

REPORT of INTER-NOISE 2010

The 39th International Congress on Noise Control Engineering and Exposition, INTER-NOISE 2010, jointly organized by the Portuguese Acoustical Society (SPA) and the Spanish Acoustical Society (SEA), was held in Lisbon, Portugal, from June 13-17th, 2010. The Congress was sponsored by the International Institute of Noise Control Engineering (I-INCE) and honoured with the High Sponsorship of His Excellency the President of the Portuguese Republic. Several Portuguese governmental bodies, such as the Portuguese Environmental Agency, the National Laboratory for Civil Engineering, and the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology, have given the Congress their institutional support. The Ibero-American Federation of Acoustics (FIA) also supported the INTER-NOISE 2010, by awarding a dozen FIA Grants to scientists from South America Countries.

The Congress theme was *Noise and Sustainability*. This theme was addressed by distinguished lectures and dedicated structured sessions, which were scheduled to specifically deal with sustainable principles.

INTER-NOISE 2010 featured 844 high-level technical papers, 786 presented as oral in 13 parallel sessions running continuously, and 53 as poster, with presentations grouped in two days, Monday and Tuesday. Five plenary lectures addressing the sustainability concepts (environment, societal, economics and efficiency) were given by outstanding specialists, respectively Professors Hideki Tachibana, Abigail Bristow, Brigitte Schulte-Fortkamp, Samir Gerges and Dr. Gilles Daigle.

The Congress attendance was very large. More than 1200 people, including 87 accompanying persons, enjoyed the event. The exposition comprised 44 booths (the maximum allowable number), representing 42 companies, that came to Lisbon to show their most recent products, services, equipments, software. In addition to being open to registrants, 250 "exhibition only" visitor's passes were issued for the exposition.

The number of authors involved in the papers has reached almost 25 hundred. Approximately 53 countries were represented at INTER-NOISE 2010. Parallel events such the 3 short courses, held immediately before the Congress, the CEN and ISO standards meetings after the Congress, and the CAETS Forum which ran in parallel with INTER-NOISE-2010, marked the Congress as an event which attracts satellite meetings.

The social program consisted of a welcome and a farewell reception. The welcome reception was held on Sunday after the Opening Ceremony and the farewell reception on Wednesday after the Closing Ceremony. Both receptions were attended by almost 700 people. On Monday, all the participants were invited to attend a Port of Honour, which is a Port Wine tasting held at a municipal garden in Lisbon. The venue provided INTER-NOISE attendees with a magnificent view of the city at dusk. The Banquet, held on Tuesday at a typical farm for teaching equestrian arts, consisted of a horse show and a folk presentation exhibiting old Portuguese traditions, and was the high point of the congress social activities. Tours for accompanying persons were also offered on all three days of the congress.

The chair person's dinner kindly offered by the Congress Golden Sponsor CDM, held on Sunday evening on a river boat cruise, will be remembered as an outstanding event, and one important for the for a smoothly-running congress.

The opening ceremony on Sunday afternoon, started with a performance of the Lisbon University Chorus, and was followed by the welcome speeches, respectively from the Congress Co-President, Prof. Jorge Patrício, D. Antonio Pérez-López on behalf of SEA, Prof. Pedro Martins da Silva as the Congress Honorary President, Prof. Samir Gerges on behalf of FIA, Prof. Tor Kihlman presenting the CAETS Forum, and Dr. Gilles Daigle who, as I-INCE president opened the Congress formally.

The closing ceremony, held on Wednesday, comprised a farewell speech by Prof. Jorge Patrício on behalf of the organizing committee, and was followed by the INTER-NOISE 2010 technical chair (Prof. Luís Godinho) who gave the audience a brief overview of congress statistics, Salvador Santiago on behalf of SEA, who also made reference to the upcoming event organized by SEA and SPA, in León, in October, and Dr. Gilles Daigle who made reference to the 12 winners of the I-INCE young scientist grants and closed the Congress officially. A short time for presentation of the forthcoming congresses was scheduled, and used by Samir Gerges to present the FIA Congress in Cancun, Mexico in November, and Marion Burgess to present the ICA in Sydney, Australia in August. Finally, Ichiro Yamada the President of next INTER-NOISE, which will be held in Osaka, Japan, next year made an invitation to all attendees to participate at INTER-NOISE 2011.

The success of the INTER-NOISE 2010 Congress was only possible, due to the work of many people, whose names are: Sónia Antunes, Luís Godinho, Octávio Inácio, Carlos Fafaiol, Joel Paulo, Carlos César, Diogo Alarcão, António Ferreira e Helena Desidério. The Congress proceedings (DVD) can be purchased to Portuguese Acoustical Society (www.spacustica.pt) at a cost of 50€ each.

The INTER-NOISE 2010 is now finished. Other future challenges exist. Acoustics is continuously growing, and all of those who organized the INTER-NOISE 2010 feel happy and proud. The congress contributed to the development of acoustics and noise control engineering, not only in the Iberian Peninsula but worldwide.

Jorge Patrício
Co-President of INTER-NOISE 2010