

W040 - Heat and Moisture Transfer

Excellent Staging

W040 came together at the Faculty of Civil Engineering, Czech Technical University in Prague from 30th August to 2nd September 1999. The Hosts for the meeting were Professors Robert Cerny and Jan Toman who had, with their staff and students, not only arranged the meeting but also the social activities and study visits in an exemplary manner. The meeting was attended by 36 delegates, in the form of 17 members and eight associate members, with the remaining 11 being accompanying partners.

The technical content of the meeting comprised 30 papers presented and discussed over three days. The bulk of them were concerned with moisture mechanisms, choice of materials, design features for various parts of buildings, presentation and description of damage, material data, design calculation models and methods of measurement, with a smaller number of papers on energy conservation, health aspects and the indoor environment.

New Group Set Up

The meeting also saw the establishment of a new task group, under the direction of Mark Bomberg, entitled 'Material Characterisation and Hygrothermal Property Benchmarking'. The majority of the W040 members expressed their interest in participating in its work.

The opportunity was also taken to publicise the W040 web site at www.sbi.dk/cibW040/. The Webmaster is Morten Hjorslev Hansen from SBI in Denmark.

The two technical visits were to an interesting conversion of old buildings in central Prague into a modern hotel, and to the Technical University's School of Building Technology. Both visits were highly appreciated, and they served to provide an effective insight into current renovation work in Prague, with the aim of retaining the old environments while bringing them up to modern standards, and into how research and teaching is conducted at the University.

The social activities took in a guided tour of the old Jewish parts of central Prague. On one of the evenings, the group visited the Krizikova Fontana, where they thoroughly enjoyed a son et lumiere concert of classical music centred on and around the graceful fountains.

Next Meeting

It was decided that the next meeting would be held in conjunction with the CIB World Building Congress 2001 in Wellington, New Zealand. If possible, one of the meeting days will be arranged together with the meetings of W067 - Energy Conservation in the Built Environment or W077 - Indoor Climate.

W040 in Prague



W040 at the main entrance of the Technical University.

The study visit to the School of Building Technology generated much interest among the participants.



Coordinator Ingemar Samuelson relaxes with the host for the Meeting, Professor Jan Toman.

Mark Bomberg from Canada, with his wife and Kumar and Dakshayani Kumaran pose in the Square in the Old Town.



A step back in history - visit to the old Jewish quarter.

Hugo Hens (left) with Peter Matiasovsky, Olga Koronthalyova and Robert Cerny.



Mark Bomberg, Jesper Arfvidsson, Graham Galbraith, Malcolm Cunningham and Kumar Kumaran during a coffee break.

A job well done. The team of 'anonymous' organisers.

