



A Meeting of the EFFC Council held virtually (via Zoom) on Friday 26th November 2021, between 09:00-13:30 (BST)/10:00-14:30 (CET).

President: Andreas Körbler
Senior Vice President: Serge Borel
Immediate Past President: José Candela

Austria
France
Spain

Officers:

Bob Thompson
Boris Von Lübtow
Fabrizio Leoni

UK
Germany
Italy

Working Group Chairs:

David Hard (Technical)
Federico Trevisani (Contracts)
Lorenzo Alessi (Health & Safety)
Chris Harnan (Sustainability)

UK
Italy
France
UK

Members:

Maurice Bottiau
Bejamin Daubilly
Luke Deamer
Rasin Dizceer
Jaap Estié
Frank Haehning
Dejan Lukic
Tamás Kaltenbcher
Stefan Lahme
David Major
Przemyslaw
Thomas Pirkner
Jindrich Ricia
Hubert Tomczak
Jim De Waele

Belgium
France
UK
Turkey
Netherlands
Germany
Switzerland
Hungary
Germany
UK
Poland
Austria
Czech Republic

UK

In Attendance:

Peter Arz
Kathryn de Rochefort
Ciaran Jennings
Isabel Jennings

Past President EFFC
EFFC Secretariat
EFFC Secretary
EEFC Secretariat

Owners	Actions
C Jennings	Ciaran to send an email proposal to executives to apply to become an officer with a deadline of February 2022.
C Jennings	Invite Theresa to the next Executive Meeting to discuss the EFFC-DFI Conference in Berlin 2022.
C Jennings	To arrange a meeting with himself, Andreas Körbler and Jaap Estié to discuss further discuss EFFC Rig-Operator License Scheme.
All	Federations who have not responded to the Strategy document to send feedback by January 24 th 2022.
Chris Harnan	Contact the Federations to get volunteer companies to offer the Scope information as a pilot for the CRSD.
C Jennings	Start initiative to encourage more people to attend the WG meetings.

	Minutes	
1.	<p>Welcome & Legal Compliance Statement</p> <p>Andreas welcomed everyone to the meeting and made the legal compliance statement that the purpose of the meeting is to discuss industry issues and not to engage with any discussion of project pricing or fixing of margins or the setting of any market rates of any kind.</p>	
2.	<p>Statement regarding Stig Weis</p> <p>Andreas stated that Stig Weis passed away after a short battle with illness and expressed his sadness on behalf of himself and all who knew Stig. He offered some background on his career, Andreas reminisced about his personal experiences with Stig and offered his respects and best wishes to Stig's family.</p> <p>Przemyslaw said that he was a great man and had been his boss for 6 years in which time they had worked closely together.</p> <p>Chris said that he was always a calm and effective man who was greatly respected by all those who worked with him.</p>	
3.	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Dirk Stewart (Germany), Peter Vroom (Netherlands), Carlos Vazquez (Romania) and David Major (UK).</p>	
4.	<p>Minutes of the last meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Executive Minutes (22nd April 2021, Virtual) – For Information b) AGM Minutes from Friday 8th October 2021 (Virtual) to be approved. 	

	Minutes from the previous meeting have been approved.	
5.	<p>Report of the President</p> <p>Andreas introduced the AGM Meeting and reflected that the .</p>	
6.	<p>Issues Requiring a Decision</p> <p>a) Finance</p> <p>Ciaran took the group through the EFFC financial statement from October 2021. Ciaran stated that we had not spent as much this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and we have a surplus rather than a deficit. There is currently a 16k surplus in the special projects.</p> <p>Ciaran ran through the budget for 2021 and 2022.</p> <p>For 2022 we are budgeting for a surplus of around €555 in the general fund covering the running costs of the EFFC.</p> <p>Forecast numbers for the special projects fund allowed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • €5,000 for the Rig Safety Standard, however it is expected this work should be concluded in 2021 • €3,000 for the carbon calculator, DFI have also committed €3,000 a year for basic upkeep for 2022. • An allowance has been made for the Trailer Insurance costs for the EFFC owns for the Support Fluids Project. • Funding for working platforms has been set at €27,000 assuming the Executive approve this cost and project • €7,000 expenditure for the Berlin conferences based on 2018 expenses covering travel and the costs of publicity materials. • EFFC Rig Operators License €5,000. This is a small allowance for any incidental costs from the project. It is hoped that EU shall provide substantial funding. <p>Overall deficit €9,572 however there is a large amount in the Special Projects fund to cover this eventuality.</p> <p>EFFC subscription will remain the same.</p> <p>Resolution: That the 2020 Accounts for the EFFC shall be formally adopted. Bob Thompson and Maurice Bottiau formally proposed and seconded the accounts for adoption.</p> <p>b) Confirmation of the Officers</p> <p>Andreas Körbler will remain as the President for another year and France will take over in October 2022.</p> <p>c) Appointment of a new Officer</p> <p>Ciaran stated that a position for a new officer will become available at the next AGM as José Candela shall come to the end of his time as an Officers of the EFFC. A replacement shall be voted for at the next AGM meeting. Executive Committee members from National Federations were asked to put themselves .</p> <p>Andreas mentioned to the group that if they're interested in putting themselves forward then contact Ciaran Jennings.</p>	

	<p>Andreas asked Ciaran to send an email the Executive with a deadline of February 2022 to put themselves forward as a potential officer.</p>	<p>Secretary</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>DFI-EFFC International Conference, Berlin 2022</p> <p>Andreas stated that he had been struggling to get any information on the format for the day.</p> <p>Ciaran report that the events is coming together but that we are running tight for time. We have secured a number of mega projects to present at the event. These were very successful previously in Rome and were included at the request of the EFFC in order to create more interest from EFFC contractor members.</p> <p>We would like to see more support from the DFI members in America but so far, we have not had any papers from them.</p> <p>Sustainability has been a key focus for this conference from the EFFC, DFI do have a sustainability group, but they are at least 5 years behind us, it is likely they will have a similar roadmap in the future but have not developed this yet.</p> <p>Ciaran shared the preliminary budget for the Berlin Conference and stated that the numbers have not been confirmed but they are a best guess based on previous years.</p> <p>The DFI will take 75% of the profits which is estimated to be around €34,576 EFFC profit will be 25% of the profit that will be roughly €11,525,</p> <p>Ciaran reported to the group that there had been arising fears about holding the conference and whether or not it should be postponed by 6-12 months due to possible risks from the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Bob Thompson asked if we could model it and what kind of financial loss we could face if the conference is cancelled?</p> <p>Ciaran reiterated that it would be a case of postponing the conference rather than cancelling it ,but we would have knowledge of the costs involved as the budget we currently have is a 'best guess' without firm costs as yet.</p> <p>Andreas agreed that it would be hard to know the costs as not all costs have been covered and we would need to speak with Theresa to have a better indication of the costs involved and consequently the possibility of losses.</p> <p>Maurice stated that we would need the opinion of the organising committee to get a grasp on the situation in Berlin. His expectation was that by May the situation should be sufficiently improved to go ahead. It may be worth reevaluating in February or March, but we need to consider how difficult it is to postpone a conference, it might be worth creating a hybrid event if it looks like there will be wide-spread disruption to the event.</p> <p>Andreas agreed but pointed out that this may be our first physical event since the lockdown, and it would be beneficial to keep it physical.</p>	

	<p>Jim De Weale suggested that we could put mandatory testing in place. Andreas pointed out that most countries already have some form of mandatory testing in place.</p> <p>Boris Lübtow also commented that there is strict testing in place in Germany. Boris also expressed concerns about US members physically not coming as this would impact the financial aspects but even with the risks we should still go ahead.</p> <p>Serge Borel agreed but pointed out that leaving a decision until February or March would be too late and we would need to make a decision before that time, but things are likely to be better by May.</p> <p>Andreas and Ciaran suggested that Theresa should be invited to the next Executive Meeting for further discussion.</p> <p>Jaap added that a physical conference had been held in his country that was fully booked as there is a lot of enthusiasm to meet in person again and many already have this day in their calendars. Maurice also suggested that registrations may come late as many may be waiting to see the state of things closer to the time. Jaap agreed and added that there may be less flights as well which could also have an impact on physical attendance.</p> <p>Boris stated that they would advertise the conference heavily and admitted that there is a certain risk, but we should push ahead.</p> <p>Serge asked the group what would happen if the DFI do not wish to risk the cost? Maurice stated that he felt there was no reason for this to happen.</p> <p>Andreas added that we need to stay optimistic. Boris agreed and stated that we need to show that we are ready to go ahead with no doubts.</p> <p>Chris closed the conversation by stating that interest is currently very low from conversations that he has had with others and that the conference has not been well publicised. We do stand the risk that many will want to attend online which means each attendee will pay less and result in a smaller profit. This possible loss needs to be given greater consideration and more work needs to be done on the budget.</p>	<p>Ciaran Jennings</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>EFFC Rig-Operator License Scheme</p> <p>a) Overview</p> <p>Jaap reported that on the 9th of July they ran a practical test of the exam that was very successful. This has been presented to FIEC who had some concerns about the scheme being called a 'License' and were worried that it would incite the trade unions to demand more. We are still waiting for information from FIEC on the next steps.</p> <p>Jaap also reported that the Dutch and Belgian Federations had managed to establish a bilateral understanding and acceptance of each other's qualifications. Maurice added that it is great to see that it can be done and thanked Jaap for his efforts to achieve this.</p> <p>b) Group discussion</p>	

	<p>Andreas asked Jaap when we could expect answers from FIEC Jaap indicated that it could be between 2-3 months, Ciaran added that he has chased but has not received any answers yet.</p> <p>Andreas, Ciaran and Jaap agreed to meet separately to discuss further.</p>	<p>Ciaran Jennings Andreas Körbler Jaap Estié</p>
9.	<p>EFFC Strategy Document</p> <p>a) Overview</p> <p>Ciaran ran through the EFFC strategy document. He stated that support for the sustainability roadmap and support for the rig operation licence is needed to advance those initiatives.</p> <p>Ciaran further stated that there have been mixed feelings around ECG (Early Careers Group) as some Federations feel it is not a top priority. However, some of the larger federations see the benefit of investing in an ECG. We should be encouraging federations to identify young and dynamic people that can benefit from the ECG and who can contribute to the EFFC.</p> <p>Work is also ongoing around working platforms and we can all support each other with this.</p> <p>Webinars have been a great tool although there have been issues with language barriers, and we do have routinely high attendance of 300+.</p> <p>Ciaran asked the group to send their feedback and formal commitment to the Strategy Document.</p> <p>b) Group Discussion and approval</p> <p>Andreas asked Ciaran to send out a reminder with a deadline of Monday 24th January.</p>	<p>Ciaran Jennings</p>
10.	<p>Associate Membership Presentation: Bauer Maschinen</p> <p>Bauer Maschinen were unable to present this will roll over to the next Executive or AGM meeting.</p>	
11.	<p>Break</p>	
12	<p>Sustainability KPI Reporting</p> <p>a) Presentation of KPI reporting plan (& WG update)</p> <p>Chris presented to the group highlighting the roadmap that has been previously circulated.</p> <p>Chris continued to go over the COP26 update, emphasising that we are looking to achieve a carbon net zero by 2050, non-financial reporting will become mandatory by 2023 and that GFANZ (Glasgow Financial Alliance to achieve Net Zero) committed funds of £130 trillion over the next few years to achieve these goals.</p> <p>The Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive will be coming into force in 2023 across the EU this means that companies will need to report on Scope 1, Scope 2 and elements of Scope 3 if they have more than 250 employees or a 20 million turnover.</p> <p>The EFFC are trying to offer support to smaller companies with producing these figures which will also help them to see where they</p>	

	<p>sit in the grand scheme of things as well as helping them reduce their carbon output.</p> <p>The SWG would like Member companies to provide scope 1 and 2 in absolute measures (as laid out on slide 9) as these will be required anyway under the CSRD and if you have any for scope 3 then it can be added but it is not essential. It was suggested running a pilot of 10x small, 10x medium and 10x large companies and currently we are drafting a 'how to guide' and focusing on the 4 P's plant, presentation, people, and platforms.</p> <p>b) Group Discussion</p> <p>Jim asked if other European countries are taking a similar stance. Maurice pointed out that this will vary from country to country, but did not see it happening in Belgium.</p> <p>Andreas added that he imagines that it will be customer driven.</p> <p>Benjamin pointed out that France is already fully in line with this. He reported that there was a commitment of civil engineering contractors to reduce by 40% eCO2 for 2030: https://acteurspouurlaplanete.fntp.fr/manifesto/#ancree1</p> <p>Dejan reported that Switzerland is already covering all 3 scopes within their sustainability standard and hopes that the carbon calculator results can be published soon. He continued that we should be concentrating on other issues outside of carbon as it is not the only consideration.</p> <p>Chris pointed out that as per the roadmap carbon is the focus for 2021 and other issues will be tackled as the years roll on. Dejan asked how we intend to get all the federations to cooperate.</p> <p>Jaap added that we could exchange old engines for new ones. Concrete and steel are providing 80-90% of the carbon over other designs.</p> <p>Bob suggested to go through the EFFC to the lead on this and pass it to the Federations directly. Ciaran added that it would be possible to use software such as Power BI to provide a means for Federations to submit their data and aggregate it from everyone.</p> <p>It was agreed that the pilot should proceed with a number of volunteer companies initially. It was also agreed that data should be kept anonymous in the reporting and analysis of it and that the EFFC should not go beyond what is commonly required to report at the moment in order not to burden contractors.</p>	
13.	<p>Working Group Presentations</p> <p>a) Working Platforms</p> <p>Jim De Waele addressed the group about a new proposal for some research and development work on testing methods for working platforms. He explained the original proposal to the DFI came in three parts, the first part was about the testing of working platforms, the second was about how we investigate track pressures and part three was about comparing the various design methods that we use. Originally, the DFI was asking for an investment of €120,000 in the</p>	

initial proposal but this was not brought the EFFC as it was not well structured and did not clearly layout how the funds would be spent. The proposal has now been simplified into specific research regarding working platforms.

Jim reported updates on working platforms to the group. It has completed rig track pressure testing in Poland and in the US, both papers will be presented at the Berlin conference in 2022.

The group has looked at plate load testing in terms of validating the design parameters that we use for working platforms and there has been some work in Stuttgart and Hamburg Universities on the development analysis of rig tracker and a comparison of design methods. This will also be brought to the Berlin conference.

The Task Group is now seeking €54,000 half from the DFI and half from the EFFC to fund testing research in the US and Europe. We would also like the EFFC to discuss the working platform committee and to draw up any cross agreements that may need to be written up and agreed between the DFI and the EFFC and we would like to have the EFFC commitment at the Berlin conference.

Andreas asked if this was in the budget, Ciaran confirmed that €27,000 has been set aside in the budget.

b) Contracts

Federico Trevisani presented directly to the group with a presentation.

The major issues the WG is looking to address are retention policies, digitalisation and collaborative contracting and the general conditions for specialised work.

The Group has been looking at issues around cash retention and have drafted a position paper that had been agreed with the CWG but is subject to final review from the Officers/Executives, but we are looking to publish early 2022.

There is a lack of knowledge around digitisation in the Federations as well as data sharing being a common issue. We have an aim to create a brief presentation that can be shared with the National Federations to outline major activities and matters that are being discussed at a European level. The other goal we wish the task group to achieve is to produce a position paper around the risks around data sharing.

A document has been drafted for conditions of contracts which has been approved by the CWG but again still needs to be approved by the Officers/Executives.

A document around COVID-19 guidance has been drafted but still needs to be shared with the CWG.

New topics that we will be looking at will be reusing foundations, CSRD and the future implications which we can work with the SWG and guidelines for joint ventures.

c) Health and Safety

Lorenzo began his presentation and highlighted that the next health and safety webinar will be held on Thursday 2nd December and a

second one will be held on the 15th with another session in the new year.

The H&SWG have created the 'Health and Safety Golden rules' which is available on the website. It is looking at introducing a free training programme for non-technical skills that are key for safety on a job site e.g. Communication skills, leadership, teamwork etc.

Lorenzo highlighted that EFFF members can attend virtual training for accident investigation that will be held on 20th January 2022. Lorenzo asked if the EFFF template for PowerPoint can be updated.

Lorenzo also asked if the size of the Health and Safety WG could be reduced as it is often the same 4-5 people inputting with minimal attendance.

Andreas added that it would be good to start an initiative to increase attendance to all WG.

d) Technical

David Hard addressed the group with a presentation.

David highlighted the progress has been slow due to the pandemic, but significant progress has been made.

Ground Freezing Execution Standards has had problems and there are less members of the TWG involved now but they are looking to restart this piece of work.

Standards for diaphragm walls and bored piles are being revised and will be taken to the CEN/CT288 meeting in July.

The TWG are working to update the concrete code appendix relating to geotechnical works a draft was issued and 17 pages of comments were received which are still being worked through.

Watertightness of retaining walls editorial group plan to meet in January 2022 to finalise the guide that will then be circulated. Similar documents are currently on hold until the approval of the diaphragm wall document.

The TWG member are also currently involved with the DFI/EFFF working platform guide. The groups main desire is to have more information on how to design working platforms.

e) Early Careers

Ciaran Jennings presented on David Major's behalf.

ECG have spoken to Denmark, Holland, Spain and the UK on their work and understanding of the current arrangements within each Federation.

A session was held in August to discuss the EFFF early careers network to invite members onto established working groups and are currently still awaiting candidates.

The ECG plans for next year to have 3-4 catch ups a year with the chairs of established federation ECGs, invite federations without ECGs to explore the option to develop one and to integrate with other WG across the EFFF.

	<p>f) Support Fluids</p> <p>Chris reported that there was not a great deal to share but noted that there are four sites in Europe that need to be tested, but progress has been slowed greatly due to the pandemic.</p>	
14.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>No other business to be discussed.</p>	
15.	<p>Date of the next meeting</p> <p>Andreas asked the group when the next meetings will be held.</p> <p>Ciaran said that the next meeting will be held in April on the 7th-8th originally the plan was to go to Sweden but they are unable to accommodate us.</p> <p>Tamás offered that Budapest in Hungary as an option. Ciaran and Tamas agreed to discuss and plan.</p> <p>Ciaran continued that the next meeting after that would be Wednesday 2nd June, which would be held virtually starting at 1pm (CET) for 3hrs.</p> <p>The next meeting after that will be 13th – 14th October in Paris.</p>	<p>Ciaran Jennings Tamás Kaltenbcher</p>