



IAEA/RCA/NDT

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A quarterly publication on the activities of Non-Destructive Testing taking place in the countries participating in the IAEA/RCA/NDT Project

Asia Pacific NDT Conference, Yokohama, Japan, 8-13 November 2009

I had the privilege of going to the 13th APCNDT – recently and met up with many friends from the IAEA project committee. Most of my time was spent in meetings but I did get to all the plenary lectures at the start of each day.

Our good friend, Abd. Nassir Ibrahim from Malaysia presented the opening plenary lecture on the way ahead in Malaysia adopting harmonisation of its certification scheme to meet both ISO9712:2005 and ISO/17024. This was an apt subject and was very well received by many of the dignitaries present, including Mike Farley, Chairman of ICNDT, who presided over the ICNDT Policy and General Purpose Committee (PGPC) the day before.

One of the main purposes of the PGPC meeting was to ratify the ICNDT Strategic plan going forward to 2012. A major aim of the strategic plan was global harmonisation and recognition of qualification and certification of NDT personnel, which is fundamental to the aims of all of us involved in RAS/8/105. This work has been entrusted to a working group (WG1) headed by its chairman, John Thompson, who has enthusiastically accepted the challenge to meet all of its objectives by the time of the next WCNDT in South Africa in 2012.

Besides harmonisation, other objectives include ICNDT establishing itself as an alternative to

even talk of EFNDT and the IAEA/RCA member states having a multi-lateral recognition agreement (MLA) between them once this has been achieved.

I also attended a workshop organised by JSNDI which was centred on the needs of developing nations in the SE Asia region. Common concerns such as the need for a regional examination database and suitable validated practical test pieces for examinations were high on the agenda. The workshop and conference also gave an opportunity to discuss the road to harmonisation with senior members of the delegations from India and South Korea. The indications were that both countries, and Japan, could see the pressing need to align themselves with certification schemes that conform to ISO17024. Not to do so would mean that NDT personnel in such countries would continue to be disadvantaged over time with respect to the portability of their qualifications and certification.

Thanks, naturally, goes to the generosity and hospitality of our courteous hosts, Japan, and a memorable Asia Pacific NDT conference. Perhaps my most vivid memory will always be the night when John Thompson and I, with Jocelyn Langlois and Ricky Morgan of ASNT, behind us, survived a hair-raising ride on the roller coaster in the theme park next to the conference centre.

Finally, the way ahead is clear. Most IAEA/RCA member states are well on the way to achieving

other accreditation bodies for the approval of national certifying bodies, since many ICNDT member countries do not have IAF accredited organisations. Of equal importance is having a common examination question database for all ICNDT members, particularly those that find it difficult to meet these requirements without a great deal of effort.

On the standards front, TC135 (ISO9712) chaired by Professor Hatano of Japan, and CEN138 (EN473) chaired by Patrick Fallouey (France), have formed a sub-group to essentially harmonise these two standards as such that little difference will exist between them. Once achieved this will mean a significant advance in the global harmonisation of certification schemes. There is harmonisation over the next two years. Those who don't do this will do a disservice to their main stake-holders, the NDT operators who will not have the portability of their qualifications when the time comes for universal recognition of certification schemes that conform to ISO17024.
(by Mr. David Barnett from Australia)

News from RCA Countries

Malaysia

Scientific Visit to United Kingdom

Nuclear Malaysia has been awarded an IAEA/TC project for the "Establishment of Procedures and protocols in Digital Industrial Radiography (DIR) for Small and Medium Enterprise (SME)" with the main objective being to develop local capability in DIR technology and subsequently disseminating to SME in Malaysia. For that, Dr. Ab. Razak Hamzah, treasurer of MSNT and the manager of NDT group, Nuclear Malaysia has undertaken a two weeks (6-19th September 2009) visit at Computerized Information Technology (CIT) Company at Milton Keynes. CIT are a company heavily involved in various aspect of DIR such as film digitations, Computed Radiography (CR), Flat Panel and also provides training and consultancy in this technology. Apart from CIT, he also visited TWI Technology Centre at Port Talbot and BINDT Conference and Exhibition at Blackpool to meet and discuss with UK experts as well as to see the equipment related to DIR technology.



Beautiful scenery of Minato Mirai, Yokohama, the venue of APCNDT 2009.

representatives from the secretariat. The main objective of this meeting was to make an assessment on the implementation of the conference. Weaknesses are identified and suggestions were formulated on how to improve the situation in the future. However, in general, all members agreed that MINDTCE 09 was the most successful NDT conference ever been organized by the society. Special thanks were conveyed to PETRONAS, Ascope Gas Centre, Nuclear Malaysia and SIRIM for their contribution in this conference. At the end of this meeting members agreed that a similar conference will be organized again in 2011. In addition, members urged the Society to make a proposal at the coming 13th Asian Pacific Conference for NDT (APCNDT) in Yokohama.



During the post MINDTCE meeting, two prominent NDT experts Mr. David Barnett of AINDT and Mr. Issac Einav for TO NDT IAEA at the conference dinner.



Dr. Razak with CIT staff at Milton Keynes, UK

Post MINDTCE 09 Meeting

A post MINDTCE 09 meeting was held on 19th August 2009 at PETRONAS, Dayabumi Kuala Lumpur. The meeting was attended mainly by members of Steering Committee and some from 2010. The Vice Presidents of KSNT were elected as: Prof. Ik Keun Park (Seoul Industrial Univ.), Mr. Young Lee (KNDT & I), Dr. Yong Moo Cheong (KAERI) and Prof. Hun Hyun Lee (KETEP).

Philippines

The Philippine Society for Non-Destructive Testing (PSNT) together with CIFRA Marketing and PROCEQ, Singapore sponsored an Appreciation Course on Non-Destructive Testing applicable in Civil Engineering held at Heritage Hotel, Roxas Boulevard corner EDSA, Pasay City on September 1, 2009.

The Appreciation Seminar was attended by more than fifty (50) Practicing Civil/Structural Engineers from various companies and institutions and about ten (10) Professors from different colleges and universities. The Objective of the seminar was to introduce to the participants the various NDT methods and technologies applicable to Civil Engineering. The Lectures was followed by an actual demonstration on the uses of the different NDT equipment by PROCEQ Engineers.



The Philippine Society for Non-Destructive Testing Board of Directors together with the Keynote Speaker, Dr. Adolpo Jesus Gopez of

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Republic of Korea

2009 KSNT Annual Fall Conference, Seoul, 6 Nov. 2009

KSNT Annual Fall Conference was held on 6 November 2009 in Seoul. Special lectures for the Conference are:

- 1) "Recent developments in ultrasonic guided waves for aircraft and composite materials" by Prof. J. L. Rose (Pennsylvania State Univ. U.S.A.)
- 2) "Fundamental challenges and needs in NDE and structural health monitoring", by Dr. Kumar Jata (U.S. Air Force)

The New President and Vice Presidents of KSNT

Dr. Seung Suk Lee was elected as the 15th President of KSNT (Korea Society for Nondestructive Testing) for a term of 2 years president FEATI University during the 24th PSNT Annual Convention and General Membership Meeting last November 20, 2009 at the Camelot Hotel, Mother Ignacia St., Quezon City. The 24th Annual Convention and General Membership Meeting was attended by more than one hundred (100) members of the society and with the theme "NDT Linking Safety and Quality thru Skills and Technology". In the picture below is from left to right standing, Eng'r. Isidro Millo of Metal Industry and Research Center (MIRDC), Eng'r, Roland Cabasa of National Power Corporation (NPC), Eng'r. Gonzalo Puga of SCITEC Corp. Eng'r. Antonio Calayag of Chevron Phils., Eng'r. Edgardo Aguilar of Lufthansa Technik, Eng'r. Dante Bernardo of Welders Testing Laboratory (WTL), Eng'r. Alejandro Mateo, Executive Director PSNT and seated from left to right, Eng'r. Renato T. Banaga of Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI), Mr. Gener De Leon of CIFRA Marketing, Dr. Estrella D. Relunia, PSNT Training Coordinator, Dr. Adolpo Jesus Gopez of FEATI University and Eng'r. Gerald Gallardo of CIFRA industrial Services, (not in the picture is Eng'r. James Porter of Filconfab).

