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Facilities Management and Maintenance, The Way Ahead into the Millennium

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From the Foreword by A. Garcia Arroyo, Director, Industrial and Materials Technologies, European Commission.

"Most people around the world live and work in towns and cities. Inner city decline is of political, economic, social and environmental concern. The costs of the decay of the European cultural heritage for example, are estimated at more than ECU 14 billion per annum.

Initiatives, such as the EU funded research projects featured in this book, have been targeted towards improving the physical, living and work environment to achieve efficiency in the use of land and building resources, and to realise the associated socio-economic-environmental gains.

These efforts must continue and intensify on a wider and international scale.

One of the primary aims of the Symposium on Facilities Management and Maintenance was to set research priorities required for the management of built assets in the new Millennium. In a world characterised by increasing globalisation of economies, problems and issues, international co-operation has become an important dimension in research and technological development. A publication such as this, which embodies the deliberations and issues discussed, will assist in disseminating information on research and practice trends, and foster the spirit of international collaboration required for achieving a sustainable built environment globally".

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