
MINUTES of EDTC 2017 ANNUAL MEETING

LINZ, AUSTRIA



Place: WIFI OÖ GmbH, Wiener Straße 150, 4021 Linz, AUSTRIA
Date: 05-06 October 2017

AGENDA

5th October 2016, Thursday

17:00-18:00	EDTC Board Meeting "Ibis Hotel"	EDTC Board
19:30-23:00	DINNER , <u>Klosterhof Restaurant</u>	All

6th October 2016, Friday

09:30-09:35	Welcome	Chairman Jörn Ryberg
09:35-09:45	Introductory presentation by Host Country and Safety and Security Information	Host
09:45-10:10	EDTC Admin Matters List of Apologies EDTC membership Summary	Secretary Akın Savas Toklu
10:10-10:30	Chairman's report	Chairman

	Summary of actions from 2016 Annual Meeting	Jörn Ryberg
10:30-11:00	COFFEE BREAK	
11:00-11:30	Reports from the Medical Subcommittee	MedSub Chairman Jurg Wendling
11:30-12:00	Reports from Workgroup-1 "to do an inventory"	Chairman of WG-1 Jörn Ryberg
12:00-12:30	Reports from Workgroup-2 "Personnel Competence Standards"	Chairman of WG-2 Olav Hauso
12:30-13:30	LUNCH	
13:30-13:50	EDTC Workshop at EU Level in 2018	R. Vanden Eede
13:50-14:30	National reports FRANCE ITALY ITALY SWEDEN SWITZARLAND UK	National reports Eric Albier Giovanni Esentato Pasquale Longobardi Staffan Littorin Jurg Wendling Phil Crombie
14:30-15:00	COFFEE BREAK	
15:00-15:30	Elections "For the positions of Jörn Ryberg & Jean Lelievre"	All
15:30-16:00	Any other business, Next Meeting	All
16:00-16:20	Closing remarks	Chairman Jörn Ryberg

7th October 2016, Saturday

11:00-13:00 City Tour **All**

THOSE PRESENT

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Name:	Representing:	Note:
Jörn Ryberg	SWEDEN	Chairman
Akin Savas Toklu	TURKEY	Secretary
Phil Crombie	UK	Treasurer
Jean Lelievre	FRANCE	Member Executive Board
Jurg Wendling	SWITZERLAND	Member Executive Board

HOST

Werner Philip Austria

MEMBERS COUNTRY

Akin Savas Toklu	TURKEY
Andrejs Cernavskis	LATVIA
Carlos Barosa	PORTUGAL
Claus MAYER	GERMANY
Daniel Larsson	SWEDEN
David Parkes	CANADA
Eric Albier	FRANCE
Frank Werner	GERMANY

Giovanni Esentato	ITALY
Ing.Ondrej Brozka	CZECH REPUBLIC
Jean Lelievre	FRANCE
Jörn Ryberg	SWEDEN
Jürg Wendling	SWITZERLAND
Leif Morten Rasch	NORWAY
Margo Purru	ESTONIA
Martin Heer	NORWAY
Olav Hauso	NORWAY
Pasquale Longobardi	ITALY
Pavel Macura	CZECH REPUBLIC
Peter Sienkiewicz	UK
Phil Crombie	UK
Pieter-Jan van Ooij	NETHERLAND
Robert Gatt	ADAS
Roland Vanden Eed	BELGIUM
Rui Manuel Zambujo Madeira	PORTUGAL
S. Murat Egi	TURKEY
Staffan Littorin	SWEDEN
Vitalijs Cernavskis	LATVIA
Warren Mallon	SOUTH AFRICA
Werner Philip	AUSTRIA

GUESTS and OBSERVERS

COUNTRY

David Fishwick	UK
Steve Forman	UK
Bjarne Sandvik	NORWAY
Arne Sieber	AUSTRIA

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

COUNTRY

Frantisek Novomesky	SLOVAK REPUBLIC
Grzegor Bernaciak	POLAND
Jacek Kot	POLAND
Krzysztof Stopierzyński	POLAND
Joar Gangenes	NORWAY
Jordi Desola	SPAIN
Mats Hagberg	SWEDEN
Peter S. Ric-Hansen	DENMARK
Phil Bryson	UK
Zeljko Dujic	CROATIA
Roswitha Prohaska	AUSTRIA
Zeljko Dujic	CROATIA
Leo Legarde	THE NETHERLAND

WELCOME ADDRESS

The Chairman Jörn Ryberg opened the EDTC 2017 meeting welcoming the members. He thanked Werner Philipp for hosting the 2017 EDTC Annual Meeting. Werner Philipp informed the participants about the facility WIFI Linz (Detail is included Annex 1). He also informed the members about the day's program, coffee breaks and lunch.

Chairmen asked the members to show themselves and make a short self-introduction, since there were several new members joined to EDTC.

EDTC ADMIN MATTERS

Secretary gave brief history of EDTC annual meetings, mentioning the date and place of previous meetings. He has listed the apologies, guests and participants as above. He reported that Petr Andrt replaced by Jaroslav Sot for the membership representing industry in Czech Republic, Staffan Littorn came back representing Government for Sweden, Frantisek Novomesi from Slovak Republic resigned.

Akin S. Toklu informed the participants about the vacant memberships and passive members. He asked the members to assist on finding new active members for the vacant positions. Secretary also indicated the status of annual membership payments.

Secretary finished his report by giving information about the election and thanking to the host for organizing EDTC 2017 Meeting. The detail about the secretary report can be seen in Annex 2.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman, Jörn Ryberg started his report summarizing the activities had been done during the period since EDTC 2016 Meeting in Tallinn. He reminded that EDTC Board meetings have been carried out regularly with about three-month intervals. He mentioned about the discussions with Unit of Health, safety and hygiene at work (HSHW) at EU level, relations with International Safety and Health Construction Co-ordinators' Organisation (ISHCCO) and he European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA). He indicated that the new EDTC document on policy for guidance for how to co-operate with associations, companies and other organizations is very useful. The policy was used well when several companies approached to EDTC. Chairmen added information about the activities of EDTC Medical Subcommittee (EDTC MedSub) and the workgroups. EDTC MedSub was very active and established the relation with Diving Medical Advisory Committee (DMAC) and EDTC MedSub made annual meeting during European Underwater and Baromedical Society (EUBS) meeting in Ravenna on 13-16 September 2017. He noted that EDTC MedSub has been working on updating training standards for diving and hyperbaric medicine and Jurg Wendling is going to present the report of MedSub. The tasks of three workgroups were; revising the document on competence standards, doing an inventory on legislation and regulations from different member countries, and working for a workshop will be held during HSHW/SLIC meeting in 2018. He noted Olav Hauso is going to make a presentation about what has been done for updating competence standards.

Chairman explained the aim of the activities by showing some statistics about diving fatalities from diving industry. He informed the members how participants were surprized during SLIC MACHEX Meeting when he shown statistics about fatalities.

Jörn Ryberg reminded the update of Directive 2005/36/EC on the recognition of professional qualification that included diving as recognized profession, thus a diver with a professional certificate can travel all along Europe as a consequence of the free movement and perform his/hers profession. He discussed the potential issues that might arise from free movement of divers. Chairman presented the database that can be reached online, and includes the list of regulated professions in Europe (Detail can be reached in Annex 3).

Chairman noted that it was possible to compare the legislations/regulations among European countries by the inventory done by Workgroup 1. There were huge differences between the countries. He emphasized the value of cooperation with different parties and collaboration such as inspectors, authorities, contractors etc., for spreading knowledge and awareness. He also added the importance of coordination at European level as EDTC, an independent forum. Therefore, the workshop that will be held during HSHW/SLIC meeting in 2018 is important to form minimum standards for all over Europe.

You can see the detail of chairman report in Annex 3.

REPORT FROM THE MEDICAL SUBCOMMITTEE

Jürg Wendling reported that EDTC MedSub met during the EUBS Annual Meeting on 13rd September 2017 in Ravenna. He has given information about databank of diving medical doctors and made demonstration on the web site of the database. Olav Hauso (PSA Norway) opposed the idea of EDTC getting involved in establishing a database for diver medicals. In more general terms he challenged the idea that EDTC should be involved in operational matters, as opposed to stipulating framework/guidance documents. Jürg Wendling explained that the medical certification should be done according to EDTC standards, by doctors trained according to EDTC training standards, but each country may apply their own rules as an addition. There was also disagreement on using EDTC logo, at the interface of databank on website, and as a conclusion the idea of using a text instead logo, that explains the databank based on EDTC standard.

Jürg Wendling asked the members from industry and authorities to review the databank and give feedback if they wish some additional features, by adding that the inputs would be valuable.

He informed the members that the standards for education and training of medical doctors in diving medicine need to be revised. He noted that the standard is not a standard solely belongs to EDTC, but a standard should be based on consensus with the European Committee for Hyperbaric Medicine (ECHM). He explained the differences between doctors dealing with hyperbaric medicine, that meant the doctors practising hyperbaric oxygen treatment, and the doctors dealing with diving medicine that meant the doctors examining the divers and taking care of divers on diving spot. Dr. Wendling has given the detail about the competence levels, procedures for certifying and recertifying a doctor, mentioning about the modules covered in training, and assessment procedures.

Jürg Wendling finished his report by giving information about the revision of ECHM-EDTC Educational and Training Standards for Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine issued 2011. He informed the members that intended revision will be finalized in one year and will be approved by EDTC SubMed during the Tricontinental Meeting (EUBS, SPUMS, SAUHMA, <http://www.tricon2018.org/>)

The detail about the report from the EDTC MedSub can be seen in Annex 4.

REPORTS FROM WORKGROUPS

Report from Workgroup-1, “to do an inventory” by Jörn Ryberg, Chairman of Workgroup-1;

Jörn Ryberg thanked members of Workgroup-1 from nine different countries as seen in Annex 5. He continued explaining content of the report and the triangle of basics and the relation to EDTC documents. In the triangle “principles” located at the top of the triangle that corresponds to EDTC document “goal setting principles”, and followed by “Guidance and/or Details”, “Rules and Regulations” and “Education and/or Training” to the base of the triangle.

Chairman described the objective of the Workgroup-1 as; researching amongst existing rules/regulations/guidance to avoid “re-inventing the wheel” and making cross-references allowing to find the level that can be accepted by everyone. He noted that there were 22 countries to be investigated and 9 delegates shared the workload of the task, and gave detail about the achievement and results. There were answers from 18 countries out of 22 countries and there was large variation all over Europe. Jörn Ryberg detailed the inventory by explaining

divisions by topics and chapters with reference to existing EDTC documents (goal setting principles and others) such as; “aim of the standard (offshore-inshore)”, “medical examinations (fitness to dive)”, “Education/Training of Diving MD’s (ECHM-EDTC Educational and Training Standards)” and so on (See Annex 5). Then he presented the results chapter by chapter. As a summary he noted most countries have some kind of rules/regulations related to the diving industry, many have it within different parts of legislation and only in general terms. Some of those rules/regulations are under development or very basic. He added the inventory has highlighted the fact that there was huge difference within Europe at level within rules and regulations. He concluded that there were many parties that provide guidance, all with very good intention, but there was no co-ordination. The he took attention to the cross references within different EDTC documents, for the inventory.

Jörn Ryberg finished his report emphasizing that Workgroup-1 had established very useful facts, established cross-reference between documents – guidance, established the basis of implementation for draft competence document, and made and got the data for collaboration with The Unit of Health, Safety & Hygiene at Work.

Detail about the report can be reached in Annex 5.

Report from Workgroup-2 “Personnel Competence Standards” by Olav Hauso, Chairman of Workgroup-2;

Olav Hauso, chairman of the workgroup noted that the task of Workgroup-1, “inventory” is very important and it will allow EDTC to show EC where we are and what challenges are waiting.

He reported that Workgroup-2 consisted of seven member from HSE/UK, Italy, Sweden, France, IMCA, IDSA and PSA/Norway and he described the task of Workgorup-2 as an update of Diving Industry Personnel Competence Standards that has been issued in 2003 that obviously needed a revision after 14 years. At the moment “diving” is included in relevant EU directive on work qualifications. This update was needed for keeping a broad perspective on the work of EDTC, preparing a document that will support the Directive as a harmonized understanding of requirements, producing document to support nations that have no/little experience in training diving personnel to the EDTC level, using references to other recognised organisations and standards. The document should be a high level standard rather than minimum standard and represent the necessary guidance for training and the comparing of competence. Workgroup-2 used the document issued in 2003 as basis, kept the same structure and large part of this document is still valid. In the updated competence standards intermediate/sub levels of descriptions to give guidance on how to achieve the higher level goals were introduced. He added that the update also introduced references to recognised standards for more details. He stated that during the revision references to IMCA documents were extensively used and some additions were done on Appendix for more detailed level of training descriptions.

Olav Hauso has shown some parts from updated draft such as “4.2 Commercial SCUBA diver”, “4.3 Surface Supplied Diver (inshore)”, “4.4 Surface Supplied Diver (offshore)” and he gave detailed information about relevant Appendix on recommended details of requirements for surface oriented diver training (See Annex 6). He also shown the section “4.5 Closed Bell/Saturation diver (offshore)” and Appendix on recommended details of requirements for bell diver training.

He finalized the report mentioning the achievement done that can be seen in detail in Annex 6.

EDTC WORKSHOP at EU LEVEL in 2018

Roland Vanden Eede informed members there will be 20 min time for EDTC to make a presentation during SLIC Machex 2018. In this 20 minutes it is indented to present what is EDTC, objectives of the organisation, what are the issues, the achievements reached to date, what can be done for cooperation with EC. He gave brief information about the content of the presentation that will be prepared for SLIC Machex meeting (See Annex 7). He summarized the issues of commercial diving in Europe, such as mobile employees and divers encounter because of large variety of national regulations, standards and industry guidelines which apply to Commercial Diving, and the issues that arise because of lack of coordination at European level.

He continued his presentation explaining the aim and program of the EDTC Workshop that was planned to be held during SLIC Machex 2018 at EU Level. He noted the Workshop was intended to be an interactive workshop with SLIC delegates, EDTC members and perhaps some other invited participants. In the previous meeting SLIC Machex meetings there were two questions arose; the first question was : how can an enterprise select a particular diving contractor and on what formal basis?, and the second question was how do enforcement authorities perform an inspection at a dive site? EDTC will try to give answers to these questions, by guidance documents and checklists. Jürg Wendling asked about the date of workshop, when he was answered as March 2018, he commented that the time left was very short (Detail can be seen in Annex 7 and Annex 8)

NATIONAL REPORTS

FRANCE (Eric Albier)

Eric Albier started his report by giving some statistics; There were 17 fatalities in recreational diving. The number of certificates delivered in 2016 was 1125, which was 1096 certificates in 2015 as the detail seen in Annex 9. He also gave information about the update of legislation in France; He noted 3 schools are authorized to run air courses and added all schools have to be accredited in 2018 (before 1st January 2019). The companies dealing with hyperbaric works also have to be accredited till July 2019. He finished his report by comparing the old and new regulation on training, educational team, educational content, certificates, crossing over and database. The details about the report can be reached in Annex 9.

ITALY (Giovanni Esentato)

Giovanni Esentato noted since there was need for safety rules for diving and hyperbaric operations at European level EDTC was founded in 1973. He added it was fortunate there is still no single and shared security rule for all countries in EU till now. He gave information about the legislation issued 2010, "UNI 11366" that defines the standard for safety in divers and staff works under hyperbaric condition. He added it became statutory law in all offshore underwater works under the Decree of the President of the Republic of 24 May 1979, No. 886. A law that has produced a high level of safety for underwater and hyperbaric personnel who, however, as a national law does not apply to those contracts that take place outside of Italy, and therefore rules and guidelines recognized by companies and contracts such as IMCA should be applied. There is nothing to excuse the IMCA's excellent guidelines but they are not universally recognized by EU Member States that apply their own laws in their territory that are often in conflict with or incompatible with the IMCA guidelines. It is therefore necessary to work so that there can be a standard of rules and rules that are conditional and unique at Community level. In Italy, the Italian Diving Enterprises Association is working on the promulgation of a national law that makes UNI 11366 standard mandatory in all areas of work, offshore as in onshore and ports. Currently Norm 11366 is under review and this work will be based on the EDTC Standard which we consider to be consistent and suitable to be also a mandatory law of the Italian State. He noted somehow this is not published on the EDTC institutional site, as is the case for other countries that have national government laws. He commented probably that was because of the problem in communication. Giovanni Esentato requested that Italy should be listed in the website of EDTC, among the countries who had national regulation on professional diving. He finalized his report declaring that they are ready for cooperation to achieve a common European law among all European Union countries.

ITALY (Pasquale Longobardi)

Pasquale Longobardi informed the member about the network of diving medicine physicians, "dive doctor" giving medical assistance to Italian diving contractors. Network includes **59** physicians and **15** nurses expert in diving medicine. He has explained types of medical assistance has been given by the network (See Annex 10). He added educational and training standards for physicians in diving medicine at universities of Catania, Padua, Pisa and Varese. He presented reference diving contractors used "Dive_Doctor" for medical Assistance and showed

some statistics covered the period 2009-2017; the total days of medical assistance at dive site was 5.679. The total amount paid for physicians and nurses was 1.726.450 €. He also shown the distribution of the type of problems in which the share of diving diseases was 10 percent. Pasquale Longobardi gave detail about Azeri-Chirag-Gunashli (ACG) deepwater project as the detail can be seen Annex 10. He finished his report by informing the participants about Concordia Parbuckling Project, Mose Project, Mosul Dam Project, activities of Impresub (IDMC) Subsea Offshore Services, tunneling by TBM, scientific diving activities, seafood and aquaculture diving. Please see Annex 10 for the detail of the report.

SWITZERLAND (Jurg Wendling)

Jürk Wendling made a presentation on Diving Medical Advisory Committee (DMAC), not about Switzerland. He noted that IMCA gives advices and prepares guidance notes on diving medicine and safety, for offshore industry. He explained that at the moment EDTC is being presented in DMAC by himself and vice versa. He added that DMAC approves, together with the EDTC Medical Subcommittee, medical training courses for Level 1 or Level 2D doctors worldwide that may be considered as an external audit and the group is linked to the IDMEB of the University of Pisa and approved courses are published on the DMAC homepage. Jurg Wendling noted that two guidance notes had been reviewed and would be republished on the DMAC homepage; DMAC 13 Guidance on resume diving after accidents and DMAC 07 Flying after diving. He added a joint industry project report has been endorsed and published on the DMAC homepage concerning “Emergency life support equipment for commercial diving operations” and two workshop on “nutrition and saturation diving” and “emergency decompression procedures” were held. The detail about the presentation can be reached in Annex 11.

SWEDEN (Staffan Littorin)

Staffan Littorin presented two case reports of diving accident within the Armed Forces. In the first case, pulmonary barotrauma (PBT) symptoms occurred during underwater escape training and the soldier was flown to hospital with recompression chamber and received treatment. He added investigation was still ongoing. The second case was also a PBT case who performed hard work during a wet bell diving and performed several rapid ascents/descents from the depths between 32-40 meters. During the eventful dive the diver reported PBT symptoms during decompression. Recompression treatment started on site and continued at hospital He noted the diver is still not fully recovered. He also gave information regarding problems with diving equipment used by EOD-divers previously reported. Investigation revealed that the content of oxygen decreased at hypoxic level, while filling the breathing gas (Nitrox) to the composite storage bottles.

UK (Phil Crombie)

Phil Crombie started his report by giving information about diving accidents/incidences, injuries and dangerous occurrences; There was one fatality that occurred during on a PADI Deep Diver course. There were 5 injuries 3 in recreational diving, 1 shellfish diver and 1 offshore diver. There were 5 offshore and 4 inland/inshore dangerous occurrences (detail can be seen in Annex 12). He also gave information about enforcements; There were three prohibition notices; one for recreational and two for shellfish diving activities. The number of improvement notice was 14; 9 of the notices were regarding shellfish diving and 5 for inland/inshore diving. There was one prosecution about a diver died while collecting golf balls in a lake. The detail about this event is included in Annex 12. Phil Crombie mentioned about carbon monoxide poisoning in a SCUBA diving class. He continued his report by mentioning about changes in legislation, practices and/or arrangements. He described criteria for approval of diving qualification. He also updated diver training and gave some statistics about number of divers gaining qualification and certificates issued. The detail about the presentation can be seen in Annex 12.

ELECTIONS

The Secretary announced that there were two nominations for the positions of Jörn Ryberg from Switzerland and Jean Lelievre from France, in EDTC Board. The nominations were Jörn Ryberg and Jean Lelievre, therefore they were re-elected as board members.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS, NEXT MEETING, VENUE AND DATE

The host country of the next EDCT meeting was announced as Romania, based on the demand came from Romanian members. The exact date and place would be announced later.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & CLOSING REMARKS

Chairman thanked to host for organizing EDTC 2017 and announced that the meeting time is 10:00 o'clock for city tour next day. He closed the meeting wishing to meet all the members next year in Romania.

Report compiled by Akin S. Toklu