

Commission on Building Stones and Ornamental Rocks C-10

Annual report to the IAEG Executive committee, 2007

CORE MEMBERS AND CONTACT ADDRESSES

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The aims and objectives of C-10 can be seen in enclosure 1. Shortly after the Nottingham convocation it was decided to change chairmanship from Prof. Asher Shadmon to Dr. Björn Schouenborg. The new chairman initiated the work of updating the Terms of reference & programme. The present edition was issued in March 2007

Venue of next meeting: The next meeting is scheduled to the 9th August 2008 in Oslo, Norway

Events

Heloisa de Frasca, BR, has been occupied with the planning of the 2nd seminar on Dimension stone to be held in Carrara end of May 2008.

Björn Schouenborg, SE has been re-engaged in CEN TC 246 Natural stones and TC 178/WG 2 Paving units of natural stones.

Most of 2007 activities were focussed on enhancing the C10 network and planning for a combined C10 and C17 seminar on Geological Construction materials, See Annex 2. At the time of drafting this report, the Seminar is ready and more than 50 presentations will be made.

The annual meeting of EURO-ROC was held in Breanäs, Sweden. Dr. Schouenborg informed the delegates of the new IAEG C10 structure and objectives

Research

It is the intention of C10 to compile information about ongoing RTD in the field of Natural stones. This work is now coordinated with a new European network of testing and research laboratories. The network was initiated by EUROROC and is chaired by Dr Reiner Krug, DNV, DE. Some of the larger European projects are mentioned below.

The largest European research project is presently the I-STONE project. See more under the homepage: www.istone.ntua.gr

A Nordic project aiming at disseminating information about CE-marking requirements and implement necessary activities among the producers. Also to define needs for revision of European stone standards and to produce common regulations among the Nordic countries to enhance a free trade. See homepage: www.nordicstones.org

ETP-SMR; European technological Platform – Sustainable Mineral Resources is a network aiming at introducing the needs of the natural stone industry into the European Commission's 7th Framework programme for Research and Innovation. Activities are still ongoing trying to get the platform accepted by the European Commission.

Liasion between C10, TC 246 and ASTM C 18 Dimension stone is under preparation.

Publications

No special publication from C10 was made during 2007. It is our hope that the seminar by IGC will result in a number of publications

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. However, the amended Terms of reference were reviewed and accepted by the meeting in Vail.

The new chairman being Dr. Björn Schouenborg from CBI, Swedish Cement and Concrete Research Institute (www.cbi.se). Dr Schouenborg has been employed for 18 years at SP Swedish Technical Research Institute (www.sp.se) and is now Manager of the combined SP-CBI Swedish Rock Material Centre.

The secretary post is shared by Dr. Nike Luodes and Dr. Hannu Luodes from Kainuun Etu Oy (www.kainuunetu.fi) and the Geological Survey of Finland (www.gtk.fi) respectively.

The date of the next C 10 meeting is schedule to the 9th August, immediately after the seminar in Oslo.

Together with Dr Barry Ananian-Cooper, Björn Schouenborg has been drafting a proposal for a new Commission on World heritage stone to be presented at the next council meeting in Madrid. The new Commission will have strong links to C10. The aim is to answer to the needs of the following two questions:

1) How can natural stone resources that have been widely appreciated in human culture and history be recognised by international convention?

2) How can natural stone that has been used for artistic and architectural masterpieces, and/or heritage construction, as well as widely appreciated routine stone applications, such as mill wheels, be formally designated?

Other matters

We hereby also take the opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to Prof. Asher Shadmon who initiated C10 and for many years acted as its chairman and wish him a happy retirement. We look forward to his continued participation in and support to C-10 activities.