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ICC Newsletter n°9

Happy new year to all ! Good health, good spirit, nice family, good working atmosphere, great achievements, peace in the world and genuine cooperation, these are my wishes for 2008 and beyond.

The most urgent and important issues for ICC are :

- 1) the coming 17th International Corrosion Congress in Las Vegas (USA)
- 2) a special session in Las Vegas on « Global approach of current and future corrosion problems worldwide »
- 3) the installation of a World Corrosion Organisation WCO
- 4) the report of the 16th ICC congress in Beijing (China)
- 5) the efforts and achievements of ICC in terms of international cooperation
- 6) the representation of all countries within ICC
- 7) the organisation of future ICC congresses (bids for 2011)
- 8) the election of a 2nd vice-chairperson at ICC

Let us look quickly at all these issues (details can be found on the ICC website : www.icc-net.org)

1) The 17th ICC congress, Las Vegas, October 6-10, 2008

The website for the congress is now under good progress : dates, venue, registration fees, exhibition are indicated and more details are expected to be displayed soon. The ICC website has a link towards www.NACE.org for details on the 17th congress.

The deadline for submitting abstracts has been postponed now until January 31, 2008. There is still time, but it is now urgent !

I really encourage you to take advantage of this 17th ICC Congress to demonstrate the expertise developed in your country and to explain the corrosion problems your country is facing. It is important that all countries be represented on the international corrosion scene.

ICC congress is a unique opportunity for corrosion people from all over the world to meet.

Please, take a few minutes of your time to contact all your colleagues and the young researchers in your country and around you to encourage them to be present at the 17th ICC Congress.

The executive Committee of ICC decided to implement some actions to encourage corrosion people from countries with a limited economy to attend the 17th congress. For more infos, see sections 2 and 5, below.

Immediate Past Chairman: Prof. J.Hans.W. DeWit
First Vice Chairman: Prof. Tooru Tsuru
Second Vice Chairman : Dr. Manuel Morcillo
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2) A session in Las Vegas on « Current and future corrosion problems worldwide »

The Executive Committee of ICC has proposed, and the organising committee has agreed to have a special session in Las Vegas on « Global approach of current and future corrosion problems worldwide ».

This session is organised under the auspices of ICC, in cooperation with WCO (World Corrosion Organisation).

For the first part of this session, ICC is seeking papers and authors to describe specific aspects of corrosion problems in emerging countries or in countries with little resources. Specific technical problems, local investigation capacities, local resources available, local specific solutions, impacts on the local economy, on safety and on the local society, needs and experience etc. are all interesting issues for this session.

ICC can and will offer some financial assistance to a limited number of authors from remote countries to contribute to this special session.

Abstract submission, deadline and acceptance procedure are the same as for the other abstracts. See the NACE link on www.icc-net.org.

Request for assistance accompanied by a copy of the abstract submitted should be directed to the chairman, apourbai@ulb.ac.be before the deadline for abstracts.

The second part of this special session is organised by Günter Schmitt, on behalf of WCO.

3) The installation of a World Corrosion Organisation WCO

Since the last ICC congress in Beijing, a World Corrosion Organisation WCO was installed with Georges Hays (NACE), Tony Keane (NACE) and Michael Schütze (EFC) as directors and with representatives of ACA (Australia), CSCP (China), EFC (Europe), ICorr (UK), CAMPI (Israel) and Saudi Arabia as administrators.

The goals announced by WCO are:

- raise public awareness on corrosion and corrosion control
- identify world best practises in corrosion management
- facilitate the provision of corrosion control expertise to governments, industries and communities
- normalise corrosion related standard worldwide.

Some of these goals overlap with those of ICC. The Executive Committee of ICC examined these goals and others in detail. These matters will be brought in front of the whole International Corrosion Council at its meeting in Las Vegas, next October, for an in-depth discussion.

In the meantime, the Executive Committee considers that ICC and WCO each have their own role and specificities. ICC will invite WCO to actively contribute to a session organised by ICC at the 17th congress on “Global approach to current and future corrosion problems worldwide” (see section 2 above).

4) Report on the 16th ICC congress in Beijing (China)

The 16th ICC congress was held in Beijing, from September 19 to 24, 2005 on the general theme « Corrosion and Protection in High Technology Era ». The organiser was the Chinese Society for Corrosion and Protection CSCP. 650 participants from 50 countries attended the conference, with 720 papers.

The largest national delegations were : China (290), Japan (42), USA (30), UK (20), Spain (20), Taiwan (17)

This congress was an opportunity to meet delegates from countries that are not so often present at international conferences. Among them : Malaysia, Lithuania, Sudan, Thailand, Vietnam and others. Such an opportunity is an interesting specificity of ICC congresses.

This 16th ICC congress in Beijing was pretty successful through its high scientific content and the extensive exchanges of scientific knowledge, new technologies and culture.

The 16th congress in Beijing may be considered as an example of the quality, the interest, the importance and the impact of ICC congresses.

5) The efforts and achievements of ICC in terms of international cooperation

5.1 Thanks to the generosity of the GAMRY company and on the recommendation of ICC, two sets of electrochemical instruments were donated to research teams (one in the Philippines and the other in Egypt) that demonstrated their motivation and involvement in corrosion studies and that have little financial resources. ICC expresses its gratitude to Pete Peterson (GAMRY) for making this action possible.

5.2 ICC is offering two awards to help young researchers attending ICC congresses. Each award amounts to a maximum of 1.000 euro. The terms of references for these awards are described on www.icc-net.org, under « ICC awards ».

5.3 ICC has the possibility of assisting a limited numbers of authors from countries with a comparatively weak economy to contribute to a special session at the 17th congress in Las Vegas on « Global approach to current and future corrosion problems worldwide ». Application with an abstract, a resume of the authors and a recommendation from a local corrosion organisation (or similar) should be addressed to the ICC chairman at apoubai@ulb.ac.be.

Attention : deadline for submitting abstracts (presently : end of January 2008) and other requirements from the organising committee apply.

The contribution from ICC may amount to between 1.000 and 1.500 euro, depending on country, distance etc.

The terms of reference can also be found on www.icc-net.org, under « ICC awards ».

5.4 At the last Council meeting in Beijing, it was proposed that ICC members who feel that their government or local authorities are not enough aware of or concerned with corrosion problems and prevention should contact the ICC chairman, with a detailed description of the local priority problems, the justifications, the proposals or claims. ICC may then write to the local authorities, with reference to the response to similar situations and problems in other countries, with arguments for an increased awareness of corrosion, and with reference to the local expertise available.

5.5 ICC members are encouraged to use ICC and the international corrosion community to exchange young corrosion researchers, to exchange all types of scientific and technical informations (literature, experience, successes and failures...), to provide when possible second-hand or less recent instrumentation etc.

6) The representation of all countries within ICC

It is important that all countries be represented at ICC. The role of national representatives is not just to vote for the next congress venue : they are expected to give a detailed description of the corrosion related questions in their own country : major local and national problems, local sources of information and expertise, national research organisations and facilities, equipments available, major needs in terms of equipment, people, exchange of information, literature, needs and possibilities for exchange of researchers, visiting experts...

Representatives to ICC must thus have a detailed knowledge of their own country, and should be able to report in total independence. It is also important to bring new and young people within ICC, so as to prepare for candidates to the Executive Committee. The candidates for vice-chairman are selected among the ICC members, and the total term in office lasts for 12 years.

Manuel Morcillo, 2nd vice-chairman is responsible for the list of ICC members. Applications from new members and new countries should be directed to him at morcillo@cenim.csic.es. It is important, when possible, to have the applications supported by a known local corrosion organisation. When there is no such organisation, the application should describe the local situation and the reason for nominating the applicant.

New applications are received (by Manuel Morcillo) until a few weeks before the next congress. At the Council meeting, the new applications are first examined, so that the new approved members can validly act during the rest of the meeting.

7) Bids for the 18th ICC congress (2011)

The deadline for bids for the 18th congress in 2011 is end of February 2008. See the procedure for bidding in section 7 of the ICC constitution and bye-laws on www.icc-net.org.

8) The election of a 2nd vice-chairperson at ICC

The procedure for electing a 2nd vice-chairperson of ICC is now launched. All members of ICC will receive a ballot letter that should be returned to the secretary of ICC before the first meeting of the Council at the Las Vegas congress.

The voting procedure is described under section 6 of the ICC constitution and bye-laws on www.icc-net.org.

Again, happy year 2008, and we are looking seeing you in Las Vegas, next October,

Antoine POURBAIX and the Executive Committee of ICC.