

# EMPHA General Assembly



Present : See attached list

Venue : Hotel Mercure, Bordeaux

Date : 21 June 2012

Excused : R. Bieliauskas - AB Klaipėdos Kartonas  
R. Martini – Cartoflex Honeycomb Paper Industries  
P. Viera – Hexa Painel S.A.  
S. Schoenmaker - Honicel Nederland B.V.

Minutes : Taco Zevenbergen

## **1) Opening and Welcome**

The president of EMPHA, Wieger Wiegersma, opened the meeting and welcomed all to the 3<sup>rd</sup> general assembly in Bordeaux. Before starting with the agenda he expressed his thanks on behalf of all the members, to Hexagone and Axxor for the dinner the previous evening. On behalf of the present delegates he thanked Hexagone for the bottle of wine that was offered to all as a souvenir of Bordeaux. He then presented the agenda which was subsequently approved.

## **2) EMPHA antitrust reminder**

The secretary general of EMPHA, Taco Zevenbergen, then explained the do's and don'ts as summarized in the presentation as well as in the EMPHA anti trust guidelines that were handed out during the meeting.

He stressed the importance of these rules and explained that it was a standard practice for all associations that were managed by Lejeune Association Management to follow this procedure.

Before going into the agenda, the members were reminded that this meeting was organised in compliance with the legal framework as set out in art. 81 of the EC Treaty, which prohibits all agreements between undertakings, decisions by associations of undertakings and concerted practices which may affect trade between members states and which have as their object of effect the prevention, restriction or distortion of competition within the common market. It was stressed that individual company data would, under no circumstances, be made public during the meeting. The purpose of the discussions at this meeting is not to exchange individual company-related information but to identify common activities in support of the objectives of EMPHA.

## **3) Minutes General Assembly 24 June 2011**

The minutes of the meeting were dealt with page per page and were approved.

#### **4) Board vacancy for treasurer (candidate: Mr Rossignol)**

Mr. Zevenbergen explained that Mr Rodrigues, the former treasurer, had left the industry and thus was no longer a member of EMPHA. To fill this vacancy Mr Rossignol had been willing take the position of treasurer.

The members were then asked if they approved this proposal from the board. The proposal was unanimously accepted.

#### **5) Report Audit Committee on financial outcome 2011**

Mr. Revet as member of the audit committee reported on behalf of himself and Mr. Martini (who could not attend the meeting).

The financial outcome of 2011 had been checked by them and was approved. The audit committee proposed to the members to discharge the EMPHA board for the financial outcome of 2011. This proposal was accepted by the members.

#### **6) Financial update 2012 and budget 2013**

Mr. Zevenbergen gave an update on the current financial situation. As presented (see attached presentation) not a lot of expenses had been made so far. Despite several reminders no payment had been received from Hexapainel or Philippine Honeycomb. (Note: after the meeting an email had been received from Philippine Honeycomb that they would transfer the money and also from Hexapainel that they resigned as member of EMPHA).

Mr Zevenbergen then presented the budget for 2013. The budget was based on 10 members (9 +1 associated member) and on a membership fee of € 3275, - per company. The other entries in the budget were in line with previous years. Mr. Zevenbergen then asked if the members approved the proposed budget. The budget was approved. When EMPHA would be in a more solid financial position, the general assembly could decide to change the membership fee.

#### **7) Proposal to adapt articles of association:**

##### **4.2.1: Associated membership is also open to individual firms and organizations that are suppliers to the paper honeycomb core industry**

This change had been suggested after the last general assembly and approval of the members for this change had been asked per mail. As there had been one objection it was proposed to discuss this again during the general assembly.

The idea of adapting the articles of association and to allow supplier companies as non voting members to the association was to increase the exposure and funds of the association.

EMPHA as association should grow and one way to do this was to allow suppliers to join the association. This could also be a stimulus for non members to join EMPHA.

The benefits for suppliers are that EMPHA offers a platform for them; they could be invited to give technical presentations and would have media exposure on the EMPHA website.

The members attending the meeting voted in favor of adapting the articles of association. The secretariat would send an email to all members asking again for their approval.

Subsequently a discussion started about panel makers (transformers) and EMPHA membership. It was decided to install a taskforce that would come up with the pro's and

cons of having panel makers as EMPHA member (full or associated?). The taskforce would consist of Mr. Revet, Mr Tonelli and Mr. Garbarek.

## **8) Report Voluntary Industry Standards Committee**

Mr Wiegersma gave an update of the progress made by the Technical Committee since the last general assembly.

After the first draft had been sent to all members last year the Technical Committee received several comments which had been integrated in this version.

Compression Strengths: In this standard no changes had been made since last year. This voluntary standard was then approved.

Height Measurement: This was not yet finished. Mr Tonelli then gave a demonstration of the height measuring instrument that he brought with him.

Another way to do this was by scanning, this was more accurate and data friendly than the manual version. . Mr Wiegersma explained that to develop the software, that would then become an EMPHA product, the costs were € 4500,-. A licence would cost €450, - of which € 150, - would go to EMPHA. This would initially be used to repay the external funding of € 4500, - for the licence.

The question was raised if the tool would be useful for customers? The Technical Committee would liaise with several customers to find out if there was interest in such a measurement system.

It was decided to do more testing at different locations before further actions were decided on.

If proven successful, funding was needed to pay for the € 4500, - as EMPHA did not have the funds to pay for this. Mr Wiegersma who would be willing to prefinance the € 4500,-? Mr. Tonelli, Mr Wiegersma, Mr Rossignol and Mr Revet (under reserve) were willing to prefinance the sum for the development if it was decided to proceed with the digital scanning tool.

### Cell Size:

A tool had been developed to measure the optimum cell size. This could be done in consultation with the client.

It was decided that a screenshot of this tool would be placed on the open part of the website and the actual tool itself would be placed on the member's only part.

If companies wanted to know more they would have to contact one of the EMPHA members.

## **9) EMPHA promotional brochure**

Mr. Zevenbergen distributed a copy of the EMPHA brochure as had been developed by the taskforce. The aim of the brochure was to function as a first introduction to the product and the association. In order to show the versatility of the product Mr Zevenbergen asked the members to send him photos of different applications of the product. These could then be used for the brochure and also placed on the website.

He would send the draft brochure with minutes for feedback from the members.

#### **10) Next EMPHA meeting**

The next EMPHA General Assembly was scheduled for the third week of June 2013:

**20- 21 June 2013**

It was proposed to have the general assembly in Vilnius. Mr Wiegersma would contact Mrs. Sernioviene of Klaipėdos to discuss with her what would be the options. As alternatives were suggested Poznań and Rimini.

#### **11) AOB**

Mr Revet asked if he and Mr Martini should be again the audit committee for the figures of 2012? This was much appreciated and accepted. For the figures of 2013 Mr Simone Vanzo would like to take a seat in the audit committee.

No further matters arising the meeting was closed and the president thanked all for their input and participation.

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