – 14:15
EUFCA Offices, Rue Montoyer 24

Company		Represented by	
Altro		David	Cockhead
Amtico International		John	Baggalay
Aspecta		Monique	Vergouwen
Designflooring		Adrian	Shortland
Dickson-Constant		Maria	Henry
Endesign		Nick	Atkins
ERFMI		Jane	Gardner
ERFMI		Jochen	Zimmermann
EuPC from 09:20		Mohammad	Hayatifar
Forbo Flooring Systems		Fred	Seifert
Gerflor		Olivier	Ceysson
Intertek		Katie	Livesey
IVC		Joost	Demuynck
Polyflor Limited		Mike	Minett
Tarkett		Alain	Casoli
Tarkett		Demosthene	Sakkas
Windmöller		Guido	Horst

Excused

Amorim		Graça	Rocha
Artigo		Jegadeesh	Chethira Balagan
BIG Floorcoverings		Thomas	Portl
Nora Systems GmbH		Mario	Kröger
RFCI		William	Freeman
Upofloor		Samuli	Löytönen
Windmöller		Bernhard	Grewing

1. Welcome and Opening

The Chairman of the TC Mr Sakkas welcomes the participants, especially the external speakers Ms Katie Livesey of Intertek and later Mr Mohammad Hayatifar of EuPC, who will give presentations under point 5 and 11.

2. Competition law

The document "Do's and don'ts for a Competition Safe Environment" is distributed amongst the participants of the meeting. The members of the meeting are invited to examine the distributed document. All parties present are aware of the EU competition rules. No present participant had any further questions with regard to EU competition law.

Enclosure 1: signature's list + "Do's and don'ts for a Competition Safe Environment"

3. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 17th October 2018

The TC approved the minutes as a true record of the ERFMI TC meeting held on the 17th October 2018 in Brussels.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

5. REACH

Mr Hayatifar of EuPC gives a presentation containing amongst others the following topics: The process from SVHC to Authorisation; Advocacy timeline; ADCA update and TiO₂.

Enclosure 2: The Authorisation process

Ms Gardner is asked to make an overview at which stage in the process the different substances as ADCA, Antimony Trioxide and TiO₂ are.

- ADCA

ADCA is not on the agenda for April meeting of the REACH Committee but could be discussed at the meeting on the 18th and 19th June or could be postponed until the autumn meeting on the 17th and 18th September.
18th

Mr Hayatifar provides a literature reference on the reconsideration of classification of ADCA as a respiratory sensitiser.

Enclosure 3: Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology 89 (2017) 268-278

Ms Gardner will find out to who to address the lobbying per country.

There are initiatives of the European Commission on unintended release of micro plastics, Mr. Hayatifar will make a proposal on how ERFMI could join the initiative.

PCE offers the service "Substance watch" to monitor the regulatory situation of certain substances at 5000 Euro/a. Although of possible interest for the members, the TC concludes that companies are doing this work themselves.

The possible classification of TiO₂ might be discussed at the REACH committee meeting to be held on the 11th and 12th April.

Information after the meeting: The decision to classify TiO₂ has been deferred again, but it is possible that the Commission is postponing it until their new powers under the Lisbon Treaty come into force, which, as we understand, it gives them the power to decide on their own, without the approval of the Member States.

Enclosure 4: TiO₂

6. Standardisation

- TC 219

ISO 10874 (Classification) going for amendment. Following the discussions and propositions from the three working groups, it was decided to amend the standard with minimum effort only deleting class 22+ and unifying the double „descriptions“ (e.g. light/moderate). Project leader will be Fred Seifert.

ISO/TC 219 resolved to amend EN ISO 20326:2018 to deal with comments on the following 3 technical issues:
1°: Dimensional variation caused by changes in atmospheric humidity should be limited to products with a hygroscopic core.

2°: to stipulate that the locking strength requirements are specified for F0.2.

3°: limit thickness swelling requirements only to moisture sensitive products. A draft document will be submitted to the secretariat.

The scope of the standard remains unchanged.

ISO/TC 219 resolved to revise ISO 23999 Resilient floor coverings Dimensional stability and curling after exposure to heat.

The scope of the standard remains unchanged.

ISO/TC 219 resolved to progress ISO 10581.2 Resilient floor coverings Specification for homogeneous polyvinyl chloride floor covering to the FDIS vote, the final draft reflects the elimination of Class 22+ in the classification table.

ISO/TC 219 resolved to progress ISO 11638 Resilient floor coverings Specification for heterogeneous polyvinyl chloride flooring on foam to the DIS vote. The latest draft reflects changes made by Project Leader Mr. Alain Casoli after discussion of the CD by members of WG 2.

The Standards Australia technical committee on resilient flooring (PL-015) was re-established in February 2019 to revise the resilient flooring standard – AS 1884. The work on the standard has commenced and is expected to be completed before the end of the year.

Mr Freeman will retire as convenor of WG 2 by the end of the year. Mr Tim Cole will be his successor.

The next meeting of TC 219 will be held in 2020 the USA.

Enclosure 5: Standardisation

- EN 14041:2018

Ms Eufinger, Mr Verrue and Mr van de Vrande spoke to European Commission, which proposed a meeting later this month.

There is surprisingly discussion on an AVCP for formaldehyde. Maybe there will be more information on this in June.

Regarding the AVCP for fire, there is still discussion on the interpretation of the formulation how to choose a system for attestation of conformity. The formulation in the new standard is unchanged compared to the current one. According to the interpretation of the test houses in the past most of the resilient floor coverings were treated under System 3. With the proposal of the new Delegated Act there is uncertainty about the future interpretation.

There is discussion if ERFMI should write a letter to the EC as EPPA did in order to ask for clarification. The TC agrees to wait with the letter.

There is also a proposal to change the considered text. Further ERFMI should ask informally why this Delegated Act is necessary at all. We will wait for further information.

Enclosure 6: EN 14041

- Update WG 11

Mr. Zimmermann gives the attached presentation.

Enclosure 7: Update WG 11

- TC 134 WG 7 Meeting June Brussels

The meeting will be held on the 12th June and the agenda will be prepared by the secretariat and Jane Gradner.

7. Update from other associations – Kalèi, France and RFCI, USA

Ms Gardner gives the attached presentation, covering activities by RFCI and Kalèi.

Enclosure 8: Update from other sectors and countries

8. Update European Floor Covering Association

Ms Gardner gives the attached presentation. EUFCA main topics to co-operate on are: collection, smart adhesives for easy dismantling and lobbying e.g. on AVCP.

Enclosure 9: Update EUFCA

9. Presentation of Draft Roadmap for ERFMI – Key points and issues for TC

Ms Gardner gives the attached presentation, summarising the outcome of her visits to ERFMI's members. The members agreed that the key challenges for the industry going forward are: Circularity, Threat to Plastics and legislation around REACH, producer responsibility and construction products.

Ms. Gardner will put together a road map based on the outcomes of the visits. The road map will highlight how ERFMI intends to address these key challenges.

Enclosure 10: first thoughts on ERFMI action plan

10. Lunch break

11. The Circular Economy

Ms Livesey of Intertek gives the attached presentation.

The resilient flooring industry needs to establish a viewpoint on the Circular Economy and how it can be achieved by the sector. There is increasing pressure by the EU commission to increase the recycling rate for plastics generally and increase the use of recycled content by industry. It is important to make plans and be prepared for any action taken by the EU.

ERFMI will set up a working group in order to deal with the challenges of circular economy. A kick-off meeting (workshop) of this group will be organized before the plenary in June or July before the next TC meeting and the Plenary in November

Enclosure 11+12: Circular Economy

12. Recycling Projects

Ms Gardner gives the attached presentation.

The Grant Agreement of the Circular Flooring project is expected to be signed by the EC project officer. After this it can be signed by the other partners.

Regarding the Oréade project we are waiting for the request for contribution.

Enclosure 13: Recycling projects

13. Any other business

ERFMI's web designer is currently working on the EPD calculator and the questions was raised if in addition to the short overview and the .pdf version of the generated EPDs, the .html version should be kept as well. According to the TC this is not necessary anymore.

14. Date and place of next meeting, close of meeting

To be established by a Doodle poll.

The Chairman of the TC Mr Sakkas closes the TC meeting.

2019-04-17

Dr. Jochen Zimmermann