

Chief Executive's report

June 2012

The executive committee met on 12 June and this short meeting was followed by a full council meeting the same day. The following are points that have come out of these meetings:

- Under Clause 8.2 (1) of the Rules of the Association there is provision to appoint a nominee from the Industry Training Organisation to the council and now that the organisational structure of the ITO has been completed Dr Roger O'Brien (ITO Chairman) has been appointed to the council.
- The council fully supports the direction that the ITO is taking to look after the crane industry interests as part of its on-going review of the whole of the ITO sector. The ITO is grappling with a number of complex issues and the council is ensuring that every effort in support is given to them.
- A start has been made on the drafting of a number of possible Best Practice Guidelines to assist industry players in a number of areas. These will take some time to complete as there needs to be full consultation with all interested parties for each of the areas under consideration.
- The following companies have cancelled their membership: Hinuera Natural Stone; Creditworks; Global Hydraulics; Towers Auckland
- The 2012/13 Strategic plan is finalised and will be presented at the conference in July in Rotorua.
- We have developed a new style operator's logbook, which is available from our office.
- Papers for the annual general meeting have been sent and companies are again requested to consider nominees for council.
- There will be a session on the revamped website at the conference and we are seeking comments from members on what they would like to see on there (in addition to the considerable amount that has now been put on)
- It is not too late to register for the conference, which is on 12th & 13th July at the Novotel Lakeside Hotel, Rotorua.
- NZ Transport Agency has told us of changes to road user charges. It's contentious, as early analysis indicates really good reductions for All Terrain cranes but shows heavy penalties for some sizes of truck cranes. Work continues in this area.
- We have been stumped so far by the Immigration Service in our bid to have crane operators included on the Immediate Skill shortage list. Bureaucrats do not seem to want to understand the difference between a mobile crane operator and a truck driver. They have put truck drivers on the skill shortage list but we cannot get crane operators listed – is there any logic here?

Newsletter of the

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