W094 - Design for Durability

In Information Issue 3/99 a Report was given on the Meetings of those TGs and WCs held in conjunction with the 8th International Conference on Durability of Building Materials and Components in Vancouver last May.

One such meeting was missing since the Minutes were not to hand at the time of compiling the Bulletin. This was W094 - Design for Durability. Thanks to its Secretary Ed Bartlett these are now available and in line with our Editorial Policy of endeavouring to report on every CIB meeting that takes place (even if on occasion some time afterwards) we are pleased to report on W094 below.

We are also taking the opportunity to report on the attendant W094 Editorial Committee Meeting and to update parts of the Report on the Joint W094/W086 Meeting which was included in Information 3/99.

There were 12 countries represented at the Business Meeting of W094 held in the morning of 30th May 1999 in Vancouver in conjunction with the 8th International Conference on Durability of Building Materials and Components (8DBMC).

State of the Art Report

In the discussion on the practical applications of the CIB Pro-Active Approach there was consensus that the main activity for W094 during the period leading up to the CIB World Building Congress in 2001 should be to produce the draft state of the art report on the application of design for durability which would also focus on the incorporation of the emerging ISO 15686 Standard in building design practice within various countries.

It was also agreed that a number of papers should be prepared covering aspects of this theme for presentation at the CIB World Building Conference. These papers should serve to generate further interest in the reports and hopefully encourage submission of case studies from the Conference Participants. The end result should be to facilitate completion of the final report before the 9th DBMC in 2002.

An Editorial Committee was set up charged with the tasks of defining the format of the report and its exact contents.

This Committee lost no time in getting down to work and met on 3rd June 1999. A summary of what transpired follows this report.

Preparation of Joint W094/W086 Meeting

Optimal coordination and cooperation with W086 Building Pathology was then considered against the background of the Joint Meeting which would take place in the afternoon.

A brief report on this Joint Meeting was featured in Information 3/99.

Future Meetings

- Regional Workshop 21st June 2000
  A Regional Workshop to be organised by W086 and W094 and the Instituto Superior Tecnico,
Lisbon will be held on 21st June 2000. Papers are invited. Please refer to page 00 in The Section News of Forthcoming Meetings for the Technical Programme and Topics.

- W086 and W094 Parallel Meetings 22nd June 2000
  The Regional Workshop will be followed by two meetings of W086 and W094 scheduled in parallel also in the Instituto Superior Tecnico on 22nd June 2000.

**W094 - Editorial Committee Meeting**

W094 Secretary Ed Bartlett reports that the Editorial Committee to which reference is made above met on 3rd June 1999.

The general feeling was that the target for the first draft of W094 output should be the World Building Congress in New Zealand in 2001.

Next the Meeting recalled the principal activities as they had been defined at the 1998 Meeting in Gävle, Sweden.

These concerned:

- The Questionnaire
- Design Methodology "Whole Life Design - the state of the art in Design for Durability"
- Case Studies

**Issues To Be Considered**

In the course of the ensuing discussions several important questions surfaced and among the many issues that were judged to merit further consideration the following may be mentioned:

- State of the art report - why design for durability or service life on the international construction industry/design - what are the drivers - why do we want to do this?
- Can we tailor the report to demonstrate to the emerging ISO 15686 and to each stakeholder who would require its use in practice?
- Perceived barriers, and links for standard development
- Is there a link to W087 - Post Construction Liability?
- Develop the Vivendi model into a common framework as the design methodology?
- How do we consider the on-site issue - difficult issue?
- Do we get better-detailed buildings from more durable buildings?

**Action Plan and Schedule**

An Action Plan was formulated to define the nature of the contents of the Commission Report and to achieve a critical mass with other activities.

The time-scale as proposed envisages the deadline for individual contributions as being August 2000 with the draft for the CIB World Building Congress being ready by April 2001. The aim is to have the final version ready for publication in 2002 for the 9th DBMC.

Ed Bartlett
W094 - Design for Durability and W086 - Building Pathology

Joint Meeting

This report amplifies the account of the Joint W094/W086 meeting which was first reproduced in Information 3/99. This took place on 30th May 1999.

Notes Ed Bartlett:

The aim of this meeting was to finalise the suggested joint project.

Agreed Activities

The following two items were agreed as the nucleus of the proposed project:

1. Some 10-15 general truths in building pathology that relate to durability - considered for new design/construction, repair and maintenance - defects & failures (for both durability and pathology - a number in each area)
2. Case studies to demonstrate the above truths - to test or validate and see if applicable to all types of construction - case studies that are already known to experts and academics - identify what are the recurring themes - to move towards better and new solutions

Issues Raised and Comments Made

- Identify target audience - as designers are broad group who include subcontractors, manufacturers, engineers
- Soft issues should be brought out - cases should include photos - do we bring them out and test or verify them in the marketplace?
- General - agree the list of building elements i.e. envelope, fabrics, services etc.
- It should appeal to the wider audience

As with the W094 Editorial Committee a realistic inventory of actions was coupled and a time-scale agreed. This approach augurs well for successful implementation of the tasks.