

**Record Notes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Project Monitoring & Review Committee (PRMC)  
conducted on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2017, at the Board of PSG College of Technology**

**PRMC Members present:**

1. Dr. Baldev Raj, Director, NIAS (Chairman)
2. Dr.M.Kamaraj, IIT Madras (Convener)
3. Shri. Sanjay Chavre, DHI
4. Dr.G. Madhusudhan Reddy, DMRL
5. Dr. S. Krishnan, L&T Ltd.
6. Shri P.Ramkumar, VSSC.

**Members from PSG College of Technology / COEWET:**

1. Dr R.Rudramoorthy
2. DrV.Radhakrishnan
3. Dr.V Ramaswamy
4. Dr.P.Gopalakrishnan
5. Dr S Suresh
6. Dr K Asokkumar
7. Dr V Balusamy
8. Dr B Vinod
9. Dr M Sundaram
10. Dr J Krishnamoorthi
11. Dr R Sivasankari
12. Shri.Alfrin Jarvish
13. Shri.Ram Pradesh
14. Shri.K.Ravichandran
15. Dr.J.Krishnamurthi
16. Dr.R.Shivasankari
17. Shri.J.Chelladurai
18. Shri.Prabhakran

At the outset the convener of the PRMC Dr Kamraj welcomed the members and requested the chairman to deliver his opening remarks.

Dr.Baldev Raj, Chairman of the PRMC highlighted the background of the project & funding by DHI. He traced the genesis of the objectives of the government and emphasized that this project is aimed at strengthening the industry-institute interactions and the COEWET should demonstrate industry acceptance of the products and processes being developed. He also mentioned that CoE should reach

beyond the boundaries of the partner industries and should contribute to multiple sectors of industries across the country. He mentioned that the PRMC role is dual in nature. While the PRMC has a mandate to review the qualitative and quantitative progress made in the project, it has a role to guide and support the project to achieve the committed goals. He also mentioned that the center should have both a national and international perspective and work on products of industrial perspective. The chairman requested SDO, DHI to highlight his views.

Following this, Shri. Sanjay Chavre SDO, DHI highlighted the intentions and expectations of DHI. He mentioned that the DHI funding is mainly directed towards increasing the manufacturing capability of the Indian industries as manufacturing is an enabling technology that has a big impact on employment opportunities. In this context, in order to bridge the gap between knowledge and practice, DHI is promoting strong interactions between industry and academic institutions. This center of excellence is one of the projects under this objective and this project aims at three key technologies in the field of welding. DHI also expects the COEWT to play a larger role in the years to come to draw a vision for the future after the completion of the project.

Following this, the details of the progress made in each of the three projects namely, welding automation, welding power source development and welding consumables development by the respective project investigators Dr.B.Vinod, Dr.M.Sundaram and Dr.V.Balusamy were presented. The comments of the members are as follows.

Review Comments and actions to be taken:

Sl. No.	Comments by PRMC	Action to be taken by COEWT
1	<b><u>Change of Industry Partners:</u></b> Shri Sanjay Chavre of DHI stated that addition or entry of new Industry Partners and exit of existing ones during the project period is permissible under DHI norms with due approval of Governing council and information to DHI. Policy guideline on this matter shall be prepared and the same shall be approved by GC for implementation.	COEWT to prepare the policy guidelines for approval and implementation.
2	<b><u>Advance information to PMRC on Project progress</u></b> A brief report on various completed tasks as per milestone plans shall be prepared and sent to PRMC members. Such reports shall be sent electronically a week in advance prior to successive meetings.	To be implemented for the next PRMC meeting.
3	<b><u>Literature Review:</u></b> Literature available through International Institute of Welding documents shall be surveyed.	COEWT to initiate the actions and get the reports within two months.
4	<b><u>Recruitment:</u></b> PRMC advised COEWT to recruit the required manpower within a month. DHI recommended remuneration based on current market prices to recruit the best engineers. Recruitment shall be restricted to Indian citizens and NRI only.	Recruitment to be completed within a month's time.
5	<b><u>Product Specification</u></b> The outcome / targeted improvement that may result from the development / deliverables shall be indicated qualitatively and quantitatively along with budget / expenditure in the next meeting.	COEWT to work out the details for presentation in the next meeting.

6	<b><u>Mile stone activity:</u></b> Chairman suggested that a one page report on mile stone plan /activity shall be prepared and circulated to all PRMC members in each of the projects	COEWT to prepare and send the same to all members.
7	<b><u>Methodology of partnership with Industries:</u></b> A policy document shall be prepared for effecting know-how transfer or sharing the technologies to industries and get the same approved by Governing Council for implementation	COEWT to prepare the document for approval by GC.

8	<b><u>Financial status:</u></b> Detailed budgetary status shall be furnished in a month and accounts representative shall join the next meeting.	COEWT to prepare and send the same to all members.
9	<b><u>Fund utilization:</u></b> PMRC expressed unhappiness on low utility of the allotted fund for first year. Timeframe shall be provided within which it would be utilized. PRMC stressed that 80% of the allotted funds shall be spent before March 17.	It was explained that since the funding for Tech 1 was received only by July some more time is required. COEWT to hasten up the placement of Purchase Orders for high value items
10	<b><u>Equipment Purchase</u></b> Chairman stated that the list of equipments, status of the procurement along with budget shall be provided for all the three technologies and submitted to the members within a month	COEWT to prepare and send the same to all members.
11	<b><u>Publicity</u></b> Publicity regarding the activities of the COEWT shall be given through all National and International journals / publications about COEWTW.	COEWT to initiate action.
12	<b><u>Tech 3 Mandate</u></b> The committee endorsed five groups of welding consumables that have been chosen for development in technology -3.	
13	<b><u>More members as Experts in PRMC</u></b> Experts from IGCAR (Dr. Shaju Albert) can be taken on board for providing the guidelines. Dr.Madhusudan Reddy suggested that agencies like IIT Mumbai and Star-wires can be contacted for melting of small quantities of new alloys for the core wire.	COEWT to invite Dr.Shaju Albert as a member of the PRMC.
14	<b><u>Welding filler wire – Coating</u></b> Shri. Ramkumar suggested that COEWT may develop new type of coating as alternative for Copper coating to improve the shelf life of welding filler wires.	Tech-3 would may take up this as additional mandate.
15	<b><u>Vist to Fraunhofer</u></b> DHI suggested that COEWT staff should visit the Fraunhofer messe that exhibits automation related systems and suggested that discussion can be had with Fraunhofer institute who are working on coatings also as they have a dedicated institute for the same.	To be considered by COEWT & PSG tech management.
16	<b><u>Skill Development programs</u></b> Skill Development programs are encouraged to be taken up by the COEWT in the fields of Welding and NDT.	COEWT to initiate action.

17	<b><u>Next PRMC meeting</u></b> Second PRMC meeting may be scheduled in first week of May 2017.	COEWT to get the consent from all concerned and fix the date.
18	<b><u>Next GC meeting: Suggestion</u></b> Second Governing Council meeting may be planned before the end of this Financial year.	COEWT to take action.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks by Dr.M.Kamraj, Professor from IIT Chennai.