SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Mar. 27, 2014

Present: Rick DuVall, Mike Logan, Peter Meckl, Marty Mlynarik, Becky Schumm, Justin Seipel, Nathan Toner, Justin Weibel
Absent: Bob Lucht, Bobbie Riley, Mike Sherwood, John Starkey

1. Approve Minutes from Feb. 20, 2014 Meeting

2. Discuss Handling of Injuries:

On the evening of March 11, an undergrad student cut himself with a box cutter while working in the ME Machine Shop. The shop supervisor instructed him to walk over to PUSH and have them look at it. The wound appeared to be deep and about ¾ inch long but not bleeding too badly.

When discussing the above incident at this meeting, there was a general consensus that in the interests of safety, it’s always a good idea to call 911 and have professional paramedics take a look. They will then suggest options for treatment. A ride in an ambulance for treatment is not always necessary.

Since the severity of a cut and whether it warrants the aid of paramedics is a judgment call, it is hard to set firm policy on this. In practice, it is best to call 911 whenever in doubt just to play it safe. This policy should be articulated along with annual updates on the Building Emergency Plan.

3. Discuss Proposed Safety Orientation for ME Machine Shop

The safety and orientation policy pursued by the Artisan and Fabrication Laboratory (AFL) at ARMS was reviewed as a potential model for ME. In that case, all students intending to work in the AFL are first instructed to read and sign several online documents on safety and operating guidelines. They then take an on-line quiz to demonstrate their understanding of the material. Once they have identified the project they intend to work on, they then read an online safety and operations document specific to the machine tool they intend to use. Once they pass this quiz, they are then given access to work on that particular machine. The safety and operations document is also posted on the machine itself.

The committee in general felt that these procedures would be a good way to ensure that students who come into the ME Machine Shop have at least some orientation to shop safety and procedures and some rudimentary knowledge about the machine they intend to use.

Committee members did ask about usage and injury rates in the AFL to assess the efficacy of the procedures. It also depends on the ratio of CNC machines to manual machines, since AFL has a higher proportion of CNC machines compared to the ME shop.

A process to institute the proposed procedures for the ME Machine Shop will be explored for summer 2014.

4. Schedule Next Meeting:

Next meeting will be at 2:30 pm on April 24, 2014. (Rescheduled for May 1, 2014.)