



CIB NEWS ARTICLE

International Council for Research and Innovation
in Building and Construction

Providing a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research
and innovation in building and construction, in support of an improved building
process and of improved performance of the built environment.

December 2005

Around the Task Groups and Working Commissions

W086 – Building Pathology

Report of the Commission Meeting held in April 2005 in Lyon, France



by

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Introduction

Items discussed included the status on the “State-of-the-art Report on Building Pathology (BP)”, paper-based archives and IT-related projects.

State-of-the-Art Report: Status

As part of the planned output of W086, a “State-of-the-art Report on Building Pathology (BP)” was scheduled for finalization and publication in 2005. However, a number of contributions by commission members haven’t been submitted yet. It was decided that Coordinators would continue to collect the missing contributions, and to re-discuss the final report at the next W086 meeting in 2006.

Paper-Based Archives on Failure

Examples of national paper-based archive of building failure were presented as follows:

- The English *Defect Action Sheets* edited by BRE during the golden age of national building research institutions (see fig. 1)
- The *Fiches Pathologie du Bâtiment*, edited by the French Agence Qualité Construc-tion (a national

institution funded by insurances) and the French insurance company Fondation Excellence SMA.



Defect Action Sheets from BRE

Other paper-based archives were presented, including:

- Various collection from WEKA, a professional publisher, about "Pathologie des structures" and "des ouvrages de bâtiment".
- "Guide pratique des défauts de construction" by the Belgian Research Institute CSTC, expressly made with and for the local Contractors Association

IT-Related Projects

Discussions turned then to digital versions of building pathology related archives, often available for free or after registration from Internet. The following archives were quoted:

- The digital version of AQC-SMA's "Fiches Pathologie Construction"



A durability database by HAPM (UK)

- The BLP collection, a database, available after subscription and the payment of a fee)
- The NUS (National University of Singapore) site Maintainability Under Tropical Conditions, designed to study the maintainability issues of various categories of buildings under tropical conditions and to offer users a wide archive about building technologies, most frequent failures, defects to be pre-vented, their frequencies and required tests to identify and solve problems.



Another durability database from Singapore.

- The Portuguese PATORREB archive
- The Italian "imparare dagli errori" archivi

The subsequent discussions confirmed the urgency to find a way (and the funds) to establish an international network linking local archives and a reciprocal control system and sharing of data.

It was decided to consult with the CIB General secretariat regarding the possibility of an European fund (e.g. a COST Action) to activate this project.



The Portuguese PATORREB database.



The Italian database about Failure Modes

Future Meetings

The next meetings of W086 will be as follows:

- 2006: Meeting in conjunction with the International Symposium "Construction in the XXI Century: Local and Global Challenges", to be held in Rome, Italy on 18-20 October 2006. See News article on the meeting [here](http://www.artecweb.it/PUB/cib2006). See the Symposium website at <http://www.artecweb.it/PUB/cib2006>.
- 2007: Meeting in conjunction with the CIB Triennial World Congress 2007 to be held on 21-25 May 2005 in Cape Town, South Africa. More about the CIB Congress at <http://www.cib2007.com>

Additional Information

For additional information about CIB W086 and its future meetings, please contact:

- The Coordinator, Prof. Sergio Croce at sergio.croce@polimi.it or
- The commission Secretary Dr. Enrico de Angelis at enrico.deangelis@polimi.it



You can find more information on the activities of CIB W086 at www.cibworld.nl

Search under Databases/CIB Commissions. Click on Commissions and type W086 in the search field.