

6/10/07

Masonry Heater Association Technical Committee:
6/8/07 Phone Conference Meeting Minutes

Participants:

1. Rod Zander
2. Jerry Frisch
3. Brian Klipfel
4. Timothy Seaton
5. Ken Matesz

-Meeting called to order

-Old Business

-Approval of Wild Acres Technical Committee Meeting Minutes:

- Jerry offered some clarification to the 1992 MH testing summary. Discussion on ASTM 1602- building code relationship.
- Minutes will be amended with Jerry and Rod's comments and resent to committee for review/approval. **Action Item: BK**

-Possibility of Tulikivi donated heater for testing:

- Tim S- no definitive answer yet. Tulikivi representative he has been working with is temporarily unavailable. Tim will keep on it. **Action Item: Tim**

-New Business

- May 23rd EPA Low Mass Masonry Fireplace Stakeholders meeting discussion:

- RZ- Stakeholder meeting is a chance for all interested parties to discuss issues together- manufacturers, air quality control groups, EPA, etc.
- RZ- Meeting discussed baseline testing procedures. Established 1st phase emissions levels at 8g/kg. 2nd phase will be lower. Scheduled conference call follow up for stakeholders meeting. Tim S. will try and get bullet point summary.
- RZ- Low mass and traditional fireplaces will do R&D- review test results- then work towards EPA recognition.
- RZ- EPA knows MH are clean, mature technology.
- TS- The individual states or collective states (the North East, for example) are in the drivers seat for regulating clean air. End of June marks the start of State implementation of PM10. Individual states hold the power; the EPA is guiding the process.
- RZ- historical documents of the process were distributed to the tech. comm..

- Masonry Heater Testing- Results and Plan:

- RZ- Refers discussion to T Stroud email 4/6/06 recommending course of action with EPA- recommended repeating 1992 MH tests to establish repeatability/reliability of 1992 data. Contract signed with OMNI labs for repeat

- test. Jerry Frisch built Swedish Stove replica from 1992. Asked OMNI to repeat runs with both cordwood and test crib wood.
- RZ- Can burn IC engine and get different results with different fuels. Same with heaters. Tina S has recommended tests to determine relationship between cord and crib wood fuels. OMNI claims to have run both types of fuel but has not presented the MHA with the results.
 - BK- Is the MHA board working with OMNI to resolve the question?
 - RZ- Confusion whether the testing had been completed to our specifications. Specifically, the test fuel moisture content was too low and the burn rates too high. EPA looking for similar repeat test of 1992 to confirm new test methods produce similar heater results.
 - RZ- 1.) Do we know what the EPA wants? 2.) Did the OMNI tests provide what we need?
 - RZ – EPA originally requested one 1992 retest. Later discussion agreed to two repeat tests. We need to repeat with same parameters (moisture content, weight, size, burn rate all similar to 1992).
 - RZ- 1992 used customer cordwood. We have no calibration of cordwood to lab test crib wood. Test crib must reflect actual field use. Test crib burn results will drive heater designs. Heater designs will change and be affected by non-real world fuel loads. For example, woodstoves can be built to burn lab crib wood cleanly, but not reflected in real world cordwood use- cordwood changes air flow.
 - TS- Hard to quantify cordwood for testing. EPA skeptical of cordwood protocol-
 - RZ- Cordwood protocols in Europe. Problem is our appliance burns cordwood. Can't develop a test with dimensional lumber that reflects real world situation.
 - TS- All birch in Austria. Huge fuel variations in our areas.
 - JF- Paul Tiegs thinks cordwood protocol is possible, but will require lower emission rate- probably ½ that of crib wood.
 - RZ- Swedish stove ran ~1.2g/kg in 1992. OMNI tests about double ~2.6g/kg. Crib wood doesn't appear to be best fuel for MH.
 - KM- Does crib wood burn dirtier?
 - TS- Tests indicate wood that is too dry and too high burn rate burns less cleanly. No real testing data exists between cord and crib.
 - TS- No existing ASTM protocol for testing or fueling heaters. Drafts only. Recommends using the OMNI tests as one data point for the EPA. Have it in our pocket, low emissions.
 - RZ- OMNI did not do what the EPA wanted.
 - KS- Time is of the essence need to move on the White Paper. The OMNI tests produced decent results. We need to march on.
 - BK-JF- agree
 - TS- Question is where to test next heater. HPBA recommends Myron Labs.
 - RZ- Refers to testing estimates from Myron Labs- distributed in email to tech comm.. Will run Condar and dilution tunnel method using draft heater fueling protocol.
 - TS- State decision soon, we need to move. Perhaps run crib wood first because that is the draft Paul Tiegs has been working on.

- KM- Could run three tests- total \$4800. Could ask membership for \$100 donation to complete important task.
- JF- Good recommendation
- TS- MHA board meets in July. Could propose. Or John L is in charge of fundraising- could drop it in his lap with our specific short term goals.
- RZ- No budget yet- proposed budget emailed to committee.
- TS- Recommends breaking the budget down into specific tasks- small bites- maybe 4 month jumps.
- JF- Possibility of \$ from HPBA to test at Myron Labs?
- TS- Need to remind them some more. Also, specific test plans and budget may strengthen our position.
- RZ- Need contract with Myron written and approved.
- **Vote called for next heater test at Myron Labs- unanimous approval.**
- RZ- need letter to OMNI requesting final test report.
- TS- OMNI originally thought they were testing two heaters- may be involved with the delay.
- RZ- Promised final report by OMNI at Reno meeting.
- TS- **proposes a letter to OMNI by tech comm. Through MHA board. Unanimous vote.**
- BK to draft letter for approval. **Action Item: BK draft letter.**

Budget Discussion:

- RZ- Distributed budget in email- brief review of proposed budget.
- TS- Break the budget into smaller more specific pieces- white paper, fuel protocol funding
- RZ- Need to establish what bills have been resolved,
- TS- Need to involve DH in discussion. **Action item Tim S**

Committee Membership:

- RZ- Propose a non-voting/ advisory role for Dr Schiffert, Christine Subasic, Bob Ferguson, Paul Tiegs, Dave Menotti, Tom Stroud, Rick Curkeet, Ben Myron
- Discussion- removes conflict of interest- vote for above to be advisors- unanimous vote. BK to invite above to join committee as advisors. **Action Item: BK**

Committee Communications:

- RZ- How should we communicate in the future? Phone conference email?
- KM- Proposes all emails should go through secretary, BK- agreed by all

Document Review:

- RZ- Need subcommittee to review existing heater documents (ASTM, MHA, EN 15250, CEN) to arrive at a definition.
- TS- All committee members should review documents- establish why this is important to MHA.

- Action Item: BK and RZ to start work on definition

Survey Discussion:

- RZ- proposed survey sent to Board and all committees. No response so far. Need to establish importance of survey. Action item (BK?) nudge Brad.

Meeting Adjourned