

Minutes – Conferences Teleconference – December 4, 2006

Participants: Jim Bacher, Henry Benitez, Jack Burns, Daniece Carpenter, Richard Georgerian, Murlin Marks, Mark Montrose, and Ken Thomas.

1. Jack congratulated Henry for a successful TAB meeting. The impact to the PSES of the 2008 algorithm versus 2007 is positive \$110k! PSES got our vote back during our provisional status. We still have to focus on conferences since they are our main source of income. With the new algorithm, we also get full revenue for each PSES member. Note that there are additional proposed finance changes. I hope these do NOT change the 2008 structure, but will likely affect 2009.

2. 2007 Conference – Richard G. said that it's a 40-minute drive either to downtown Denver or to his proposed Longmont location. The Radisson in Longmont will meet our potential expanded needs; they can go up to 300 or 350 if we need it, and they have additional conference rooms if we need them. Since we would be using the bulk of the hotel's capacity, they are willing to work with us. The room rate is \$109/night, compared to \$149 in Irvine this year. There is a shuttle to the airport. The conference layout is similar to what we had in Irvine, and there is space for a fourth track.

The BoD discussed various aspects of having the conference in Longmont versus Denver.

After lengthy discussion, there was no dissent with Henry giving Richard G. the go ahead with Richard's proposal to have the conference in Longmont.

Henry said we need many more than thirty exhibitors in 2007. Especially with the 2007 EMC Symposium being in Hawaii, there should be more interest in our mainland location on the part of some equipment vendors. The emphasis should be on product compliance rather than strictly product safety. Mark suggested that we encourage EMC papers, vendors, etc.

Jack said that our approach with the TAC will be to develop separate tracks for each technical committee.

We will discuss the conference title, and make a decision for the title of the conference at Tuesday's regular BoD meeting.

Richard sent out two spreadsheets that help compare the 2005 and 2006 conferences.

3. Conferences, etc. – How will we “push” for 2007 conferences to build the PSES? Richard G. said that Rich Nute is working on a Product Safety 100 track that will be a program moving to more advanced levels from year to year. The BoD discussed different approaches to working with related groups.

Richard said that if Boston is a no-go for 2008, we need to get moving on a location commitment. We need to make a decision for 2008 by our February, 2007 BoD meeting. We will make postings for 2008 locations. Austin will be our fallback, if there are no solid proposals submitted.

Daniece said that Gary Tornquist will send out a request for Far East conference proposals.

4. Next Meeting: The next BoD Conference teleconference date was not set. The meeting was adjourned at 3:29 pm PST.