



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE OF USER INSPECTORATES

2009-10 | ANNUAL REPORT

Key achievements in 2009-10

ECUI Strategy Group and Main Meetings were held in March 2009 - hosted by Bayer Antwerpen NV in Antwerp, Belgium. The Autumn 2009 and Spring 2010 meetings were combined and held on 26th/27th January 2010, in Assen, The Netherlands – hosted by NAM.

ECUI was represented at all PED Working Group (Pressure) and PED Working Party (Guidelines) meetings in Brussels.

ECUI representation on the CEN Pressure Equipment Advisory Nucleus was recommenced.

ECUI representatives attended all Conformity Assessment Bodies Forum (CABF) meetings.

ECUI continued to monitor developments in Risk-Based Inspection and any moves at the European level to harmonise In-service Inspection Regulations. For the ECUI Position Paper see: www.eemua.org/pdf/ecui19.pdf

ECUI members shared learnings on many incidents with presentations on: the Texas City and Valero Refinery incidents in the USA; a tank farm fire in Kuwait (with similarities to the UK Buncefield incident); and a pneumatic test failure in Shanghai, China.

OUR MISSION

To promote the safe, reliable, efficient and profitable use of engineering equipment by European industry through enhancing the recognition, status and formal responsibility and accountability of User companies in general and User Inspectorates (UI's) in particular. Achieved by providing an organisation to:

Monitor and, when appropriate, advise on the development, transposition and interpretation of European legislation concerning new equipment.

Encourage the maximum flexibility



consistent with safety in National Regulations and possible European Directives concerning in-service equipment.

Participate in the development of relevant European and international standards.

Contribute to effective implementation of European conformity assessment procedures, including support for the harmonisation of procedures for accreditation of Inspection Bodies.

Promote the User view within other pan-European bodies such as the Parliament, Commission and trade or sectoral associations and institutions; and liaise with other user organisations.

Provide a framework to facilitate co-operation and collaboration on non-competitive technical inspection matters.

Image courtesy of Shell NAM



Image courtesy of Shell NAM

Our origins

ECUI was conceived during late 1992 as a result of an initiative by the Engineering Equipment and Materials Users' Association (EEMUA) in the UK. This initiative was developed by a nucleus of parties with in-house inspection interests in Holland, France and the UK, leading to an inaugural meeting in June 1993.

ECUI is administered by EEMUA - an international non-profit membership organization that aims to improve the safety, environmental and operating performance of industrial facilities in the most cost-effective way, developing and promoting leadership in industrial asset management. EEMUA Members pursue these aims by sharing engineering experiences and expertise, and by the promotion of their distinct interests as the users of engineering products.

ECUI meets in plenary session two or three times a year at suitable locations around Europe and by teleconference.



Membership & Constitution

Membership of the Committee is open to two representatives from each country within Europe. The nominees each represent a national or industry-sector UI organisation.

Representatives from individual user companies may be invited to attend specific ECUI meetings, at the discretion of the Committee, as prospective Associate Members; Associate Members are entitled to attend all meetings until representative UI organisations are formed in their respective countries.

Considerable progress has been made in expanding membership since 1992, and these efforts are continuing.

ECUI Representation

The ECUI General Secretary is a member of the CEN Pressure equipment advisory nucleus (CEN PE-AN) AFNOR electronic committee, and the following CIRCA groups of the European Commission:

Enterprise and Industry: PED – (WGP and WPG) Pressure Equipment Working Groups.

Enterprise and Industry: Pressure Equipment TBT/Trade.

Conformity Assessment Bodies Forum
(Pressure Equipment) CABF PED/SPV.



Image courtesy of Shell NAM

National Group Representatives

APITI	France
EEMUA-CUI	UK
WEID	Netherlands



Associate members:

BASF	Belgium
Bayer	Belgium
BASF	Germany
ConCert	Italy
EniServizi	Italy
Yara	Norway

Representing ECUI / EEMUA Secretariat:

ECUI General Secretary Mr S. Tooby

ECUI Chairman 2009-10 Herr U. Mueller, BASF Germany

ECUI Deputy Chairman 2009-10 Mr H. Spijkerman, WEID, Netherlands



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PLANS FOR 2010

The following items that will be actively progressed by ECUI in 2010:

Continue to represent the interests of Users and User Inspectorate organisations in Europe through active participation at WGP/WPG, CEN PE-AN and CABF.

Provide feedback on a preparatory document for the alignment of the Pressure Equipment Directive 97/23/EC to the New Legal Framework (NLF) from the European Commission.

Complete the ECUI Survey of Member States requirements for inspector competencies, both Technical and Behavioural. The aim of the project is to derive EEMUA/ECUI guidance on the subject as current national legislations can sometimes hamper the exchange of inspection engineers across Europe. The intent is to develop a set of requirements that will be recognised as a common basis for Inspector training and competency assessment across the EU.

Continue to monitor any proposals for the development of Harmonised In-Service Inspection Regulations.

Continue to monitor developments in Risk-Based Inspection.

Continue to share learnings from Incident Reviews.

Forthcoming Meetings

ECUI Meetings for 2010 are scheduled for:

**30th September and
1st October 2010**

– to be held in Paris following the ESOPE Conference.