

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

**Minutes of the 3rd Meeting
August 29th 1999, Aachen (EUROCORR'99)**

1. Introduction of the meeting

The meeting was opened by M. Roche reminding the topics to be discussed. The usual apologies for the people who could not attend the meeting were transmitted and an attendance list circulated (see appendix 1). 71 invitations were sent for this 3rd meeting. 20 participants signed the attendance list and presented themselves to the audience and 8 apologies for absence were registered. Xavier Campaignole (Gaz de France) accepted to be the secretary for this meeting.

A short review of the working party historic started the session. WP16, namely "Working Party on Cathodic Protection", was initiated a year ago (at Eurocorr'98 in Utrecht) by the CEFRACOR after having been supported by 12 other organizations from 10 countries. Marcel Roche (Elf) was elected as chairman, but no secretary was appointed for the time being. D.Peacock (Timet) accepted to write the first minutes of meeting but he has now indicated that he is no more interested to participate to WP16. A second meeting was held on March 16th 1999 in Paris (Elf). For those seeking more information, an article is included in the EFC Newsletter N°9 (July 1999). The activity report written for the STAC meeting held during Eurocorr'99 is given in appendix 2. The objectives and first topics treated are explained.

2. Certification of CP personnel and companies

2.1 Introduction

This is the main topic presently discussed by EFC WP 16. Collaboration with WP7 in charge of education, will be necessary. Workshops held on Certification in the corrosion control field (mainly coatings and cathodic protection) during Eurocorr'98 and 99 were reminded. During the 2nd meeting in Paris where France, Italy, UK, Poland and Belgium were represented, the attendees made a review of the existing certification schemes and confirmed the need for some homogenization. The re-activation of a CEN working group on certification of personnel limited to CP was proposed.

2.2 Overview of the current practices in the represented European countries

Spain

There is no certification at the present time, but internal qualification established by companies for their own personnel. Spain could follow other countries into the creation of some European certification, as companies are looking for certified people.

Netherlands

There is no formal certification for personnel, but there are annual audits (based on initial education and experience) for companies dealing with tanks due to pollution concerns. If there is any certification for personnel, it implies education also. Some companies have their own

training sessions (Gasunie). H. Van Bruchem (Gastec) is not in favor of an European standard on certification now. It would go too quickly. Rather, recommendations should be enough for now. For instance, a certification scheme for contractors in general which could include CP would be interesting. Then we should see about certification. Therefore, a re-activation of the CEN seems too premature. He thinks there is no risk that other countries start their own certification scheme now.

France

Certification is about to start, initiated by the CEFRACOR who created the CFPC (Conseil Français de la Protection Cathodique). There are two French AFNOR standards (published at the end of 1996) with 3 levels of certification and 4 application sectors (buried, seawater, concrete and internals). The organization is based on the EN 45013 for certification of personnel. At the present time the examination questions for level 1 for common trunk and buried structures are published, those for level 2 should be finished before the end of 1999. Work is presently carried out on seawater certification. Recently, AFNOR accepted to endorse CFPC certification process, which will be attributed under the "AFNOR Compétence" mark.

Italy

Enzo Stella, chairman of APCE, unable to attend, sent a fax to the WP16 chairman in order to update the situation exposed previously. Their certification scheme is very similar to the French, except for level 2 (which is not accepted for engineering works). There is already a UNI standard (to be approved soon) and the certification is run by APCE which organizes also training sessions. The certification code and the basic knowledge program are both published. As a first approach, the 3rd level (49 experts) have been certified on their experience and not through examination. APCE already organized 2 courses for level 2 and a training session will be organized for level 1 before the end of 1999. The 1st examination session (level 2) to be carried out by CICIPND (NDT Association) is on the way. APCE agrees for requesting a CEN WG on CP Certification and suggests that AFNOR and UNI standards are taken as basic documents.

Norway

Nobody is yet dealing with certification but problems with it are expected to come up. Recommendations would be more likely.

Croatia

Nothing exists yet. But courses are available for companies, especially shipyards. There is a need for certification in CP linked with coatings as both techniques are most of the time conjointly used. Contacts with NACE are suggested.

UK

Ch. Booker, EFC Treasurer, explained that there was an unsuccessful attempt to start some European certification in the corrosion field in 1992, but, as it was exclusively in the hands of academics, the industries did not follow. It should be now more mature and it is better to start now due to the duration of formal procedures within CEN. British Gas initiated training and internal qualification on welding, CP and coatings. After privatization, this system was taken over by the Institute of Corrosion (refer to the minutes of meeting n° 2 for more details).

Romania

Recommendations were established in the past by CP specialists of the major petrochemical companies but those are no more in activity. It is very important to focus on CP and corrosion. There is a desperate need for regulations, certification and training. Indeed, due to bad railway design and bad pipeline isolation, there are as many as 5 explosions per month due to stray currents.

Poland

About 10 companies (about 200 people) are involved in CP, but there is lack of certification presently. Interest for such a system

Switzerland

There are about 15 companies working in CP for buried tanks. There is no certification but rather education of the personnel. F.Stadler, chairman of CEOCOR Section A on CP of buried pipelines, is responsible for this training. For the pipelines, training is made in Germany. He thinks that it would be wise to write first a recommendation and then to standardize with CEN.

Germany

There is no examination but non mandatory 2/3 days courses are available. The evaluation of the personnel knowledge and skills is based on both school education and working experience. Presently, a system of accreditation of CP companies exists on the basis of the document GW11 of DVGW (Association of German Gas and Water Companies) but a more comprehensive system of training and certification is prepared and would be implemented next year. It is necessary to know this approach in more details.

Nota : For information, the NACE certification is used in Mexico.

2.3 Collaboration with the CEOCOR

F. Stadler made a short presentation of CEOCOR, European association which deals only with water or gas pipelines. As the chairman of CEOCOR Section A on CP, he agreed on the mutual interest and the possible collaboration on education, certification and practical guidelines or recommendations with EFC WP16, possibly through a common WG . There are already two CEOCOR practical guides that could be used for education.

A CEOCOR symposium is planned on May 9th-11th 2000 in Brussels. M.Roche is invited to present the activities of EFC WP16.

2.4 Conclusions

Concerning the re-activation of a CEN WG on certification for CP personnel there are two points of view: either a working group should be started now in order to stop any other standardization in progress and therefore keep control of whatever goes on, or recommendations should be issued as a preparatory work for a certification from CEN to come. The decision taken during the 2nd meeting to ask B.Clary, the CEN TC219 secretary, to propose to register a new Work Item in the Business Plan on this subject at the next meeting (Nov. 22nd in Paris) is anyway maintained. If accepted, the basic preparation could be done within EFC WP16 before writing the draft for standard.

Anyway, it has been confirmed to create a **Working Group** to first describe what goes on where before going any further. So far it should be limited to the exchange of faxes and e-mails. The following participants should be represented :

G. Reiff, DVGW, Germany

B. Wyatt, Corrosion Control Services and/or **R. Jacob**, Global Corrosion Consultants, for UK

A. Gomila, Spain

B. Bazzoni, CESCOR and/or **P. Pedferri**, Politecnico di Milano, Italy

F. Stadler, SgK, Switzerland

H. Van Bruchem, Gastec, Netherlands

M. Roche, Elf, France

Any other member of WP16 (present or future) is invited to contribute. A tentative outlook of the proposed document will be sent by M. Roche to the WG members before the end of 1999 in order to write a first draft with the contribution of all the members before the next meeting of WP16. Everyone is encouraged to start writing a summary for the situation in his own country. The document will afterwards contain a chapter comparing in details the various systems (levels, application sectors, examination organization, publication of questions,...).

3. Other topics

There is a common need to make comparisons between the different methods used to measure accurately potentials of buried structures and investigate any correlation. More important, maybe, would be the development of new methods. The possibility of a collaboration with the CEOCOR Sector A on this theme will be further studied.

Another center of interest could be software modeling of CP . Note that there was already a symposium on this subject during NACE Corrosion'99 (chairman : M. Orazem).

Those two subjects could be of interest for the symposium in Eurocorr'2000 (see hereunder), and papers will be welcomed.

4. Next meetings

4.1 4th WP16 meeting

It will be organized in **Italy** (probably Milano) on **March 15th 2000**. An invitation giving all details will be sent in due time.

4.2 Eurocorr'2000

The **5th meeting of WP16** will be during Eurocorr' 2000 in London to be held from 10th to 14th September.

On another hand, there will be the **first technical symposium entirely devoted to cathodic protection**. The call for papers have been sent by EFC and a copy is given in appendix 3. WP16 members are invited to **propose papers in due time, i.e before Nov. 30th 2000**. Please

indicate in the reply form that your paper is intended to be presented on topic n° 16. Could you be so kind to fax a copy of your reply form to M.Roche (+33 1 47443546) for information.

After discussion with B.Espelid (DNV), chairman of WP9 “Marine Corrosion”, it is envisaged to have two separate sessions if a sufficient number of papers is proposed and accepted:

- One on Cathodic Protection – Generalities and applications other than marine (WP16)
- One on Cathodic Protection – Marine applications (WP9 and WP16)

Presentations using posters are also encouraged.

M.Roche, WP16 Chairman

X.Campaignole, secretary

3 Appendices