

# EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF CORROSION Working Party « CATHODIC PROTECTION » (EFC WP 16)

## Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting September 8<sup>th</sup>, Lisbon, Portugal

### Welcome, Apologies

The meeting was opened by M. Roche, who shortly presented the Working Party. After the usual apologies for the people who could not attend the meeting and the attendance list for those who could (see in [appendix 1](#)), the intended agenda (as depicted in the invitation, see [appendix 2](#)) started the session.

X. Campaignolle (Gaz de France) accepted to be the secretary for this meeting.

As there were not that many attendees (13), Marcel Roche briefly commented on the difficulties to cooperate with CEOCOR: there is a sort of a “competition” between EFC WP16 and CEOCOR. Unfortunately, at this time, most of the persons interested in CP would rather attend the CEOCOR Conferences than the Eurocorr’s and the EFC WP16 meetings.

### Approval of the minutes of the 10th meeting held in Nice, France, on September 14<sup>th</sup> 2004

The minutes were approved without modification.

### Status of prEN 15257 (CP personnel certification)

#### Update on the topic, by Marcel Roche ([see appendix 3](#))

The activity started with EFC WP16 in 1998. The first report was issued in May 2001: “*qualification and certification in the field of cathodic protection: present situation and possible European scheme*”. Already at the end of 2000, it leads to a consensus to launch CEN TC219 WG5. The later prepares a standard for “qualification and certification for CP personnel”. It is now on the technical enquiry stage.

An overview of the certification activities in Europe was presented:

**France** (CFPC) launched a certification for personnel in 1998. 134 certificates have been attributed since 2001. Most of them concern the buried structures sector. An AFNOR standard is in preparation on certification of services.

About 100 certifications for buried structures have been granted in **Italy**.

In **Netherlands**, there is also a certification procedure, and about 30 levels 2 have been released. Certification has been going for 2 years. Level 3 is now starting with a few candidates.

NOTE: It would be interesting that all countries keep Marcel Roche informed of their certification statistics so that an European update could be issued once a year, during the working group annual meeting.

Overseas, **NACE** has now four levels of CP certification, as they introduced the CP technologist level (in addition to tester, technician and specialist). An international standard will be difficult to achieve in the future.

## **Discussion on the future European standard**

The future European Standard will put together a framework allowing independent national certification bodies to operate with demonstrated equivalences of the competence. An enquiry, prEN 15257, (English, French and German) is now going on. It is to be completed by September 20, 2005.

There will be a possibility for a delegated body, authorized and verified by the certification body. 3 levels of competence with a detailed definition of tasks will be considered. 4 possible application sectors (land, marine, concrete and internal apparatus) are to be used.

There will be a formal examination for levels 1 & 2. However, for level 3, a competence assessment, based on the presentation of a documented case to an assessment committee will be required. The common preliminary acceptance criteria will be based both on education and experience. If a candidate can not provide sufficient experience, just an attestation of examination will be issued. Training is mandatory, but is to be defined by the certification body.

Agreement of the examination centers by the certification bodies is required.

The validity period of certifications is 5 years.

The European standard was quickly reviewed during the meeting with an emphasis on the minimum experience requirement for applicants without previous certification (table 2), application sectors, and tasks to be fulfilled by the various competence levels (Annex B).

## **Preparation of the work on EFC Publication on the "State of the Art" report for assessment of CP of buried pipelines**

Obviously, there is no need to discuss anymore the subject, as no progress has been made for sometime now. Indeed, it still depends on a hypothetical collaboration with CEOCOR (see previous meeting's minutes). This collaboration, up to now unsuccessful, is still under consideration and should be considered as a prerequisite for the report writing (see last year minutes).

Anyhow, the French CEFRACOR is at the present time working on recommendations on a similar subject. The report in preparation is entitled (although it is in French): "Recommendation for buried pipelines integrity evaluation by surface electrical measures". Briefly, this report will address:

- A review of the applicable standards and criteria,
- cathodic over protection,
- alternative currents corrosion, with reference to Ceocor booklet,
- measurement drawbacks and difficulties (e.g.: IR drop).

The core of the document will be on the selection of measurement methods and techniques for existing buried pipelines with and without stray currents and for the new pipelines.

The appendix will contain the descriptions of the methods.

It is to be noted that UK is working on a similar document: "specifications for CIPS surveys and integrated DCVG".

## **Other technical topics and free discussions**

X. Campagnolle from Gaz de France gave a quick presentation on preliminary results on corrosion risks underneath disbonded coatings. Those results follow those presented in Eurocorr 2004. A more complete and up to date figure will be given during the Aix-en Provence meeting in June 20-22, 2006.

As a matter of fact, Aix en Provence meeting in June 19-22, 2006 was still seeking papers. Updated information (including preliminary programme) is on CEFRACOR devoted Web site <http://www.cefracor.org/aix2006>.

## **Participation to the next events**

### **Next EFC WP16 meeting: Eurocorr 2006 in Maastricht**

Please submit papers for the session(s) on EFC Web site and subjects for discussion during the 12th EFC WP16 meeting (to be organized during the Conference) to M.Roche.

X. CAMPAIGNOLLE  
Secretary

M. ROCHE  
EFC WP 16 Chairman