

Inside this issue:

<i>Standing Committee Education & Training</i>	2
<i>"The wonderful world of Footbridges"</i>	2
<i>ECCE - ASCE Agreement of Co-operation</i>	3
<i>SuPerBuildings FP7 EU Project Final Workshop</i>	3
<i>The Professional Regulation of Civil Engineers</i>	4
<i>News from ECCE Members</i>	5
<i>Upcoming ECCE Meetings & Conferences</i>	9

News from:

- Cyprus
- Georgia
- Italy
- Malta
- Portugal
- Romania
- United Kingdom



New ECCE ExBo 2012-2014

MESSAGE FROM ECCE PRESIDENT

To prepare periodically this newsletter means to bring together periodically the European Civil Engineers and to be aware of their problems and their realizations, organizing a forum of ideas and of news - this is the main goal of the European Council of Civil Engineers and that is why we are implement it.

But to achieve this we really need the involvement of you, our Civil Engineer colleague, sending us your problems, your opinions, and proposing topics to be developed within ECCE. We may also act as a mean to send ideas for discussion in Brussels.

We will have a special area

for news from each country or for special topics to be proposed by you. Think that within ECCE you may get an idea of what is going on, across Europe, in any Civil Engineering topic. Just make an interesting question, we will circulate it across our members and the results will be published.

The newsletter will published each two months and will be substituted, twice a year by an ECCE Journal presenting the main reports from the ECCE General Assemblies / Conferences. If you want to receive it directly just send an email to our secretariat at ecce_sps@otenet.gr indicat-

ing in the subject the word "newsletter".

I thrust your involvement to achieve an interesting and useful ECCE Newsletter!

With the wishes of a Merry Christmas and a Good New Year



Fernando Branco
ECCE President



SPECIAL NEWS - NEW ECCE ExBo

2012 - October 26-27 – 56th ECCE GA

ECCE General Assembly took place in Dubrovnik being hosted by the Croatian Chamber of Civil Engineers which developed a magnificent organization and presented some public works under development in Croatia.

During this meeting the bi-annual elections for the Executive Board were performed and the ExBo for the next two years will be composed by:

- President - Fernando Branco (Portugal)
- Immediate Past President - Gorazd Humar (Slovenia)

- Vice President/ President Elect - Wlodzimierz Szymczak (Poland)
- Vice President/ Honorary Treasurer - Vincentas Stragys (Lithuania)
- Member - Jose Francisco Saez Rubio (Spain)
- Member - Massimo Mariani (Italy)
- Member - Nick Zygouris (Greece)

STANDING COMMITTEES

STANDING COMMITTEE Education & Training

The main objective of the SC on E&T for the year 2012 was the preparation of a study on "Enhancing the involvement of ECCE members in continuing education activities related to the implementation of structural Eurocodes"

The study was based on the results of two surveys.

For the phase I, completed in May 2012 and reported at the 55th ECCE meeting in Vilnius, was conducted a "Survey on the state-of-the art of implementation of the Eurocodes in the respective country".

For the phase II, completed in October 2012, was undertaken a "Survey on continuing education activities conducted for the implementation of structural Eurocodes in the respective country".

13 ECCE members have contributed to the study. The final report was presented at the 56th ECCE meeting in Dubrovnik.

On 30th September 2012 ended the 3-year project for the academic network EUGENE (European and Global Engineering Education), coordinated by the University of Florence, in which ECCE was among the 71 partners.

The project EUGENE comported 5 lines:

- Ph. D. studies
- Promote Engineering Education in Europe as a true research field
- Improve transnational mobility of engineering students, graduates and professionals
- LLL & Continuing education as a tool to improve competitiveness and innovation of European engineers
- Increase attractiveness of studies in science and engineering

ECCE was actively participating in the line C, which developed around 4 work-

packages (out of the total 23 of the project):

WP 7) European Engineering Standards and Qualification Frameworks

WP 8) Comparison of EUR-ACE and International Engineering Alliance Standards

WP 9) Engineering Standards Worldwide

WP 10) Mutual recognition of engineering degrees and qualification.

All materials produced by the project EUGENE can be found on the site: <http://www.eugene.unifi.it>

The work plan for 2013, adopted in Dubrovnik, established as main objective a "Study on the impact of the Bologna process on civil engineering education and profession in Europe".

Prof. Iacint Manoliu
Chairman
SC Education & Training

"The 3-year project for the academic network EUGENE (European and Global Engineering Education) finished on 30/9/2012."

TASK FORCE Civil Engineering Heritage New ECCE book project "The Wonderful World of Footbridges"

ECCE Task Force Civil Engineering Heritage (TF CEH) successfully launched in October 2009 a book titled Civil Engineering Heritage in Europe (18th - 21st century). This was an enormous book project with participation of 17 countries being ECCE members. The book with 376 pages presented the most interesting civil engineering structures built in Europe during last three centuries.

ECCE Task Force CEH recently decided to start working on a new ECCE book project with the title The Wonderful World of Footbridges. Since the book project was approved by the ECCE General Assembly the green light was switched to the Task Force CEH to start

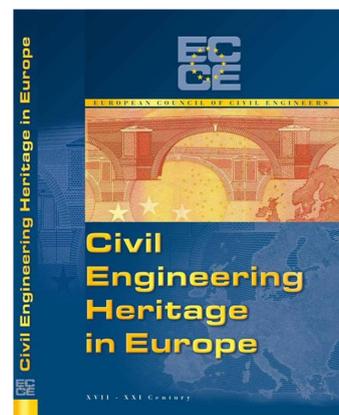
working on the project. The Editorial Board responsible for preparation of the new book was nominated during the 55th ECCE Meeting which took place in Vilnius, Lithuania, in May 2012.

What is the subject of the new book?

The aim of this book project is to make a presentation of most beautiful footbridges in Europe regardless the year of construction. Footbridges are bridges mainly built in urban areas and the users are the inhabitants. This is why the construction of each footbridge is a very sensitive and responsible issue and at the same time a big challenge for each bridge designer. Constructing footbridges in mountain areas must also

respect environmental requirements. The length of the main span of a footbridge is not the most important parameter of the bridge structure. We all agree that footbridges are very particular bridges and usually they present difficult task for their designers.

All kind of footbridges built whenever in Europe will be presented on 300 pages including photographs and texts with descriptions of bridges. All ECCE members are invited to participate in this book project. In such way all interesting, beautiful and innovative footbridges might be collected and presented. Preparation of articles with texts and photographs should be completed



in May 2013.

The book project is scheduled to be completed within the year 2013 and it is not optimistic to say that the wish of the Editorial Board is to make the book presentation during the 58th ECCE Meeting scheduled to take place in October 2013 in Cyprus.

Gorazd Humar
Immediate Past President
Chairman
TF Civil Engineering Heritage

NEWS FROM EU & OTHER ASSOCIATIONS

ASCE - ECCE Agreement of Cooperation

An Agreement of Cooperation between the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the European Council of Civil Engineers (ECCE) was approved within ECCE and will be signed soon to achieve cooperation and exchange of information between the two associations.

ASCE and ECCE have entered into this Agreement to facilitate the enhancement of the efforts of each organization to better serve the public and the engineering profession in its own country.

European Council of Engineers Chambers (ECEC) 9th General Assembly

ECCE Immediate Past President, Mr. Gorazd Humar, attended the 9th ECEC General Assembly that took place on 17th November 2012, in Vienna. He had a short opening speech presenting ECCE works and informed the participants about the decision taken in the 56th ECCE General Meeting in Dubrovnik regarding the organization of the 2nd European Engineers' Day in 2014. ECCE and ECEC will hopefully co-organize successfully this event as in the past.

In the second part of the ECEC GA the elections took place. Mr. Josef Robl concluded his successful 2 years mandate and a new ECEC President was elected. The new ECEC President is Mr. Ćrtomir Remec from IZS - Slovenian Chamber of Civil Engineers. The new ECEC General Secretary is Mr. Klaus Thueriedl from Austria, while the new ECEC Vice Presidents are Mr. Dragoslav Šumarac from Serbia, Mr. Hans - Jorg Letzner from Italy and Mr. Zygmunt Meyer from Poland.

Mr. Gabor Szollossy is remaining as ECEC Treasurer also for the next period.

ECCREDI Council Meeting 13th November 2012

On 13th November 2012 the European Council for Construction Research, Development & Innovation met. ECCE representative to ECCREDI, Mr. Brice Delaporte from France, attended the meeting. Among the important topics that were discussed during this meeting were news from the European Construction Technology Platform (ECTP), E2BA Roadmap, feedback from Building Up Workshop, Horizon 2020, etc.

ECTP news :

- a new version of the E2BA (Energy Efficient Buildings Association) Roadmap will be published early 2013. The Building Up project (www.buildingup-e2b.eu) and ICT 4 E2B FORUM (www.ict4e2b.eu) are 2 CSAs that provided important structural input to the E2BA Roadmap. About 58 EeB projects are taken up in the Projects list

- the reFINE (research for Future INfrastructure un Europe) Plenary Assembly will take place end January 2013 in Brussels. A new document is available since October 2012 which deals with « expected impacts » : green (-30% emissions CO2) / smart (+ 30% performance) / low cost (-30% of costs)

- the Task Force Infrastructure Workshop is scheduled on 28 February 2013

- the ECTP new Cooperation Agreement is under development

- the next ECTP Conference is planned for the week of 17 to 21 June which is also the European Sustainable Energy Week (EUSEW).

Horizon 2020 :

- The budget of €80 billion for Horizon 2020 (2014-2020) is still under discussion, some voices suggest for a substantial yet somewhat reduced budget.

- A draft strategy paper on the role of European Technology Platforms in Horizon 2020 (ETP2020) was published dealing with the core activities, proposed criteria of recognition, governance, funding

A presentation was given by Antonio Paparella, EC DG Enterprise and Industry, Unit "Construction, Pressure Equipment and Metrology" : **"Sustainable Competitiveness Communication of the construction sector"**

The Building Test Expo will take place on 11-13 June in Cologne.

SuPerBuildings FP7 EU Project Final Workshop

The SuPerBuildings FP7 EU Project consortium organizes the Final Workshop in Brussels on 18th December 2012, to present the main results of the project to members of the research community, policy makers, EU officers and stakeholders within the construction sector. During the length of the project, SuPerBuildings has developed and selected sustainability indicators for buildings with a special focus on their validity and reliability. SuPerBuildings has also developed further understanding about performance levels in Europe and recommendations for the effective use of indicators in different stages of building projects. For further information please visit the website <http://cic.vtt.fi/superbuildings>.

European Construction Forum (ECF) Meeting

The last ECF Meeting was held on 30 November 2012, in Brussels and it was hosted by the European Union of Developers and House Builders (UEPC). Mr. Karlheinz Zachmann, Chairman of the Standing Committee Development & Business Environment, attended the meeting on behalf of ECCE. During this meeting it was decided that ECF should identify topics on which consensus can be reached easily with the intention to set key messages that can be supplemented by each participant with its own, more detailed and/or complementary messaging. ECF should also actualize its manifesto in function of suggested topics. ECF should also organize a breakfast event in the European parliament around the actualized manifesto on 24 April 2013. The next ECF meetings will be:

- January 28th 2013, FIEC
- March 27th, 2013, CEPMC
- April 24th, 2013, European parliament-breakfast event

TOPICS UNDER DISCUSSION

The Professional Regulation of Civil Engineers

The civil engineering profession (or some acts of civil engineering) is regulated in some European countries (typically the southern and eastern European countries) and not in others.

In “*regulated*” countries, a professional civil engineer must be recognized and registered with a *Competent Authority* (association or ministry) to practice or undertake some designated acts. In non-regulated countries, any person may practice as a civil engineer.

To complicate matters further, some “*un-regulated*” countries have protected titles for their professional engineers (or for some engineering acts), and these are treated, for the purposes of the application of the European Directive, as regulated, becoming the country as “*partial-regulated*”.

Difficulties about recognition typically arise with the migration of professional civil engineers from non-regulated to regulated countries.

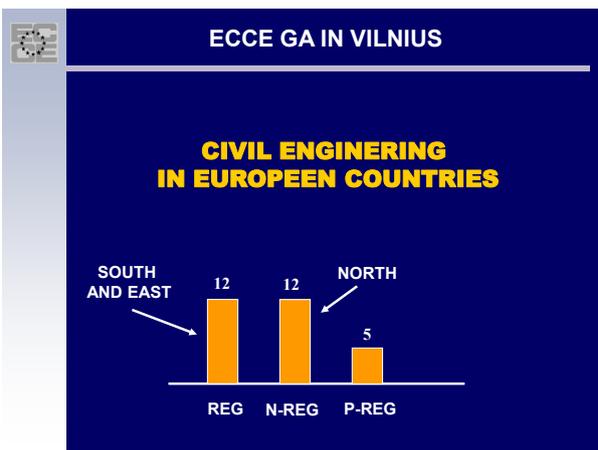
Presently a civil engineer to act as such needs to have a previous permission or a recognition from a national entity in the following ECCE countries: **Scotland** (Structural Engineers Register), **Slovenia, Spain, Portugal, Poland, Estonia, Hungary, Malta, Montenegro, Italy, Cyprus, Turkey, Serbia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Romania** (partially).

A civil engineer does not need to have such a previous permission or recognition in the following ECEE countries: **England, Wales, Czech, Ireland, Finland** (in general), and **France** (a professional insurance is needed).

More about this topic can be found in ECCE website www.ecceengineers.eu in the documents related to Professional Recognition Standing Committee as well as the new ideas brought by the recent European Directive on Mobility (2012).

Prof. Fernando Branco
ECCE President

“Difficulties about recognition typically arise with migration of professional civil engineers from non-regulated to regulated countries.”



56th ECCE General Assembly Meeting, October 2012, Dubrovnik, Croatia



55th ECCE General Assembly Meeting, May 2012, Vilnius, Lithuania

NEWS FROM ECCE MEMBERS

Cyprus

Panorama

- According to the Scientific Technical Chamber of Cyprus, there are 3.085 registered Civil Engineers in Cyprus.
- Records show that Civil Engineers in Cyprus have studied at universities from all over the world.
- There are three universities in Cyprus offering Degrees in Civil Engineering.
- The global economic crisis had a negative impact on the Building and Construction Industry in Cyprus. The economic uncertainty is expected to lead to more cautious investments in the industry, keeping construction activity at low levels. The Civil Engineers are faced with an increased risk of unemployment, whereas the opportunities to work in neighbouring countries are declining, due to the general economic slowdown in Europe and the political instability in the Middle East.

Prospects in the construction industry

- The recent discovery of hydrocarbon deposits in the Exclusive Economic Zone of Cyprus is a promising development for the economy of the island. The exploitation of the deposits could serve as a boost to the construction sector since new infrastructure will need to be developed, providing opportunities in the job market, especially for Engineers.
- The renewable energy resources sector (wind power and photovoltaic) has potential for growth for which, both the private and the public sector are expected to be involved.
- Also Cyprus is planning to improve the highways network with a budget of about €650 million to facilitate transportation and improvement of tourism.

Major construction works

- Significant road works interconnecting the cities and suburbs in Cyprus have been completed, providing major improvements in the transportation network of the island. Examples include the widening of the highway at the entrance of Nicosia and the improvement of Archangelos Avenue.
- Major waste water treatment plants have been completed in Nicosia, whereas the sewerage System in major cities and municipalities are being constructed in stages.
- The construction of the Limassol Marina is at the last stage of construction and is expected to be completed in 2013. The construction works for the Larnaca and Ayia Napa Marinas are expected to start soon.



National Conferences

- Valuation of seismic vulnerability of existing reinforced concrete buildings - diagnosis of systematic failure, 8-10/11/12 in Nicosia
- Site visit to the Fuel Terminal Station of VTTV, at Vasiliko area, 17/11/12
- Earthquake design valuation and redesign of reinforced concrete structures based on Eurocodes, 7/11/12 in Paphos
- Restoration of environment in the old asbestos mine, 22/11/12 in Nicosia
- The new legislation regarding the Limited Liability Companies and insurance on professional indemnity, 27/11/12 in Limassol
- Accessibility to buildings, for disabled people, 4/11/12 in Nicosia
- Engineers' professional recognition in Europe - Speech by the ECCE President, Prof. Fernando Branco, at the General Assembly of the Cyprus Association of Civil Engineers, 8/12/2012 in Nicosia



Georgia

Panorama

- The Georgian Society of Civil Engineers in October of this year as result of negotiations with the representatives of the Scientific Council of Georgian Technical University, began drafting a joint project of the European Commission "Tempus" program that will be used at engineering universities as guidelines.
- New training program related with conservation of historical monuments is carried out in cooperation with Georgia - American University by representatives of Georgian Society of Civil Engineers
- Mutual agreement between the UK Institution of Civil Engineers and Georgian Society of Civil Engineers is signed. According to ICE President's letter, Ms. Hayley Coleman, Area

Manager Europe, has already asked Thomas Telford Institute (TTL) publishing branch, to determine what informational materials could be sent in case of the creation of "Georgia European Union Friends civil engineers training and certification International Center".

- ECCE President and Immediate Past President have replied to the letter of the GSCE President regarding the creation of a Civil Engineers training and certification International Center supporting this idea.
- The representatives of our society's ruling council are involved in Advisory Council of Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, where the technical regulations of revision as a result of the technical regulations of the projects

NEWS FROM ECCE MEMBERS

and the international technical regulations in construction (euro codes) are considered to reallocation in territory of Georgia and evaluate the proposals.

Major construction works

Kobuleti bypass road, Kobuleti - Batumi section and Batumi bypass road project

The construction of Batumi and Kobuleti bypass roads starts by Asian Development Bank (ADB) funding in August and is expected to be completed in 2015. The Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia (MRDI) represents executive agency of project the Department of Motor Roads (RD) within the frame of Ministry is the executing Agency. In 2005 and 2009 the preliminary feasibility analysis was carried out. The proposed bypass roads decreased heavy-loaded road traffic and accidents, travel time and operating costs of vehicles. Georgia has the strategic location; the full use of this capital still did not start. It is the shortest connecting way between Europe and Armenia, Azerbaijan and Central Asian republics through the Black Sea ports of Poti and Batumi. It also would connect Russian and Turkey. The physical location ensures that it will become a major transport link between Black Sea, Caspian Sea and Central Asia. The Georgia road network is an essential importance of promoting inter-regional transportation and trade facilitation.

Italy

We are experiencing two great difficulties in Italy at the moment. In fact, the Italian Parliament approved the *Riforma delle professioni D.P.R. 07.08.2012 n° 137*, (Professions Reform, Presidential Decree n. 137. August, 2012), whose Implementing Regulations will be published within August of next year, what means a great uncertainty in the decisions to take in the regular exercise of the profession.

The second problem concerns, instead, the NTC2008 *Norme tecniche sulle costruzioni* (NTC2008 Technical Regulations on

Malta

Panorama

- The number of Warranted *Periti* (Architects and Civil Engineers) in Malta currently stands at 732.
- The Faculty of the Built Environment within the University of Malta is the only institution for the academic training of *periti*. The Faculty offers a six (6) year course with the first year being an Induction Course which is followed by a three (3) year course in Architecture and Civil Engineering leading to the award of a Bachelor degree. This is then followed by a two (2) year course leading to a Masters degree in either Architecture or Civil Engineering.
- Following graduation and a one (1) year training period with a Warrant Holder, all graduates may apply to the Warranting Board for the award of a warrant that authorises them to practice the profession. This is awarded on completion of a successful interview about their experience with the said Board.

Prospects in the construction industry

- Although the global economic crisis has had its impact on the general economy of the country and on the construction industry itself, this has not reflected itself in a downturn in investment and increase in unemployment. The local economy is strong when compared to the average of other EU Member

The projected road is located along the Black Sea Adjara region. It begins at Makhinjauri village at south - west portal of existing tunnel and ends at 0.8 km North of Chorokhi river on existing Poti - Sarpi road. The project road is located in Khelvachauri Districts of Adjara autonomous region.

The Kutaisi international airport

The Kutaisi King David the Builder airport construction began in November 2011 and it was opened on 28 September 2012. Airport terminal was designed by Dutch company "UN Studio" that is in top ten of world's best design companies. Construction work was performed by Georgian and European companies. The construction of 2600 m runway strip, traffic path and aircraft camps was performed by company "Black Sea Group". 400 people were employed in the construction of the airport. The airport is equipped with the highest quality and most recent, modern airport and navigation systems. The airport is managed by the French company "Vinci Airports" that is a branch of great French "Vinci" concern. The company "Vinci" in France's is second-largest and one of Europe's airports largest operator company. The Kutaisi King David the Builder international airport priority is to attract low cost airlines and the aviation market and create the competitive environment.

Constructions) and their interpretation. These provisions are applicable with difficulty, in particular because they have totally modified the calculations of structures. This is the reason why the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructures is still finalizing them. The result is that interpretations of the new Regulations are diversified at the regional and municipal level. It is, undoubtedly, the tribute we have to pay to the epochal transformations of the scientific method. At the same time, it is very difficult for engineers to design, because of the uncertainty of interpretation.

States.

- The construction industry has always been one of the major contributors to the economy. The infrastructural projects and the commercial, residential and leisure developments that have been executed over the last years, or are still being executed, have had a major impact on the economic well being of the country.
- The EU targets for alternative sources of energy have a major influence on the renewable energy resources sector (wind power, photovoltaics and energy from waste). This sector is expected to grow further with incentives from government and investment from the private sector.

Major construction works

- Major road works have recently been completed, or are still in the execution stage, providing improved access routes and a better road infrastructure. These works, both in Malta and Gozo, consist mainly in the reconstruction of existing roads and the improvement of junctions.
- The construction of three sewage treatment plants (2 in Malta and 1 in Gozo) has placed Malta as the only country in the Mediterranean where all sewage is treated before being discharged into the sea.

NEWS FROM ECCE MEMBERS

- Among the major construction works currently being undertaken one can mention:
 - the construction of a new Parliament Building;
 - the construction of an 80-bed Oncology Unit;
 - the construction of SmartCity through foreign investment from Dubai;
 - the construction of a Science Park;

National Conferences

Over the last year the Chamber organised a number of seminars and events:

- **FOCUS R – Restoration, Regeneration, Requalification. An International Conference** organised by the Chamber in collaboration with the University of Malta, University of Ferrara and the University of Naples Federico II

- **Concrete Materials & Structures, An International Conference** organised by the University of Malta, BASF – Ph. Tabone Ltd, the Building Industry Consultative Council and the Chamber.
- **Civil Engineering Encounters.** National Seminars organised by the Chamber on Earthquake Engineering; Restoration and Structural Engineering.
- Conference on Valuation Standards;
- CPD Courses on “The new Rent Laws and their impact on valuations”;
- Seminar on “Green Roof Systems” in conjunction with ZinCo of Germany;

Portugal

Panorama

- **Ordem dos Engenheiros** - The Portuguese professional association of Engineers has more than 19 thousand civil engineer members, and approximately 1300 civil engineering student members. Among the effective civil engineering members there are 3864 senior engineers, 464 specialists and 86 counsellor members.
- The **Portuguese Technological Platform for Construction (PTPC)** was recently created and is actively involved in making the national construction more competitive. <http://www.ptpc.pt>
- **Less Students in Civil Engineering** – A strong reduction in candidates to civil engineering courses occurred this year with around 1/3 of the candidates of two years ago. The unemployment and the necessity to work abroad for young engineers are the main causes presented for this reduction, this year with a global number of candidates of around 600.

News

- **SECIL Prize** - Every two year, Secil and the Ordem dos Engenheiros promote a prestigious prize to recognize outstanding Civil Engineering projects. This year's prize was awarded to the bridge, 4 de Abril, in Catumbela, Angola, an engineering design project by Armando Rito and Pedro Cabral.



- **Portugal-Colombia protocol** - The Portuguese professional association of Engineers, Ordem dos Engenheiros, and the Colombian professional associations, Sociedad Colombiana de Ingenieros, signed a protocol to facilitate the professional recognition between these institutions, promoting professional mobility between the countries.

Prospects in the Domestic Construction Industry

- Completion of the expansion of liquid gas terminal in Sines – The Projesines ACE, completed the construction of the project for REN Atlantico. The new terminal is capable of receiving ships up to 215 thousand m3 and store 2x120 thousand, plus 1x150 thousand m3 of natural liquid gas.
- New financing for energy efficiency projects – The Fund for energetic efficiency has announced financing for new projects and initiatives that will promote energy efficiency in residential, industrial and national state sites.
- Many major infrastructural development projects have been postponed and do not appear on next year's national budget. One example is the Marão tunnel where 300 million Euros were invested until August of 2011.
- The construction industry has lost, until September, more than 75 thousand jobs. The employment in the construction industry has fallen again in the last trimester of the year, reaching the lowest numbers in the last 10 years.
- Fewer contracts in the construction industry in the last trimester, forecasts less activity for the future. New contracts in the industry have fallen 13,9% in the trimester when compared with the same trimester in 2011. In the previous trimester contracts fell 50,7%.
- The economic importance of the construction industry on the gross domestic product has fallen to a minimum of the last 18 years. The sector represented in the past 7,3% GDP and investment in the second trimester of 2012 fell almost 20,1% representing the lowest value in the last 18 years.

Prospects in the Construction Industry Abroad

- The construction industry is the nation's fastest growing sector in international markets. In 2011 the construction sector had about 5200 companies working in 31 countries with 4100 million euros of income and new contracts in the value of 6300 million Euros representing 4% gross domestic product (GDP).
- Somague constructs port in Panamá - Minera Panama; S. A. commissioned the consortium comprising Somague (50%) and Sacyr (50%) the construction of port infrastructures necessary for the operation of a conventional copper extraction mine.
- The Casais Engenharia e Construção is the company who will build the first phase of Aga Khan Academy of Maputo, in the city of Matola, Mozambique.

NEWS FROM ECCE MEMBERS

National Conferences

- 4th National construction congress Dec. 18 to 20, 2012, Coimbra.
- International Seminar, Structural Condition Assessment of Bridges: Past, Present, and Future, Dec. 11, 2012, Lisbon.
- TWAM 2013 - Transboundary water management across borders and interfaces: present and future challenges, International Conference and Workshop – Mar. 16 to 20, 2013, Aveiro.
- 11th international symposium on fiber reinforced polymers for reinforced concrete structures (FRPRCS11), 26 to 28 Jun. 2013, Guimarães.
- 2th international congress of housing Portuguese speaking

countries, Mar. 13 to 15, 2013, LNEC, Lisbon.

- The first congress of the Portuguese speaking engineers took place on Oct. 18, 2012, and gathered more than 800 Engineers from all Portuguese speaking countries. <http://congressoelp.ordemengheiros.pt/pt/>



Romania

News

Contractor 12 (November 19,20th) - Construction Entrepreneurs Expo Conference

Conference joining several professional European associations, namely EIC - European international contractors, CICA – Confederation of International contractors associations, AEEBC – Asso-

ciation of European Building Surveyors and Construction Experts, CEU - European council of Spatial Planners, European Cement Association and local Romanian associations. ECCE president has been present with a presentation about Internationalization and Mobility.

United Kingdom

News

It has been a busy time for ICE since the 56th ECCE General Meeting in Dubrovnik. Barry Clarke has been inaugurated as the 148th President of the Institution of Civil Engineers, stressing the need to inspire the civil engineers of the future.

In his Presidential Address at One Great George Street, Barry challenged ICE members to inspire people with the iconic structures built by civil engineers, to innovate in the way they deliver projects, and to inform society and governments as the authoritative voice of infrastructure. He also stressed the need for education to be a lifelong commitment, constantly learning new ways of doing things.

A future ICE President has also gained recognition recently. Sir John Armitt, has accepted an invitation to lead an independent review for the Labour Party on improving the UK's infrastructure. Sir John Armitt, chairman of the Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA), will be tasked with drawing up plans for an independent commission that can assess the UK's long-term infrastructure needs.

The UK's aviation strategy – and the UK's long-term need for aviation infrastructure – has come into the spotlight in the UK, and has been a topic of discussion for ICE. To maintain its long term global economic competitiveness the UK is likely to require a hub airport on a single site with more than three runways and rapid connections to Central London. This presents a binary choice, expand Heathrow or close the hub at Heathrow and develop a new facility elsewhere in South East England. ICE, in collaboration with the Chartered Institute of Highways & Transportation (CIHT), has published a report examining aviation policy in the UK. The report, UK Aviation Strategy - Time to choose, describes how the aviation debate has become too heavily politicized and centered on a third runway at Heathrow, when in the long term, the UK is likely to need significantly more national hub capacity, which we must plan for now.

Infrastructure in the UK has received critical acclaim in light of the Olympics, held at various venues throughout the capital. While the Olympic Park featured many examples of good engi-

neering – such as the aquatic centre and the velodrome – London's transport network was put to the test. Contrary to the expectations of many, London's transport system successfully coped with nearly a million more journeys every day during the Olympic and Paralympics Games this summer. The years of meticulous planning, programme management and joint working clearly paid off. "Transport services operated well, keeping London and the UK moving and open for business despite carrying a record number of passengers," says Hugh Sumner, director of transport for the UK Olympic Delivery Authority. The games have thus left not only a strong legacy for newly regenerated parts of the city but also for London's transport.

BBC currently has a primetime series entitled 'Built in Britain', which focuses on current UK infrastructure challenges and projects and thus highlights the importance of civil engineering in society. In a recent interview featured on 'Built in Britain' between BBC presenter Evan Davis and Sir John Armitt, Chairman of the Olympic Delivery Authority, NEC3 – a family of contracts that facilitates the implementation of sound project management principles and practices as well as defining legal relationships – was labeled the 'hero' of the Olympic Park's successful delivery. The NEC website offers more information on this high-profile reference to ICE and UK engineering achievement, and even has a link to the relevant episode of 'Built in Britain': http://www.neccontract.com/news/article.asp?NEWS_ID=821.

Continuing to look into the future developments of and issues present within the construction sector, ICE has also recently teamed up with government departments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and leading engineers to take part in the international launch of the Construction Sector Transparency Initiative (CoST). The campaign calls on more countries and organizations to implement greater transparency in public infrastructure projects. CoST began in 2008 and has since been given support by the G20 group of nations and the World Bank.

ECCE MEETINGS

2013 May 31-June 1 – 57th ECCE General Assembly Meeting

The next General Assembly will occur in Lisbon, organized by Ordem dos Engenheiros. The program and registration will be sent in the first months of 2013.

2013 May 31 – ECCE Conference on “Changes in Civil Engineering”

The afternoon of Friday May 31st, during Lisbon 57th GA, will be used to organize a conference on “Changes in Civil Engineering”. All ECCE members (and non-members) are invited to submit a summary (maximum 1 A4) of a topic to be presented in the Conference with a time presentation of 12minutes. We invite your

imagination to bring ideas about:

- Tenders and financing;
- World construction;
- New areas of activity;
- Information technologies;
- New materials;
- Changes in education.

Summaries shall be submitted till the end of February by e-mail to ECCE Secretariat ecce_sps@otenet.gr with the subject words “Lisbon Conference”.

58th ECCE General Assembly Meeting

The 58th ECCE General Assembly Meeting will be hosted by the Cyprus Council of Civil Engineers and will be held in autumn 2013. More information will be given in due time.

CONFERENCES

ESCO Europe 2013

23 - 24 January 2013, Copenhagen, Denmark

ESCO 2013 is now in its 9th year. Since its inception, the ESCO event has grown into Europe's largest conference dedicated to energy performance contracting. This event has travelled all across Europe from Portugal, France, Germany and the UK, but 2013 marks the first year the event arrives in the Nordic region of Europe. (www.esco-europe.com)

11th International Conference “Modern Building Materials, Structures and Techniques”

16 - 17 May 2013, Vilnius, Lithuania

The conference will provide an opportunity for scientists, engineers, managers and professionals from around the world to share the latest achievements and to highlight the problems. Such a conference will be an excellent opportunity to meet colleagues, to exchange knowledge and experience, and to extend your list of contacts.

Starting from year 1991, faculty of Civil Engineering at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (VGTU) together with national and international partners already has organized ten highly successful international scientific conferences to discuss up-to-date problems in civil engineering. This conference is aimed at discussing of both industrial and academic research which has been recently carried out on analysis and design of modern structures, development of innovative building materials, maintenance of structures, building technology and management, etc.

The Conference is organized by Faculty of Civil Engineering, Vilnius Gediminas technical university and partners:
International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (Lithuanian group),
European Council of Civil Engineers,
The Association of European Civil Engineering Faculties,
The Association of European Operational Research Societies (EWG-ORSDC),
The Lithuanian Academy of Sciences
(<http://mbmst.vgtu.lt>)

2nd International Balkans Conference on Challenges of Civil Engineering

23 - 25 May 2013, Tirana, Albania

This conference is organized by the Epoka University and Polytechnic University, Civil Engineering Departments and will be attended by senior officials and decision-makers from academia and industry worldwide, bringing together buyers and suppliers in one location. This International Conference aims at bringing

together academic scientists, leading engineers, industry researchers and scholar students to exchange and share their experiences and research results about all aspects of Civil Engineering, and discuss the practical challenges encountered and the solutions adopted.

(<http://bccce2013.epoka.edu.al/>)

WFEO general assembly conference on “Innovative and Sustainable Solutions to Climate Change”

11 – 13 September 2013, Singapore

The WFEO general assembly will be organized in conjunction with the **World Engineers' Summit (WES) 2013** in Singapore the coming September. For more information about this event please visit the link <http://wes2013.org/>.

ECOCITY World Summit

25 - 27 September 2013, Nantes, France

ECOCITY is the cross-disciplinary World Summit on Sustainable Cities supported by the NGO Ecocity Builders.

The concept was originally designed to:

- Facilitate exchanges among local, regional and governmental decision-makers, researchers and the civil society,
- Bring together all the different disciplines on sustainable cities,
- Offer equal treatment to all speakers,
- Enable citizens to play a role.

Under the heading «**the city as a vital area of work to grapple with the global sustainability issues**», the Conference will serve as a **platform to accelerate change at a global level in partnership with the United Nations**.

(<http://www.ecocity-2013.com/en/>)

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ECCE ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

 ARONIS - DRETTAS - KARLAFTIS
Consulting Engineers S.A.



National Technical University of Athens
School of Civil Engineering

PROCEMA

Research, Design and Experimental
Production Institute in the Field of
Construction and Building Materials



ZENTRALVERBAND
DEUTSCHER INGENIEURE e.V. – ZDI



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Sustainable Environment”

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