The conference was organized under the patronage of the International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction (CIB) and CIB Working Commission W099 in partnership with the (Tsinghua – Gammon) Construction Safety Research Center and the Institute of International Engineering Project Management of Tsinghua University. It provided an international forum for researchers, engineers, practitioners, and safety & health professionals to address current issues that affect the successful achievement of safety and health in construction.

The primary objective of the conference was to communicate information, expertise, and research results on construction safety and health in order to assist all nations, especially developing and underdeveloped nations around the world, to make improvements in the health and well being of the construction workforce. The conference provided a single forum to bring together researchers, academics, administrators, and practitioners representing educational institutions, government agencies, contracting organizations, consulting firms, and other construction related organizations from all over the world.

The conference provided an exchange of experience in new developments and in practical applications to improve safety and health on construction sites. In addressing universal challenges in construction safety & health, the papers presented at the conference have been organized within the 14 chapters of the proceedings.
In response to the “call-for-papers” 107 abstracts were received from 26 countries. After abstract review and full paper review, 75 papers from 21 countries were approved by the Scientific and Technical Committee for inclusion in the conference proceedings. Among them, 6 authors, one from government, 2 from industry and 3 from academic were selected as speakers to present the highlights of most of the conference topics through six keynote addresses. The peer reviewed and edited proceedings are aimed at contributing significantly to the body of knowledge relative to improving construction safety and health in construction.

The conference program started with the Opening Ceremony. A welcome performance was presented by the Tsinghua University students followed by the welcome address by Prof. Weihe Xie, Vice President of Tsinghua University. Dr. Wim Bakens, CIB Secretary General, welcomed all guests on behalf of CIB. In the 1st plenary session, two keynote speeches were delivered, one by Prof. Jimmie Hinze, University of Florida, USA and the other by Mr. Derek Smyth from Gammon Construction Limited, Hong Kong.

After lunch on 28 June conference papers were presented in three parallel sessions. In the evening, a CIB W099 Meeting was held to review the Working Commission matters. Next day on 29 June, parallel sessions were held from morning until afternoon tea break and papers presentations were completed. In the afternoon, two keynote speeches were delivered, one by Prof. Ailatair Gibb, Loughborough University, UK and the other by Mr. Kevin Berg of Bechtel Corporation, USA.

A closing speech was delivered by Prof. Michael Faber from Switzerland. A Closing Ceremony was held wherein the CIB Secretary General made some announcements. The conference dinner was arranged at Summer Palace where participants enjoyed site seeing and Chinese traditional food/dancing. On 30 June 2006 a technical tour was arranged to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Venue construction sites.

Proceedings

A news article about the Proceedings of this CIB W099 International Conference can be found here.