Around the Working Commissions and Task Groups

- W18 - Timber Structures
- W23 - Wall Structures
- W24 - Open Industrialisation in Building
- Exploratory Meeting on Open Building
- W60 - The Performance Concept in Building
- W65 - Organisation and Management of Construction
- W83/RILEM-RMS - Roofing Materials and Systems
- W87 - Post-Construction Liability and Insurance AND TG15 - Construction: Conflict Management and Dispute Resolution
- TG19 - Designing for the Ageing Society
- TG20 - Geographical Information Systems
- TG21 - Climatic Data for Building Services

W18 - Timber Structures

The next meeting of W18 will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada from 25th to 28th August 1997. The Host will be the University of British Columbia who has kindly agreed to take care of such organisational matters as the hotel and local information.

A small Committee has been set up headed by the Coordinator Professor H.J. Blaß to decide on acceptance of Technical Papers and on their distribution to delegates.

Those who intend to present a paper are asked to send a short abstract as soon as possible to:

Prof. H.J. Blaß  
Universität Karlsruhe  
Ingenieurholzbau und Baukonstruktionen  
D-76128 Karlsruhe  
Germany  
Fax: +49.721.698 116  
E-mail: rainer.goerlacher@bau-verm.uni-karlsruhe.de

This will be the 30th Meeting

W23 - Wall Structures

Professor C. Modena confirmed that he would be relinquishing the Coordinatorship of W23 at its 33rd Meeting held in London on 9th and 10th September 1996 at the Department of Civil Engineering, Imperial College of Science, Technology and Engineering. He was warmly thanked for his dedicated service.

His successor, Professor S. Pompeu Santos, LNEC, Portugal, will organise the next meeting of W23 on 30th September and 1st October 1997 in Lisbon.
There were twelve participants and guests at the London Meeting (from seven countries).

As usual the Meeting heard a number of varied and interesting presentations.

These were:

- G. Armer: Preliminary results of research on measures against the effects of explosions in post offices
- C. Modena: Principal results of research on reinforced masonry for buildings in seismic zone - A BRITE-EURAM Project
- B. Lewicki: Discussion on the definition of the storey drift at first cracking of masonry walls based on experimental tests on wallets
- D. Pume: Mechanical characteristics of mortars and masonries
- B. De Vekey: Laboratory tests on masonry at the BRE

Two Sessions were given over to an EC6-NADS Workshop during which speakers described the national situations in the UK, Poland, Germany, Belgium, Portugal and the Czech Republic. These featured comprehensive information on the preparation and use of NAD of EC6 in the countries concerned.

**Future Activities**

From discussions it emerged that the following three main subjects were recognised as worthy of serious consideration in the near future:

- the development of background documents to EC6
- the structural restoration
- the reinforced concrete walls and new wall systems.

The possibility of anticipating some "maintenance" activity of EC6 in order to promote and support the future official maintenance action of CEN deserved to be taken into account in the near future too.

**W24 - Open Industrialisation in Building**

The Fourth Meeting of W24 took place in Tokyo from 28 to 31 October 1996. In charge of arrangements were Professor Dr. Seiichi Fukao and Professor Dr. Shuichi Matsumura and all who took part were full of praise for the official meetings, factory visits, exhibition visits and social programme.

**As Joint Coordinator Asko Sarja said:**

Overall, everything, here gave us a better understanding of the Japanese way of industrialisation in building. We have good reason to express our warmest thanks to the hosts for their excellent arrangements. This experience will help us take concrete steps towards real industrialisation in building, for the benefit of all partners in construction, and for the current and future life-cycle value of buildings in their changing uses. Still more members, especially from relevant firms are invited to join us in this work in the coming years.

Professor Fukao complements this report in this issue.

The main issues on the Agenda were: Reports on the ongoing work of W24, contribution of W24 to the CIB World Congress in 1998; planning of new W24 activities, and familiarisation of advanced Japanese