From CIB’s Board and Committees

Report of the 5th Meeting of the Publications Committee

Sao Paulo, Brazil, 28th November 2000

Chair: Dr. Rodney Milford, CSIR – Division of Building Technology, South Africa

By

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Although Chairman Rodney Milford said later to the Board that constraints of time had somewhat truncated the meeting of the Publications Committee which meant that certain items on the Agenda could not be discussed, the fact that its members were ready and willing to start the meeting at 7 a.m. says much for their dedication.

Dissemination of Publications
In its discussion the Committee noted the need to adopt a more pro-active approach to the dissemination of publications. It was essential to identify the Groups to be targeted and Coordinators and others will be asked for their advice. After all, as the Committee recognised, the ongoing campaign to make CIB publications more attractive to industry will be to no avail if industry remains unaware of the existence of the publications. One relatively small but potentially fruitful area for action would be to seize every opportunity to draw attention to CIB Publications.
**Quality System for Publications**

A Quality System for CIB Publications has been the focus of attention for some time. Although the situation is still one in which appropriate preparatory steps are under consideration, discussions did progress in São Paulo.

Allied to the introduction of a Quality System are Key Performance Indicators. In discussions on this Topic the Publications Committee identified the perceived usefulness of the contents of a given publication as being a pertinent measure.

Formal planning of CIB Publications is now standard practice and the Committee was able to review what is in the pipeline in the various Commissions and Task Groups.

**Scope of Publications Committee**

The Meeting in São Paulo did manage to engineer the limited time available to look into the question as to whether there was a genuine need for a CIB Publications Committee. It was recalled that it had originally been set up as a Sub-Committee of the Programme Committee.

Since then its scope had become very broad which had given rise to the difficulty of agreeing on prioritisation.

Anyway the unanimous verdict was to make a formal recommendation to the new Board that the Publications Committee should continue.

The Chairman will re-write the Terms of Reference for submission to the new Board.

Moreover, it is intended in the future to meet twice a year, which should result in the Committee taking more than merely a reactive stance.