

W24 - Open Industrialisation in Building

This Commission also met on 10th June 1998 in Gävle.

On-going Projects

It was recognised that the five ongoing projects had reached their deadlines.

These projects were:

- Status of Industrialisation
- Open Industrialisation in Building - Case Studies
- Open Industrialisation as a Challenge to Architecture
- Sustainable Open Industrialised Production
- Innovation Methods for Improving Productivity in Building

It was agreed that these would be closed.

New Projects

Proposals for the Work Programme for the years 1998 - 2002 were discussed including the following list of new projects which had been proposed earlier at the 1997 meeting in Haifa.

- Measurement methods as a tool for improving productivity, quality and use of resources in industrialised building
- Linking the information between off-site and site manufacturing and design
- Automation in industrialised building
- Barriers of industrialisation and proposals for overcoming them
- Case studies
- Holistic modelling of open industrialisation for solving major global housing problems

The meeting heard that the Coordinators proposed for these projects had confirmed their intention to activate them but that the planning phase was still continuing.

In fact planning and activation will be the focus of attention for W24 during the up-coming period.

A time schedule was drawn up.

To develop the detailed project proposals for the new projects which will be sent to the Joint Coordinators of W24 (Sarja and de Troyer) by 31st November, 1998

To comment on the plans (Coordinators and other W24 members) by 31st January, 1999

To present and discuss new detailed project proposals at the next W24 meeting in May, 1999.

To activate the projects in the course of 1999.

Open Industrialisation

A general discussion took place on Open Industrialisation and Mr. Blachere described the earlier experiences on industrialisation and dimensional co-ordination. He stated that considerable effort for dimensional co-ordination had been made in the sixties internationally and nationally, e.g. in France. However, the contractors and designers did not apply the open principles, but turned into closed building

systems of each contractor. This was leading to insufficient functional and aesthetic quality of buildings, and to stagnation of industrialisation.

It was stated that a similar development had occurred during the era of mass production in the 1960's and 1970's in most European countries. Only in some countries, like Denmark, Finland and later in the 1980's in the Netherlands, was open industrialisation applied. In all of those countries, which have applied open industrialisation, the industrialised building is today dictating the way of building.

New Modus Operandi

The projects of W24 should aim to be linked to practical building projects and where possible, these building projects should be international. An idea of such a building project was an European Border Line Project between Denmark and Sweden.

Corresponding regional building projects could be created by W24 members in other parts of the world also.

A Working Group (Bertelsen, Sarja and de Troyer) will formulate a proposal for a European Regional Demonstration Project by Internet and through a working meeting during this period.

The working of W24 will be also generally activated applying increasingly regional group working between the annual general meetings. Regional Coordinators will be selected for this aim. The feeling was that through this kind of organisation and through intensive use of Internet it should be possible to eliminate the effect of increased difficulties in travelling around the world.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be held in Denmark in May, 1999 and the precise time and venue will be announced later.

Turn to [Page](#) for the W24 Publication edited by Asko Sarja which describes the state of the art and development trends in the field.