



European Brushware Federation

Report

Subject : **Meeting FEIBP Working Group Professional Hygiene Charter**

Date : **17-9-2020**

Attending : Thomas Holland-Letz, Philip Coward (chairman), Andrew McIlroy, mrs Danièle Quemper, Johannes Herzog, Karsten Skov, Carsten-Bo Pedersen, mrs. Gigi Haug, Simon Lorillière, Fons Ceelaert (general manager)

From : Fons Ceelaert

Date : 5 October 2020

Reference : feibp.vsl.XXXXXXX-1654398770-189

1. Opening

Welcome by chairman Philip Coward.

2. Report of the meeting of the WG PHB, held on 5 June 2020

Page 2, item “*flagged/split fibres*”: It was stipulated that either in digital or printed catalogues flagged/split fibres must be differentiated, otherwise indicated, from PHB compliant hygiene brushes. In this meeting it was observed that there are more ways to make this distinction, either by marking the flagged/split fibres products as non-complaint or marking all PHB as compliant products.

The report was approved.

3. Impact of COVID-19 on the EU hygiene brushware industry section.

Andrew McIlroy / raw materials

- March – May 2019 difficult months
- Impact on technical brushes stronger than the hygiene sub-sector
- Situation gradually improving but nothing can be predicted for the last months of 2020
- 2021 is a big question mark and one is scared for a second lockdown

Karsten Skov / Denmark

- After a slowdown in orders from March on recovery since mid-June 2020 and business is now back to normal with a good turnover
- Nevertheless the future is insecure and the threat of a second wave can be felt.
- Wearing a mask in public transport, bars and restaurants is obligatory

Simon Lorillière / France

- Until March 2020 business well, then a decrease in turnover and the factory closed for 1 week in May
- Fortunately full recovery since June, but future insecure

Danièle Quemper / France

Franck Thomas gave a similar view as Simon with business now back to normal

Gigi Haug / Germany

- Regards the limitations in travelling a problem, no customers can be visited
- April and May were bad and also a good recovery in June 2020
- The increasing infestation cases is of big concern, no second wave please

Thomas Holland-Letz / Germany

- 60% of all companies in our sector were not satisfied with the situation in Q2/2020
- Survey Q3/2020 will be issued beginning of October 2020
- Thomas shares the results with Fons

Johannes Herzog / Austria

- The technical brushes division suffers, while the hygiene department is rather good

Carsten-Bo Pedersen / Denmark

- Refers to the export markets which are getting better but not at the normal level

Philip Coward / UK

- For the business same picture as other reports, but it is not extremely busy
- Furlough scheme has been great but it will end soon
- Mask discipline varies per area and fear of a second wave is felt
- Brexit seemed to be away for a while but appearing again!

4. Changing the PHB logo / decision on display company name and re-design logo

At second thought the meeting is not convinced that the addition of the company name to the logo is an advantage to the market and distributors might be reluctant.

It was decided to keep the logo unchanged and prolong the current registration by the end of 2022.

The advice by the trademark consultant is to continue the registration not anymore as collective trademark but certification trademark.

Thomas made the remark that the use of a certification trademark cannot be restricted to the members of an association, i.c. FEIBP, contrary to the current collective trademark. This legal aspect will be taken on board and it will be checked with the trademark consultant. It is obvious that the Charter is only open for FEIBP members.

5. List of standards applicable to the PHB Charter

The updated list was agreed formally.

Each 6 months the list will be reviewed by the Working Group members in order to keep it up to date

6. Development of a quarterly market research enquiry PHB

This proposal for a quarterly market research EU brushware industry was received with enthusiasm.

An additional question will be the number of employees

- All information will be treated confidentially.
- The feedback / quarterly report will contain only facts and figures on aggregated and anonymised level.

A draft of the questionnaire format will be sent to the WG PHB for agreement (*action Fons*).

7. PR for the PHB Charter

It was decided to postpone this item to the next physical meeting in London, with PR expert Nick Farrow as special guest.

8. Any other business

UFI / Unique Formula Identifier

What does it mean for your products label?

Item raised by Andrew, who refers to titanium dioxide used in masterbadges for coloring.

The limit of max 1% titanium dioxide applies to all individual composite component parts and not to the finished brush.

So even if the content in the filaments is OK, the content of the product in the brush back needs to be under the limit as well.

Full information for ECHA / the European Chemical Agency:

https://poisoncentres.echa.europa.eu/documents/22284544/22295820/ufi_what_it_means_en.pdf/576a9a82-c352-b5b3-df73-e763da37e559

The TiO₂ limit comes into force from 1st October 2021 so everyone should have time to make sure they comply.

9. Date next meeting

Friday 7 May 2021

09.30 – 13.00 hours

If possible a physical meeting in London

10. Closure

Although not a traditional Working Group meeting in conjunction with the annual FEIBP congress, Philip believes this alternative virtual meeting was excellent and productive. The meeting was closed.