

Minutes of Meeting

Document No CO-1428-09

Subject	CO Sub Group	Circulation	All members
Date	24 February 2009	Circulation Date	13 March 2009
Location	CoGDEM offices Hitchin	Circulation by	Website & email

Attendees

John Saffell - Alphasense
Jason Perrins - Dicon/BRK
Jonathan Gilby - City Tech
Leigh Greenham - CoGDEM
Jonathan Kane - Kane International
John Sonley - JMS Consultants
Jeff Regan - JMS Consultants
John Walsh - FireAngel
Bernard Thomas - Kidde Safety
Richard King - Sira Environmental
Mike Byrne - Ei Electronics
Colin Mitchell - Ei Electronics
Adrian Keats - Honeywell Analyt Dom
Peter Walsh - HSL/HSE
Martin Ling - Global Tech Fire Ltd
Rob Poulsen - Sensotec 4 Warn
Louise Early - Crowcon
Mike Windsor - Anton
Dan Bacon - BRK Brands
Ian Ackroyd - Dinkeys
Robert Garside - Dinkeys
Stuart Nuttall - Dinkeys
Peter Sullivan - Testo
Eddie Quigley - TPI Europe
Kevin Honner - Cryoservice
Andrew Was - FM Approvals
Neil Perdell - Aico (guest)
Paul Walton - Shawcity (guest)
Zoe Forman - Mandeville Marketing

Apologies

Noor Ali - CryoService
Dave Kerfoot - Baseefa
Ron Sinclair - Baseefa
Philip Wild - Duomo
Deborah Haisman - TSI
Martin Harrop - General Monitors
David Woods - General Monitors
Arthur Burnley - Alphasense
Robert Kyle - MSA
Stefan Kukula - Crowcon
Gerald Jones - Kidde Safety
Andy Burnett - Kidde Safety
Lionel Witrant - ISC/Oldham
Mark Rowland - Trolex
Richard Whiteside - Land Instruments
Alan Henderson - Gas Sensing Solutions
Steve Lower - Sira Environmental
George McGregor - GMI
Kevin Stockwell - BW & Honeywell
Kevin Dean - Honeywell Analytics
Steve Hamilton - Honeywell Analytics
Doug Longstaff - Draeger
David Frew - AMGas

Agenda

- 1) Apologies
- 2) Approval of previous minutes and matters arising
- 3) COCAA (CO Consumer Awareness Alliance) including 2 media campaigns - ZF
- 4) Lobbying (APPGSG, Landlords, HIP, DoH, HPA, HSE, BERR, new DCLG project)
- 5) Standards review (including EN 50291 becoming mandatory)
- 6) Flue Gas Analysis (inc. condensing boilers, ACS) - JK
- 7) Gas Industry Safety Group (GISG) and Industrial Liaison Group - JK
- 8) CO detection and publicity by Gas Emergency Service Providers (Ofgem initiative)
- 9) CO₂ (BS 8494 into Europe, and commercial kitchen initiative)
- 10) Report on non-compliant domestic CO alarms, and black spot update
- 11) Boats and leisure vehicles (CO dispersion, new BSS initiative)
- 12) Publicity (Zoë Forman's project)
- 13) AOB (including updates on Directives, HSE, UL, Advantica, 'Wake-Up', helpline)
- 14) Dates of next meetings – Tuesday 16 June 2009, Tuesday 20 Oct 2009

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1 Apologies

The above list of apologies was read out. We welcomed three new members, Martin Ling representing Global Tech Fire Ltd, Mike Windsor representing Anton Group, and three attendees from Dinkeys Ltd. We are pleased that Philip Wild of Duomo who was a guest at the last meeting has subsequently joined CoGDEM, but could not be present today. We also had two other guests, Paul Walton of Shawcity and Neil Perdell of Aico.

2 Approval of previous minutes and matters arising

The Minutes of the previous meeting (21 Oct 2008) were read and accepted (Doc no. CO1427-08). Actions arising were covered during the rest of the agenda.

3 COCAA (CO Consumer Awareness Alliance) including Be-Alarmed campaign

COCAA spent around £100k of a £300k fund provided by the six gas suppliers on an October 2008 intensive media campaign called "Carbon Monoxide – Be Alarmed". Zoe Forman presented the highlights of the campaign which featured many TV, radio, magazine and newspaper appearances by the celebrity Kirstie Allsopp and victim Stacey Rodgers. Equipping your home with an audible CO alarm, and servicing of fuel-burning appliances by qualified engineers were key elements of the campaign, which is continuing to run through 2009. It was reported that sales of CO alarms increased by 50% immediately after the campaign, although fell back to normal levels within a couple of weeks. There was a 20% increase in appliance servicing requests. A short article in the medical pages of 'Woman's Weekly' magazine which contained the CoGDEM helpline number caused a flurry of calls from people of a certain age for several weeks.



In mid-January 2009, CoGDEM was the spokesperson for a COCAA campaign compiled by CORGI, as their last safety campaign before handing over the register of gas engineers to Capita this coming April. Due to the intense cold weather just prior to launch day, the main focus was amended to be the increased risk of CO poisoning from faulty heating appliances, blocked vents, and whether any single person in the home takes responsibility for dealing with such safety issues. Interviews were conducted with 16 local radio stations, and a further few dozen stations featured a pre-prepared audio feature. The importance of CO alarms was highlighted, as was the need to use properly qualified engineers who will come equipped with appropriate tools and instruments to check the appliances.

COCAA continues with its other background activities, with ZF and LG representing CoGDEM at the monthly steering group and quarterly main group meetings. The breath-testing events for MPs went well, and COCAA is able to lobby MPs in a way that CoGDEM would be seen as too commercial. The CORGI Trust currently administers COCAA, but will be changing its name and format post-April, so things will change and may involve Capita or the new gas safety charity that it is starting with £1.7 million of pump-priming. It continues to be pointed out that the alarm manufacturing companies within CoGDEM are getting significant benefit from the campaign, and there is pressure for them to be contributing financially to COCAA. COCAA's March meetings will be at the Whipps Cross Hospital Hyperbaric oxygen unit (Steering Group), then at Curzon's HQ (Full Group).



It is not clear how successful the CO-Awareness Week activities from November were. Although the London launch event was well attended, the other four events (complete with the CO-EX exhibition) have generated no feedback to CoGDEM members.

4 Lobbying (APPGSG, Landlords, HIP, DoH, HPA, HSE, BERR, new DCLG project)

The evidence that CoGDEM submitted to the All Party Parliamentary Gas Safety Group regarding their inquiry into the awareness of CO within the medical profession was included in their final report published in January, and is downloadable from their website.

The Dept of Health and the NHS also published some good guidance on CO poisoning, just prior to Christmas. A particularly useful document was sent to thousands of medical professionals from the Government's Chief Medical Officer and Chief Nursing Officer. All of their leaflets contain at least a passing reference to CO alarms and compliance to EN 50291. The HPA is still active in this area, so our good relationship with them is useful.

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Last year, we also submitted a request to DCLG for the review of the Home Information Pack to include an additional series of questions regarding the servicing of heating appliances and the fitment of CO (and smoke) alarms. This may have led to DCLG kicking off a review of their strategy towards CO alarms, in which they have commissioned Gastec/CRE to conduct a cost benefit analysis. CoGDEM was invited to submit data, so JP, ZF and LG arranged to visit them on 26 Feb. (Post-meeting note: the meeting with Gastec/CRE was not entirely positive, despite the researcher's obvious interest in the subject, her manager expressed many fixed and negative opinions on the use of alarms, so we were not sure that our positive 'evidence' will find its way into their report. Consequently, we will attempt to find out who at DCLG has commissioned the work, so that we can lobby them directly).

We have been able to establish direct links with relevant people at HSE and BERR related to the investigation of condensing boilers. A report on these activities is covered below under item 6, 'Flue Gas Analysers'.

5 Standards review (including EN 50291 becoming mandatory)

John Sonley, who chairs the BSi gas detector standards committee GEL/31/19, gave us an update on the outcome of the UK meeting held in January, in preparation for the annual European meeting which is to be held in Milan on 18/19 March. His written report on the relevant aspects of the January meeting is included here:

5.1 Electrical apparatus for the detection and measurement of carbon monoxide and nitrogen oxides in Car-parks and Tunnels – TC 216 (Sec) 97

The detail of Peter Walsh's comments were not discussed but it was agreed to send the comments, (together with further UK comments received the day after the meeting) to John Saffell for him to submit to Nick Bradfield as UK comments

5.2 prEN 50291 - 1 Performance Standard for Carbon Monoxide Detectors in Domestic Premises prEN50291 - 2 Performance Standard for Carbon Monoxide Detectors in Recreational Vehicles and similar premises including Recreational Craft

Both these documents have completed the 6 month Enquiry period. The Committee discussed each of the comments resultant from the Enquiry and the UK delegates to TC 216 noted the Committee's view

Whilst discussing EN 50291 - 2 it was noted that UK comments forming document TC 216/Sec0078 had already been submitted but were sent too late for discussion last year at Barcelona; they will therefore form the basis of the UK comments for the Milan meeting, when coupled to those recent comments of Peter Walsh

Leigh Greenham confirmed the continuing need for these Standards to be listed under a Directive which will require mandatory independent testing of the performance of the detector prior to the detector's sale in the UK. He cited an example of one importer who was fined £65,000 by Kent Crown Court for selling a device that falsely claimed to meet the requirements of the performance standard

The guidance of Mr Joel Cuhe - Consultant to CEN for Building & Civil Engineering, regarding the use of the CPD (Construction Products Directive) as our chosen Directive was noted; however Jonathan Gilby identified 2 points that may have a bearing on using the CPD

1. The CPD is not ratified by the UK
2. CE marking is only for use with 'new approach' Directives - and the CPD is at present not a 'new approach' directive

For UK delegates to TC 216, their stance is clear for the following two reasons:

1. UK government agencies such as the Health and Safety Executive and the Department of Health are recommending that consumers should only fit carbon monoxide alarms that have been independently tested to confirm that they meet the performance requirements EN 50291; Leigh Greenham circulated an official publication confirming this UK Government recommendation
2. Local Trading Standards branches have made 4 recalls in the last 18 months of sub-standard imports, none of which met the performance requirements of EN 50291

5.3 prEN 50271 Gas Detectors incorporating Software or Digital Technologies

UK comments from the Sira/ Farside Technology Research were received immediately before last year's CENELEC meetings, too late to be discussed then, they will therefore be submitted as UK comments for both the Milan meetings as this Standard is applicable to both SC31-9 and TC 216

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5.4 The proposed New Work Item Carbon Monoxide / Carbon Dioxide Portable Gas Detector Standard

After some discussion the UK Committee developed for following principles:

1. The UK agrees that there is a pan-European need for such a Standard, also confirmed by France.
2. It was agreed that the Scope needs to be defined carefully so that this new product category does not conflict with combustion analysers, when carbon monoxide is added
- 3 Whilst the existing flue gas detector standards may be helpful in drafting this Standard, they were not written to be necessarily suitable for ambient air monitoring

5.5 EN 50292 - The dual 'Guide for use...' for both Carbon Monoxide Standards

Each of the comments submitted by Jamie Cooper was studied and Tony Banfield, Convenor of the Working Group that will deal with this Standard, noted the response of the UK Committee.

Some discussion took place regarding definitions, particularly the change of title of this Standard, to be a line with Minute 6.3 from the Barcelona meeting.

It was proposed that definition '3.1 Domestic Premises' should be:

'Any house or building, or part thereof, being the place of residence or home of a household, family or person but excluding Leisure Accommodation, Recreational Craft or Recreational Vehicle, for which a separate definition exists'

Tony Banfield proposed producing a revised document incorporating agreed changes in readiness for the Milan meeting

5.6 EN 50194-1 Performance Standard for Domestic Flammable Gas Detectors

Following a query from the CENELEC Secretary, it appears that the only reason the now agreed document has not been published is because neither the French nor German translations have been available to date but it is believed that at least one language will be available very shortly, which will permit publication

An e-mail from Dieter Wenker, Leader of the German delegation to both CENELEC committees informed us of a metrological problem of using the expression 'ppm'.

In the German translations of this document, to meet DIN requirements, the concentration 10 ppm would appear as 10 X 10(exp)-6 vol. fraction

The need for such a change of units in this and other Standards will no doubt promote considerable discussion in Milan

6 Flue Gas Analysis (including condensing boilers, ACS)

Jonathan Kane and LG updated the group.

The meeting hosted by BERR to consider the CO risk from new generation gas-fired condensing boilers on Friday 14 Jan 09 had a reasonably positive outcome from CoGDEN's point of view. As well as the BERR attendees, the other organisations invited were HSE, CORGI, CoGDEN and the boiler manufacturers' trade association, the HHIC.

The HHIC had prepared a PowerPoint show which summarised the views of the boiler manufacturers, and other data which supports their reasoning.

- There have been six or seven serious incidents with new gas-fired condensing boilers that have led to four fatalities from carbon monoxide poisoning. Since this was announced last April, other investigations have been ongoing (CORGI, BG, HHIC), and it is now concluded that there is **not** a major problem with the installed base of millions of similar appliances. A maladjustment (or incorrect setting) of the gas/air ratio valve was the cause in all cases. BERR stated their relief (and of Ministers) that there is no 'time bomb' amongst the installed base.
- All manufactures agree that if this valve requires adjustment in the field, the operative must have a combustion gas analyser. However, they state that this may not need to occur at installation, as the valve will have been preset by the manufacturer just prior to shipping.
- Condensing boiler manufacturers are agreeing a consistent form of words for their instruction books, **these will advocate the use of FGAs during all routine service and maintenance operations**, but will

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not insist on their use at installation unless the installer “has any doubts” about the combustion performance, or if the particular appliance manufacturer requires that an FGA be used. **Currently, only 4 boiler manufacturers require a combustion gas test to be performed at installation/commissioning.**

- The appliance manufacturers have also agreed consistent limits for the flue gases: **max CO = 200ppm and the CO/CO₂ ratio action limit to be 0.004 instead of the current 0.008.** CO₂ is not to be considered a safety parameter; a target value with a tight tolerance should be quoted by the appliance manufacturer, but should act as a target to aim at only when adjusting the air/gas ratio valve, at least 5 minutes from cold.
- This change of CO/CO₂ ratio will need to be written into BS 7967 Part 3, but CORGI will start to publicise this ASAP in Gas Installer.
- CoGDEM was thanked twice by Gordon Anderson, firstly for helping to ensure the survival of CPA 1 as a standalone assessment, secondly for helping to include a mention of combustion gas analysis in the boiler installation standard BS 6798.
- HSE would like to see an ACS assessment for checking the competence of operators who need to adjust the gas/air ratio valve in a condensing boiler, as they pointed out that one single error could lead to such a potentially catastrophic result. HSE would like to see future appliances having a restricted range of adjustment of the valve (one eighth of a turn of a screw), and other safety features (or feedback control) that will prevent these appliances from generating high levels of CO at any time.

In light of the HSE investigation into condensing boilers, we successfully pushed for flue gas analysis to be mentioned in the new standard being created for the installation of domestic boilers, BS 6798. Jonathan particularly thanked TPI and Anton for their help with this. The appliance manufacturers had been resisting calls for a check of combustion gases to be a part of the standard, but this has now been added due to the persistence of CoGDEM members. Also at CoGDEM's request, this standard already makes reference to the fitting of domestic CO alarms, compliant to EN 50291.

The use of hydrogen compensated CO sensors in Flue Gas Analysers was discussed, as there is a school of thought from Germany that these will provide more accurate readings of flue gas constituents. This is apparently not an issue for the UK heating appliance manufacturers, so UK FGAs are not equipped with such sensors. One manufacturer who supplies the same FGA into the German and UK markets confirmed that the UK models do not need to have hydrogen compensated CO sensors. John Saffell also reminded manufacturers of FGAs to be aware of the NO or NO₂ cross-sensitivities of the CO sensors that they choose.

7 Gas Industry Safety Group (GISG) and Industrial Liaison Group

JK attended the recent meeting of the Gas Industry Safety Group, where the main topic continues to be the protection of the gas distribution network from terrorist attack or the threat of a flu pandemic. The chairman of GISG (Chris Bielby of British Gas) commented on the success of the COCAA campaigns, and requested statistics on CO alarm sales that could be used as a measurement of the campaign's success. Previously, some CoGDEM manufacturers have said that their US parents would not allow them to release such figures, so we need to establish if this is still the case, particularly if the figures were released in confidence solely to a Government department such as DCLG (who receive similar stats from the smoke alarm manufacturers).

Through our membership of GISG, CoGDEM has been lobbying for the continuity of the CPA 1 assessment (training in combustion performance testing using FGAs), rather than it being rolled into a larger more complex assessment module, CMDDA 1. This has been successful, as the ACS committee has now agreed to keep CPA 1 as an introductory assessment, with CMDDA 1 being available for those engineers who wish to take CO investigations to the next level.

8 CO detection by Gas Emergency Service Providers (Ofgem initiative)

LG reported on his visit to Ofgem for the fourth and most positive meeting of the Ofgem CO Working Group, on 27 Jan 09. There were several very good outcomes, despite long distractions at the start of the meeting from Stephanie Trotter querying the scope of Ofgem's and HSE's involvement, then a Capita update presentation, then a COCAA update presentation. However, when we got to it, the main 'meat' of the meeting was to discuss the Gas Distribution Networks (GDNs) responsibilities as the Gas Emergency Service Provider, and their response to

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CO alarm activations, the carriage of CO instrumentation, awareness raising amongst at-risk consumers, their support and possible supply of domestic CO alarms etc.

CO Detecting Instruments

Although the GDNs have previously expressed their reservations about the carriage of CO instruments to protect their emergency workers, this view is softening now that one GDN (Scotia Gas Networks) is equipping all of its field workers with multigas portables as PPE. The roll-out of instruments (BW) is underway and will be complete by the end of March, but the staff who have been issued with them like the idea of carrying safety instruments and there is already anecdotal evidence of CO being detected in homes that they have visited since being equipped. The other GDNs (coordinated by their trade association Energy Networks association (ENA)) will review the CO event statistics once the Scotia fleet has been in use for a reasonable period, and they will then decide their own strategies.

CO Alarms

The GDNs proposed that their emergency field staff should leave a domestic CO alarm whenever they are called out to a potential or real CO event at a dwelling that does not already have an alarm. They would also like to make these available to vulnerable consumers, so the GDNs are asking Ofgem to allow them to fund the purchase and supply of 2 million alarms at an estimated cost of £28 million. Ofgem has asked to see a full cost/benefit analysis by the GDNs before they make a decision, as it will be the fuel-user who ultimately meets this cost. CoGDEM has offered to help the GDNs and ENA with the analysis, but Ofgem pointed out that their decision may not be quickly arrived at, although they did admit, when pushed, that they supported the idea in principle.

Leaflets

All of the GDNs will use the same CO leaflet, but branded with their own logo, alongside the Gas Safe Register logo. The leaflets will be left with consumers, as well as being mass-distributed. They will contain five main sections:

- Need for appliance servicing by registered professionals
- Use CO alarms that comply with EN 50291
- Look for signs of CO around appliances
- Symptoms of CO and what to do
- Emergency contact numbers

Publicity

A campaign of shopping centre information stands with leaflet handouts is being proposed, in conjunction with Fire & Rescue Services nationwide. The GDNs have a tentative agreement from some FRs, and they estimate a spend of nearly £1 million, so again Ofgem must allow a funding stream for this activity to take place.

The next Ofgem meeting will be held on Thur 19 March, and LG will be attending.

Action: LG

9 CO₂ (BS 8494 into Europe, and commercial kitchen initiative)

As reported in the standards section above (5.4), Peter Walsh continues with the project to create a European standard for hand held instruments for CO₂ that may or may not also detect CO. Will be discussed in Milan at the March meetings

At our last meeting, we discussed whether CoGDEM could start a campaign to highlight the risks from CO₂ in commercial kitchens. We received no response to our letter to a celebrity chef neighbour of John Saffell who had verbally expressed interest in the subject, so it seems that we are likely to have more success by pursuing the standards route. Phillip Wild of Duomo (new CoGDEM member) offers products to detect CO₂ which can allow the overriding of automatic gas shutoff systems in busy catering establishments. In the last two months, he and CoGDEM have both sent in comments to the working group on BS 6173 (standard for the installation of gas-fired appliances in catering establishments), where we would like to see more detail about the use of CO₂ monitors in such applications. CoGDEM has also approached the working group with a request for Phillip to join it, so that we can have more formal representation.

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10 Report on non-compliant CO alarms and black spots

The Lloytron branded CO alarm that was brought to our previous meeting has now been recalled, following independent testing commissioned by Herts Trading Standards after our tip-off. The packaging was marked 'Meets EN 50291', yet was also marked 'Alarm density: 150 ppm +/- 50 ppm'. Obviously these two statements are mutually exclusive, but the tests also showed that it needed much higher concentrations (approaching 1000 ppm) to trigger an alarm condition. The recall notice was placed on the TS website in January.

The three COGDEM members who market CO colour change products are confident that they will have been able to phase out these products soon. Some retailers have stated categorically that when their existing stocks are exhausted, they will not be seeking other suppliers.

11 Boats and leisure vehicles (CO dispersion)

LG reported that he has been in contact with Graham Watts of the Boat Safety Scheme, who remains very interested in the placement of CO alarms in boats, and he feels that the same concerns also exist within the caravan/parkhome/motorhome industry. There has been little progress since their application for CORGI Trust funding for dispersion studies was turned down. LG offered to coordinate a meeting of interested parties so that we could scope out the gaps in knowledge, and the CO alarm manufacturers thought that this would be worthwhile.

Action: LG

12 Publicity (Zoe Forman's project)

Covered under items 3 and 4 of the agenda.

13 AOB

- The Advantica project to assess the low-battery, end-of-life or other non-alarm indications from domestic CO alarms has been completed. A table has been produced for the Gas Emergency Service Providers, so that their call centres are better equipped to deal with calls from worried members of the public whose alarms have started to chirp or beep in a non-alarm state. However, Advantica has pointed out to CoGDEM that there was a lot of variability in the techniques used by the different manufacturers, so LG wondered whether this was something to be addressed. He will ask Advantica for a summary of their results, and PW may raise this at the Milan meeting if appropriate. **Action: LG & PW**
- Jonathan Gilby mentioned that the WEEE and RoHS Directives are being updated, and this may have repercussions for instrument manufacturers. As an example, it has been proposed that the current exemptions for control and monitoring devices in Category 9 should end in 2014, but remain in place until 2017 for 'industrial' devices. This has to be voted on in Europe yet, so things may change.
- John Walsh reminded the meeting that the Wake-Up campaign was active and that he would be attending a meeting of the key players on 10th March 09.
- There was no update on any progress with UL (UK) to discuss common issues on the testing of CO alarms to EN 50291 and UL 2034. However, there was disappointment expressed at the meeting that one of our member companies has recently imported a large volume of non-EN compliant but UL compliant CO alarms that are being heavily promoted by one of the larger DIY chains. It was felt that this undermines a key point of all of the relevant lobbying that CoGDEM undertakes, where EN 50291 is a cornerstone. To curtail the discussion, LG requested a formal statement from the supplier (Kidde Safety) to place in these minutes:

"In the interests of consumer safety, we totally support CoGDEM in its efforts to promote only audible CO alarms and to assist Trading Standards in the removal from the marketplace of those alarms that are not fit for purpose or that make false performance or certification claims. We further support CoGDEM's position to recommend that consumers buy alarms that are EN50291 certified."

- Peter Walsh alerted the meeting to the potential for Tandoori ovens or 'duck ovens' to produce excessive amounts of CO.
- CO-Gas Safety held a well-attended and professional prizegiving event at the Houses of Parliament for the 2008 schools poster competition. There will be a 2009 competition, and Stephanie Trotter is looking for sponsorship or prize donations.

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- Colin Mitchell mentioned that he had been contacted by Zonagard, a company that wants to develop a new approach to the monitoring of CO in the home. He was concerned that they seem to have a somewhat negative public message about CO alarms and their standards. Others at the meeting had also been contacted by Zonagard, who have already been invited to join CoGDEM, so that they could have a more appropriate dialogue with the industry, and be influential in the writing of future standards, as they are critical of the existing standards.
- The 'energy saving rings' that can be bought over the internet to apparently improve the heat flow from a gas cooker hob to a pan were discussed. There had been a concern that these could generate CO due to the flame quenching, but the cooker manufacturers had conducted tests and found only a minimal increase compared with a flat bottomed pan. However, they apparently don't save energy, so the cooker manufacturers may involve Trading Standards on this point.
- The lunchtime guest presentation was given by two Directors of Capita, Jeff Learman and Pete Eldridge, who gave an overview of the Gas Safe Register that will replace the CORGI scheme from April 2009, potentially for a 10-year period. The new 'brand' was publicly announced in January (CoGDEM has participated in a survey commissioned by the brand developers), but the main consumer awareness campaign starts in early March. Capita is very keen to use the facilities of its stakeholders (including CoGDEM) to publicise the new scheme, so they were asked to supply us their official wording and logo, so that it could not be seen that CoGDEM members were using the logo as any form of endorsement.

The consumer campaign will include billboards, magazine ads, posters and leaflets through various organisations, sponsorship at rugby and cricket events on Sky TV, and a televised case-study of a London street where 4 faulty home gas installations were discovered.

Capita will be producing a new magazine post-April, but intend this to be 70% technical content to 30% adverts, whereas CORGI's Gas Installer magazine is the other way around. Capita has been asked by the HSE to conduct reviews of necessary enforcement powers and competency requirements.

The Gas Safe Register brand awareness campaign will be made more difficult by the continued existence of CORGI as a commercial entity, and the impact of their activities is not clear at present. Neither is the situation over the continuation of CORGI Trust, after the establishment by Capita of a new Gas Safety charity having a £1.7 million kick-start funding, with HSE hoping that industry will provide equivalent funding into this charity, rather than CORGI Trust. COCAA may fit into this new charity, but Capita can only consider this when the strong links to CORGI are broken.

14 Dates of next meetings: Tuesday 16 June 2009, Tuesday 20 Oct 2009