



AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF LIVE STEAMERS

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ACN 107 882 404 - ABN 81 107 882 404

AUSTRALIAN MINIATURE BOILER SAFETY COMMITTEE

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MEETING held at the PENFIELD MODEL ENGINEERS SOCIETY, Edinburgh, SA on Friday 06th April, 2012, at 7.30 pm.

1. Mr Ray Hall, Penfield's President, welcomed all present and asked Barry Potter, the AMBSC Chairman, to chair the meeting.

2. The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

3. Apologies

Jeff Haig, Morphett Vale.

4. Minutes of the 2011 meeting (circulated)

Moved Peter Lawson; seconded Barry Glover. Carried.

5. Correspondence

Moved Barry Glover; seconded Peter Lawson. Carried.

6. Chairman's Report

Moved Peter Lawson; seconded Murray Hill. Carried.

7. General Business

a) WorkCover and Duplex

Barry Potter, AMBSC Chairman, began by stating that he and the AMBSC Hon Secretary, Les Irwin, had had a very busy year where the Duplex Code had been accepted by WorkCover. The Steel Code revision was finalized; Barry Potter thanked Andrew Matthews, Eric Evans and Les Irwin for their input resulting in the Steel Boiler Code Part 2 Issue 5.

b) Copper Code revision

The Chairman stated that the new draft of the Copper Code was nearing completion and would be available in the next couple of months. Note, all three Codes have been brought into line as much as possible, especially in general requirements which are: metrication; formatting; clarification of

drawings; testing; and boiler inspector qualifications. It was hoped that the revised Codes would assist in ease of design and the manufacture as well as making the boiler inspector's job a little easier.

In the Copper code, the multiple stay tables and crown cross stays have been removed. Dome stud PCDs have moved into line with the Duplex Code for simple divisions, whilst butt strap riveting has returned to the 10t spacing to provide safer longitudinal joints.

c) Few problems

Barry Potter informed the meeting there had been very few problems throughout the year and, due to the speed of the internet, these were quickly resolved by him or Les Irwin. He asked how many boilers were being supervised by those boiler inspectors present: there were seven copper, six steel and one duplex.

The Chairman also observed that many boilers were ageing and boiler inspector vigilance was imperative in the inspection of same.

d) Testing regime

WorkCover and AMBSC agreed that new boilers shall be tested after the first twelve months since this allows the boiler inspector to observe the boiler in operation and the owner's handling of the boiler. Therefore, the boiler inspector would be in a position to rectify problems. After the one year, a four year certificate could be issued. Note it was now at the boiler inspector's discretion with older steel boilers as to the time length in the reissue of certificates.

e) Other matters

- Barry Potter noted that for boilers of more than 150mm in barrel diameter, a duplex boiler was an economical proposition given the high cost of heating gas, silver solder and copper.
- With regard to Gauge One boilers, whilst WorkCover was not interested, clubs may still carry out testing and as suggested from the floor, those records may be kept in a separate boiler book.
- Barry Glover informed the meeting that cadmium-bearing silver solder was available from Silver Brazing Alloys in Melbourne.
- Altronics and Jaycar could supply lead-free soft solder 99% tin which is just 'what the doctor ordered' for boiler's fusible plugs, since fusible plugs were now mandatory in all three Codes.
- The Chairman stated he had copies of all previous codes for reference purposes.
- Murray Hill requested that consideration be given to the standard of boiler plans that would be acceptable to a boiler inspector. Barry Potter replied that if the drawing represented the boiler under construction with materials, stay spacing and fittings that conformed to the appropriate Code that this was all that was required.
- Dave Giles from Auckland, New Zealand said that their duplex test boiler fitted to a Darjeeling model locomotive had been fired four hundred times and had performed magnificently. He congratulated Les Irwin for persevering in the task of producing the Duplex Code. This was followed by a round of applause of which the writer was most appreciative, especially since success was being achieved in practice with live steam models where the owners had taken the brave step to experiment with something new. I believe this is what this great hobby is about.

8. The meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Les Irwin, Hon Secretary, AMBSC.