

COST C17 WG 2+4 Draft Minutes

Dec, 7th 2004

Stewart Kidd (Chair WG2) and Wolfgang Kippes (Chair WG4) jointly chairing the meetings.

1. Personal intro

Guests : Legler, Galea, Hood, Özcan, Öztas,

2. Formalities and Updates:

Reimbursement form and copies of travel documents were organised and would be submitted via registered post to the COST office. The attendance sheet was circulated and all members were reminded that it had to be signed for each day of the meeting.

Home page: Internet homepage lost as expenses were covered by Stewart Kidd privately, but bill was not paid in time as Stewart's friend (was managing the site was away when the bill arrived.) An American company has now taken over the URL and is selling pharmaceuticals . New page and URL and host to be found. Alfred Moser had offered to host the new site but subsequently an offer was received from Wormald/Tyco to provide all the necessary support. This offer was approved by Ingval Maxwell and will be accepted subject to there being no objections.

Agenda as provided (last version see attachment): This was agreed subject to minor changes as David Dalziel had just taken up promotion as Firemaster of Grampian Fire & Rescue Service, Scotland and had been unable to come to Vienna. It was hoped his paper would be included in the New Lanark meeting.

3. Matters arising from Varna Meeting:

a. English Heritage Research Database:

Nick Jordan: reported on this and circulated some notes including a form of how to register a research project or document on the database. Stewart said that the Cost C17 output would be submitted for inclusion.

English Heritage Data Bank System on Fire Research (FReD) URL: www.english-heritage.org.uk

b. Database of Fires

1. Stewart said that a lack of statistical information was still a problem inhibiting much meaningful work: discussion on developing a common understanding on how to document fire incidents in historic buildings. Discussion on proceedings within the last two years. All partners are requested to send any statistical information available to Wolfgang for further mailing. STSM Kalle Reivala to be attached to the minutes of this meeting and mailed to every member.

2. Vincenzo made a short presentation of ten fire reports on historic building fires which have occurred in Italy since 1989. This information suggested that the majority of these fires resulted during times when building contractors were working or when restoration was taking place. It was also clear that arson was a significant problem.

3. Wolfgang said that although he was holding a small database of information on some 50 fires it had proved very difficult to manipulate this information in a useful way so that it could be searched. It was hoped that Kalle's work could be useful in this regard. Stewart said that the basic information required on a fire was:

Date and time of outbreak
Place (location, country)
Type of structure/Use at time of fire
Cause of fire (if known)
Estimate of damage (% destroyed, cost in cash, details of artefacts)
Any other information: Fire fighting problems/water supply issues/access to fire scene

4. Information on specialist contractors working on rehabilitation or restoration of fire damaged buildings.

Miguel circulated information on ARESPA (Asociacion Espanola de Empresas de Restauracion del Patrimonio Historico), Association of companies working in the field of cultural heritage presents an attractive promotion publication

Vincenzo said that there existed lists of contractors dealing with restoration and fire protection in heritage buildings in Italy

Research program funded by EC: "Architectural Heritage and Craft. A Conservation program for craftsmen, 1996-1999", led by Norway, search for final report and URL.
Short report to be provided by Nuzzolese.
Contact to CNR- Italy (project of DB by Prof. Guarino)

Stewart asked for each country to provide information on organisations such as trade associations or groups or any database information which might be available.

Presentation by Prof. Vladimirov/Bulgaria to be attached to the minutes

Jan Holmberg . www.fg.fnh.no

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Geir Jensen: Report on "Hypoxic Air Inertion" (new version to be mailed), to be used primarily in depot areas and computing centres but could have future implications for heritage space protection if life safety implications are resolved clearly.

Ed Galea:

Report on CFD-simulation of evacuation in Schönbrunn Palace
intensive discussion (no att., a special copy of the report will be edited to be provided on our future homepage)

Stewart Kidd: Fire Risk Assessment in Schönbrunn
(att)

Christian del Taglia: "Standard fires in historic buildings" research project proposal to be launched.(att)

Discussions: Galea is hesitating on development of generic model of fires in historic buildings as there is no generic historic building. Issue is to develop rather a method finding the appropriate model of fire for each building to be used in a performance based analysis. Nevertheless it was agreed, that a specification of typical fires for further calculations and risk assessment is needed. Stewart agreed to produce a summary of the four or five different room scenarios which he felt should be included.

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Per Rohlen: Anna Amalia Library in Weima
(att: WeimarFirePresentation.ppt., cf. Google:"Hilfe für Anna Amalia",)

Geir presented paper summarising research undertaken by Cowiconsult to review suitability of hand held fire extinguishing equipment and the possible impact of the agent on various types of historic artefact materials.

Miguel presented a paper on simulation and assessing damage to stone building materials and Carlos reviewed the assessment of structural weakness following a fire.

Roko Zarnic: presented ECTP (European Construction Technology Platform - cf. attachment), a new initiative to coordinate European research efforts.

Wolfgang Kippes: presented his ideas of further proceedings within WG4. As the agenda was very tough there was no chance to discuss the actual status of the bullet point list. Therefore Kippes proposed to bring up a new version of this bullet point list including all additional aspects which came out of the other working groups as well and to circulate this new version within WG 4 in order to get the remarks of all delegates via mail. The new version including the attached documents will be prepared for the next meeting in Siena and is supposed to be presented on the new homepage. This cumulated list of documents should serve for the final report.

Stewart Kidd took up Christian del Taglias research proposal again. This issue was discussed and concluded as follows: The remarks of Ed Galea are to be integrated, nevertheless the delegates agreed unanimously that some way of typology of fires in historic buildings will be useful for further calculations.

Post-meeting remark: As the development of such a typology of fires in historic buildings is of great importance for future risk assessment methods the idea was ventilated to develop a STSM regarding the documentation of existing risk assessment methods focusing on the question of a useful typology of fires for this. Alfred Moser agreed to launch a proposal for this STSM. Andrej Rebec agreed to host this STSM in Ljubljana.

Next dates:

Siena – 7.4.2005 – 8.4.2005, MC and WG 2+4

Lanark – 13.6.2005 – 16.6.2005 (together with NFPACC). Suggestion is WG1+3

Helsinki – 13.10.2005 – 15.10.2005, MC and WG2+4

Post-meeting remark:

As the attachments planned obviously reached an enormous volume they cannot be mailed. These attachments are listed below and will be burned to a CD-ROM for everybody. This CD-ROM will be prepared for the next meeting in Siena.