



W087 - Post-Construction Liability and Insurance

The 15th Plenary Meeting of W087 on Post-Construction Liability and Insurance took place at the University of Technology, Sydney, Australia in September.

Following an opening reception hosted by the University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) on 26th September Professor Peter Burgess, Dean of the Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building at UTS welcomed some 25 members and guests from 13 countries to the Meeting.

The gathering opened on a sombre note with a minute's silence following a tribute to Anders Kleberg, a distinguished Swedish founding member who had died before Christmas, following a long illness.

The Coordinator, Professor Anthony Lavers of Oxford Brookes University gave his annual report. In it he outlined W087's participation in the CIB Triennial Congress in Gävle, Sweden which had comprised a seminar jointly presented by himself, M. Raphaël Slama (France), Rikard Oijermark (Sweden) and Andrew Fryer (UK). Two of these papers are being prepared for publication. The Coordinator also gave news of the W087 Book 'Case Studies in Post-Construction Liability and Insurance' published in April 1999 by E and FN Spon of London which had achieved reasonable early sales and had been favourably reviewed in Australia and the UK. Rikard Oijermark (Sweden) acted as Chair for the first part of the session 'What's New in Members' Countries'. This comprised presentations by Ratko Cikusa (Denmark), Edwin Chan (Hong Kong) and a written contribution from Jean Desmadryl (France). The second part of this session was chaired by George Tan (Singapore) and comprised presentations from Bernard Skelton (Republic of Ireland), Michiko Yamauchi (Japan), Vittorio Manfron (Italy) and Jasem Jumaian (Kuwait). The third part of this session, chaired by the Coordinator, contained contributions from Alan Purdie (New Zealand), Jan Einar Barbo (Norway), Deepak Bajaj (People's Republic of China and India), Monica Neo (Singapore), Kjell Jutehammar and Rikard Oijermark (Sweden) and a written report from Pdraig Doyle (South Africa). There were questions and discussions of these contributions. Ratko Cikusa (Denmark) chaired specific sessions on Australia, as host country, addressed by Chris Bovill on Insurance issues, and by Greg. Skehan, a prominent Australian lawyer on Developments in Professional Indemnity.

In a session chaired by Raymond Chan (Singapore) communications were also received on developments in the European Union and ASEAN.

The Coordinator gave a detailed presentation on new legislation in the UK on the doctrine of privity of contract and its potential impact on post-construction liability.

There was a special session chaired by Jan Einar Barbo (Norway) on the Australian Liability Reforms, given by Roy Loveridge of UTS.

On the second day of the meeting, Kjell Jutehammar (Sweden) chaired a session on Performance-Based Codes and liability addressed also by Roy Loveridge which was followed by a discussion.

The remainder of the second day was devoted to discussion of future work and the operation of the Commission. It was announced that W087 will hold its 16th Plenary Meeting in June 2000 at the Dublin Institute of Technology in Ireland and in April 2001 in Wellington, New Zealand to coincide with the CIB Triennial Congress.

Prof. Anthony Lavers

