

Commission on Building Stones and Ornamental Rocks C-10

Report to the IAEG Executive Meeting, LYON 2005

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The aims and objectives of C-10 are available on the C-10 website
<http://www.sgu.se./hotell/iaeg/Stone/IAEGstone.htm>

Last meeting Florence, Italy during IGC, 2004. Members and attendants, gave reports covering the period since the Istanbul, IMBS 2003 meeting.

Venue of next meeting: The next C-10 meeting has been scheduled to take place during The 10th IAEG Congress, Nottingham 2006.

The Florence C-10 meeting was well attended. Attendants gave reports from Belgium, Finland, France, Ghana, Latvia, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland, Sth.Korea, and Turkey. Some C-10 members were attending/lecturing at overlapping meetings and gave written comments. A C-10 poster by Shadmon and Uusinoka on Geotechnical Classification of Dimension Stone was displayed and showed the status of Natural Stone Standards developments; notes on "Stylolites, A Diagnostic Tool" by Pierre Potherat and the IAEG/UNESCO monographs project. The poster was also displayed in February 2005 at the First International Dimension Stone Congress in Guarapari, Brazil where 400 geoscientists and stone technical persons attended. A keynote presentation "Dimension Stone, Geotechnical Diagnostics" was delivered. The possibility was discussed to have an Argentine-Brazil Dimension Stone event by the local IAEG groups for Latin America, where there is a remarkable escalation and interest in stone production and use.

Correspondence and comments on discussions and reports submitted at the C-10 Florence meetings continued as well as consolidation of contacts with some 20 countries. . Variations on the use of the term Dimension Stone elicited special interest.

The annual meeting of CEN TC 246 on stone standardization was attended in Carrara, followed by the European Conference on Stone Products Protection in whom various academic and industrial groups, engaged in stone-related subjects were represented. The importance of information contained in the IAEG/ UNESCO monographs for compliance with CEN denominations, technical nomenclature and constants was stressed, essential for CE marking. A presentation on geotechnical aspects was delivered.

Publications

Activities in the period under review were focussed on the dissemination of the Nordic Stone monograph, which came off the press during 2003. Review copies and leaflets of Stone in Southern Africa and Nordic Stone were distributed at the Press Office of the annual Verona stones show in October 2004, and also at the First International Congress on Dimension Stone in Guarangpari, Vitoria. Wherever possible attention was drawn to the IMBS 2003 proceedings containing more than 40 papers on building stone.

There is a continuing demand for 'Stone in Southern Africa' co-published with 2002 in UNESCO, and " Nordic Stone" activated by references in the professional and industrial construction press, and via the display in the UNESCO Publishing catalogue. Future dissemination arrangements have to be considered as sales progress is presently paced mainly by the slow rate of press reviews. Other publications in the active pipeline are Stone in Brazil and Stone in Scotland where the text draft is almost completed but the clearing of the image copyrights is in the last stage.

The planned overview to cover ten years of Stone Standardization, from the inception of Stone Standards revisions in the 90's by CEN up to the recent releases of the EN Standards, has been delayed due to the demand for revision of several standards. TC 246 has now tabled new proposals for tests with CEN in Brussels for consideration.

Future Outlook

The core activities of C-10, monographs, standardization issues, classification and typology of stone will continue and at the same time promotion of other geotechnical aspects of stone. The organization of a Dimension Stone workshop to take place at the 10th Int'l Congress of IAEG in 2006 is considered in addition to a Latin American event.