At October 1 – 3, 2000 Joint Committee CIB W083/RILEM 166-MRS – Roofing Materials and Systems held its committee meeting in Florence, Italy. The meeting was kindly hosted by ICITE at the CNR-Instituto Per La Ricerca Sul Legno in Florence, Italy. Ten participants attended the meeting, six regrets were received in advance.

Introduction
Piermaria Sartori welcomed the committee members to Florence; recognising ICITE as the host for all meetings and lunches. Dr. Stefano Berti, Director of the CNR - ISTITUTO PER LA RICERCA SUL LEGNO welcomed all committee members and wished them a productive meeting. As Walt Rossiter and Ed Kane were unable to attend the meeting, Ralph Paroli and Tom Hutchinson assumed the roles of Chairman and Secretary, respectively.

Ralph called the meeting to order and distributed a letter from Walter Rossiter. All members wished that Walt and Ed had been able to attend this last meeting of the committee. They were thanked for the hard work and dedication in steering this committee over the last 5 years.

Purpose of the meeting
The purpose of the meeting was to finalise the work of both Task Groups, begun in Brussels in 1996 for publication in January/February, 2001.

State of the Art in Roofing
The participants informed the attendants of the State-of-the-Art as regards roofing materials in their respective countries and regions. Subjects discussed included the application of specific
types of roofing materials, such as TPO, EPDM, APP, SBS, current guidelines, standards and specifications, testing methods and certification issues.

Also discussed were issues such as sustainability, performance-based specifications for roofing, the role and workmanship of contractors and the economic situation of the construction industry and the current situation of roofing material and systems manufacturers. Countries and regions represented were Europe, Belgium, Italy, UK, Brazil, Japan, USA and Canada.

**Task Group results**
The goal for both Task Groups is conclusion of their activities by December 31, 2000 with publications being near completion.

**Task Group I**
The Task Group Members presented information on:
- BELCAM Roofing Data Collection Protocol and Integration with predictive tools (from Brian Kyle).
- Test Methods developed by CEN (from Jerry Saunders).
- Task Group I Flowchart for Roofing System Condition Assessment (from Brian Kyle).
- Protocol for Remaining Service Life Assessment comments (from Tom Smith).
- Outline Suggestions (from Ralph Paroli).

Furthermore, the report for the Task Group was further discussed. The draft report is planned by early January; Ralph Paroli will send it out for review, amend according to the comments received and re-distribute for final review.

**Task Group II**
As a result of the June 1999 meeting, a list of 21 tenets was distributed. Key component of work, translation to various languages is important for greater understanding. The Working Commission aims at translation –from English- into French, Spanish, German, Finnish, Swedish, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Portuguese and Italian. The translations should be ready by October 31 - November 10, 2000.

The report draft and bibliography will be distributed for discussions. The bibliography is to be cross-referenced with tenet justification.

As regards the distribution of the task group’s report, it is important to decide how the documents are to be made available. It was felt that web posting is very important. IRC is willing to set-up a web page for the committee documents, but perhaps CIB or RILEM would prefer to have it reside on their sites.

**New Business**
- Tom Smith is preparing a book on low-slope roofing for NCARB, he requested permission to reference and use committee’s work. The Committee approved.
- Teresa O’Dea indicated that there is interest for RSI magazine to publish the tenet list. She will publish an article on the committee’s work. The committee thanked Teresa and RSI for helping to publicise the findings of the committee.
- Tom Hutchinson will provide needed photos for the Task Group II report.
- Keith Roberts will explore having the tenets published in RCI & Architects journals.
**Future of Committee**

The question was raised: With the Committee completing its current activities, should we continue? The answer was a definite “Yes,” but the participants urged that only one topic be addressed. Potential topics for continued work (listed below) were discussed, but no decision was reached. The current members will be contacted later by e-mail to “vote” as to their choice for activities. Potential new members will also be asked to participate in the selection process. The topics to be considered include:

- **TPOs** – These membrane systems are receiving a lot of attention worldwide. There is a need to have a better understanding of the welding window and their performance under varying climate conditions. This is a topic that may attract new members and lose some of our current members.
- Performance Standards and their environments.
- International standardisation: Come up with values for the selection of materials – comparing values from Europe with North America and South America.
- On site/field testing: Adhesion to supporting structure, application-related testing (e.g., seam testing).
- Detailing for sustainability: Detailing of drain system, how to make the roof more energy efficient, controlling rainwater, etc.
- Accelerated weathering/testing – choose 1 material only.
- Effect of the tenets on service life/durability of roof systems.
- Effect of building a more robust roof.
- Labour shortages: How can we handle it?
- Rainwater drainage systems (goods): How to remove water from the roof.
- Criteria for selection of materials (values).

**Other Issues**

The Chair thanked Keith Roberts and Tom Hutchinson for doing a superb job with the Sustainability Task Group and Teresa O’Dea for attending and reporting on our activities. This is of great benefit to the committee. The chair also thanked all attendees for their contributions to the committee work, Tom Hutchinson for being the acting secretary and Piermaria Sartori and ICITE for organising the meeting and the hospitality.

The commission extended their congratulations to Tom & Karen Hutchinson on the birth of their son.

**Next meeting**

The participants agreed that the next meeting should take place during ICBEST, which is the week of June 25, 2001 in Ottawa (tentative meeting dates are June 29th and 30th, 2001).