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Together for steel construction

With the last edition of the year it is time to sum up the achievements of 2017. As Chairman of the Promotional Management Board I am very happy with all the new developments of this year.

ECCS engaged in training sessions, which were successful and useful to better understand the use of steel in construction. Dedicated to engineers, designers and architects, these international sessions contribute also to create a network of specialists of steel in Europe. This encourages us to continue in 2018, with more topics and practical sessions.

Promotion of steel in construction is a huge challenge as the parties involved are very numerous. This year ECCS started developing a fruitful collaboration with the European Archi-

itects, in particular with the participation of the President of the Architects Council of Europe, Mr. Luciano Lazzari, to the Jury and the Ceremony of the European Steel Design Awards.



Yener Gur'es, Chairman of the ECCS Promotional Management Board

Another step was taken in this matter thanks to the Public Award developed through the ECCS Facebook page. Yes

indeed steel can be sexy ! It is sustainable and provides good solutions for extravagant buildings and simple single storey buildings as well. Thanks to social media 250.000 people have seen the projects and the number of subscribers to the Facebook page more than tripled. This engages us as well to provide all interested persons with the best information.

Reuse, recycling and rehabilitation are key advantages of steel. The ECCS academic network is strongly involved in research for always more innovative solutions. In the same time ECCS will further promote them. 2018 will be more devoted to steel bridges with the European Steel Bridge Awards and the Symposium on Steel Bridges in September in Prague. We are looking forward to this coming

Construction 4.0

In simple terms, "Industry 4.0" means the "fourth industrial revolution", i.e. the digitalisation of industry, in general.

ECCS will participate on 16th January to a meeting organized by FIEC (the European Association of the European Construction Industry Federation).
« Industry 4.0, Construction 4.0,

digitalisation of the construction industry... whatever your preferred term, we all know that a transformation is taking place in the industry. Along the value chain, all companies involved in the design, manufacture of materials, construction, management, maintenance and demolition or deconstruction of build-

ings and infrastructure are being affected already or will soon be affected. There are both opportunities and risks for existing construction sector operators and their representative federations. » (FIEC)

That's what the 16th January meeting will deal with, and ECCS will be part of the discussion.

Towards a European digitalized construction



Towards modernisation of the construction sector

The European Commission (EC) organized a meeting on digitalisation of the construction sector on 30th November, 2017 in Brussels. The aim of the EC is to facilitate the digital transformation of the sector, which is one of the least digital branch among the others.

Three main topics were discussed: (i) the necessity of a European digital platform for construction, (ii) the digitalisation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the construction value chain,

and (iii) the digitalisation for building performance assessment.

It was agreed in that: (i) the EC can help the process by standardization of the digital platforms and not creating new platforms, (ii) the SMEs need help to catching up to the digital revolution, and (iii) new technologies like Internet of Things (IoT) can reduce the life-cycle costs of buildings.

Summary of the meeting could be : **“Go beyond yesterday's story about BIM to**

tomorrow's vision about digitalised construction.”

This is true, even if we can assume that the steel construction industry is more digitalised than the average of the construction sector. We have to go further, we have to train our employees and prepare the steel construction SMEs to increase their efficiency and profitability by among others the help of regulations and financial support of the European Union.

Dr. Attila László Joó, Hungarian Steel Association

Design for Deconstruction

On 23rd November, EU Thematic Group 3 on Design for Deconstruction and Durability of Buildings met again in Brussels.

Very interesting presentations came from Nobatek, a French research and services center for innovative solutions in the construction sector and OVAM, the Public Waste Agency of Flanders, Belgium. Nobatek, based in South

West of France, works in close collaboration with universities to apply the latest innovations to the construction sector. They work also with SMEs to help them using these technologies and with local authorities to build innovative projects.

OVAM considers that new buildings have to be build for a long time and therefore need to be adaptable to fu-

ture needs. They therefore shifted their approach from recycling to reuse and created a reuse platform. They work with the approach of the right material in the right application and introduced Module D in their calculation tools, which will be launched in February 2018. Public procurement of the Flamish region already integrate design for change.

EU Work programme 2018



The European Commission disclosed its 2018 work programme last October. As regard the construction sector, focus will be on finalising the work announced into the Circular Economy Package, in particular

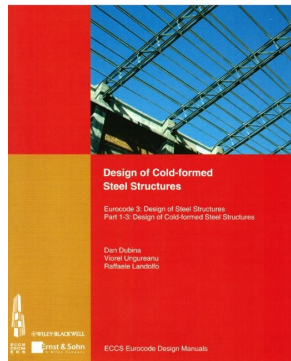
the directives on waste and landfill of waste.

Another important issue will be to finalize the revision of the Energy Efficiency Directive and the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive (EPBD), both part of the Clean Energy for all European package.

The Commission stated that *« the removal of the obligation to conduct studies on the feasibility of high efficiency alternative systems for new buildings is expected to lead to cost savings of app. €200 mln/year. Furthermore, additional measures should help reduce administrative burden by €98 mln/year »*

Cold-formed steel structures session

ECCS organised a training session on cold-formed steel structures on 7-8 Dec. in Brussels. Lectures were given by the authors themselves of the ECCS Eurocode Design Manual dedicated to this topic, Dan Dubina, Viorel Ungureanu, Raffaele Landolfo. It was very interesting to get such an international audience with people from Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Belgium, Italy and UK. In addition to the lectures, it contributes to the development of a European network



March. This session will be dedicated to practical Design, with many cases and exercises. The number of places will be limited in order to facilitate the exchange between the participants and the trainers. Those interested can already indicate their interest to sophie.delair@steelconstruct.com



In order to fully answer the needs of the participants, another session will be organised around

Recycling, rehabilitation and reuse

Once again, ConstruirAcier, pass on his passion for architecture and put sustainability in the heart of its priorities. For this purpose, the association created the conference “Matière grise” (“Brainpower”) dedicated to sustainable development. This series of conferences aims at giving general information on steel.

ConstruirAcier works at facilitating exchanges and networking.

Thanks to these conferences it addresses different targets such as architects, representatives of the authorities and actors of the steel industry.

This 1,5 hour conference gives the opportunity to cover all aspects of sustainable development of steel from design, recycling to re-use. These are the 3 topics developed during the conferences.

In 2017, the conference went to Lille, Grenoble, Toulouse, Pau, Nantes and Marseille. “Matière Grise” will happen again in different cities in 2018.

You can be further informed when connecting to www.construiracier.com

Surface protection

Tuesday 19th December was the launch of the work of the surface protection committee.

People met in ECCS offices in Brussels. Representatives are Alexander Britner (Chairman), KIT; Myriam Spinnler, SZS; Yener Gur'es, TUUSA; Floris Kooistra, AGCCE; Murray Cook, EGGA; Peter Schaumann, Institute for Steel Construction Hannover.

Invited guests were Ralf Podleschny, IFBS and Carlos Del Castillo, Inspiralia.

During this first meeting members defined mission and objectives of the working group. The first priority will be the publication of a design guide. For more info or to join to the group, please contact the ECCS office.



Participants to the Surface Protection new technical committee



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ECCS is the only European organisation which brings together the steel industry, the fabrication and contracting specialists, and the academic world through an international network of construction representatives, steel producers, and technical centers.

Inaugurated in Zürich in 1955, in parallel with the creation of the European Community for Coal and Steel, ECCS gathers today 18 national associations as full members.

For any further information, please contact Véronique Dehan, eccs@steelconstruct.com

If you want to support the ECCS European Bulletin and get more visibility among the ECCS members, please contact sophie.delair@steelconstruct.com, +32 497 40 60 85



We thank you for the fruitful
collaboration of this year
and look forward to 2018!

European Convention for Constructional Steelwork
www.steelconstruct.com

