

EF European Federation for Non-Destructive Testing NDT NEWS

Volume 1 Issue 3

February 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We are all in this together

It was a great pleasure to read so many greetings and good wishes coming from you during this Christmas and New Year period. All my very best wishes go to you, wishing you happiness, serenity, health and a successful new year.

I look forward to meeting all of you again and to continuing our work for safety and security using our powerful NDT technology. Yes, we can look forward to new accomplishments and positive results continuing from 2010. It will be a hard job to achieve a balance in results with a year of such achievement, the highlight of which was the 10th ECNDT. We can't thank enough the President

of the 10th ECNDT, Prof academician Vladimir V. Klyuev, and his team for organising this magnificent event. We, who have been privileged to contribute or at least participate and enjoy this demonstration and celebration of NDT knowledge and technology, will always remember the 10th ECNDT. It was unforgettable from the opening to the closing ceremony; a wonderful evening with music and dance from Russian artists, perfect in their performance. Thank you to the Russian Society for NDT and Technical Diagnostics.

The 10th ECNDT highlighted the large-scale impact of the latest findings of NDT on safety. The motto 'NDT – Basis of Safety' needs to be accepted, not only by NDT experts but also by the public, to understand that NDT, used as a prevention in safety, is a powerful tool providing considerable cost-savings in the long term.

There is still a gap between the NDT profession and the institutions dealing with the same problems at political levels across much of the world. The value of NDT to citizens and in environmental protection in the prevention of technical man-made disasters is not widely enough known.

We should familiarise everyone and highlight the vital role played by NDT in sustaining all of these technical products for the standard of living to which we are accustomed. The number of new technical products and constructions is growing rapidly every day and at the same time many more such products and installations are growing older, with associated consequences. We are all in this together. However, we NDT people, knowing the important steps towards preventive action in minimising accidents and danger, are responsible for sharing this knowledge. We should start a campaign aiming to show that there is a way to invest in safety, by supporting of testing and diagnostic technologies. This can provide significant benefits at local, regional, national and global levels.

This is a challenge for policy makers to understand the value of NDT technology as a resource for safety. The second challenge for policy makers is to tailor their policies accordingly, in line with the needs of different approaches, technologies and beneficiaries towards safety and quality of life for all. This third edition of *EFNDT News*, which fulfils an obligation carried over from last year, is a part of efforts into making NDT better known and understood by the wider community. The onus is on all of us to act. You are encouraged to work towards this goal all the time, in both your professional and private life, since the result will be a safer world for everyone.

Professor Vjera Krstelj, President, EFNDT



Forthcoming National Conferences

22-24/03/2011	Russia (RSNTTD)	Moscow
05-07/04/2011	Slovakia (SSNDT)	Nový Smokovec
24-27/05/2011	France (COFREND)	Dunkirk
30/05-01/06/2011	Germany (DGZfP)	Bremen
15-17/06/2011	Spain (AEND)	Valencia
13-15/09/2011	UK (BINDT)	Telford
26-28/10/2011	Italy (AIPnD)	Florence

Other Events:

13-14/06/2011	CERTIFICATION 2011	Valencia
20-22/06/2011	Digital Radiography DIR2011	Berlin

More at: <http://www.efndt.org/Services/Calendar.aspx>

Harmonisation of EN 473 and ISO 9712 (Rev A)

The worldwide industry has, for some years, sent strong messages to the ISO and CEN Technical Committees (TC) requesting that harmonisation between the two standards dealing with certification of NDT personnel be undertaken, in order, if possible, to provide industry with a unique standard, resulting in a unique system of NDT personnel certification being applied worldwide.

After consultation, the two TC chairmen have decided to initiate such a harmonisation process. The following proposal has been adopted:

- Creation on the ISO and CEN side of relevant groups (namely ISO/TC 135/SC7/WG3 and CEN/TC 138/AHG9) in order to study the differences between the two standards and make proposals for a unique text.
- 'Common' meetings of these two groups for this study (two meetings have already been held – in September 2009 in Madrid and in September 2010 in Vienna).

These two meetings have resulted in the drafting of a proposal for a common EN ISO standard, which would be named EN ISO 9712 if the application of the Vienna agreement is approved (see below). Both TCs have formally agreed that any further work on this document should be done jointly by the above ISO and CEN relevant groups in order to ensure that a full consensus is achieved and that all opinions are considered. An enquiry has been launched on the ISO side for adoption of a NWI for revision of the standard ISO 9712. This enquiry finished on 29 September 2010 and it showed that

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Harmonisation... (continued from front page)

some countries agree to go directly to the DIS stage, while other countries would prefer to go to the CD stage. Consequently, the following process has been agreed:

- On the ISO side: launching of the CD enquiry on the basis of the document prepared by the two groups (see above).
- On the EN side: launching of a NWIP enquiry for revision of EN 473, with proposal of application of the Vienna agreement with ISO lead. This enquiry will be done simultaneously with the ISO CD enquiry.

Taking into account the amount of effort already invested in the preparation of the proposed document, the TC chairmen strongly recommend that comments (both editorial and technical) be avoided at the stage of the above enquiries and be kept for the next stage, which will be the parallel vote at the ISO/DIS and CEN enquiry. If comments are made at the ISO CD stage or at the CEN NWIP stage, they will have to be dealt with before any further stage, thus delaying the entire process by several months without bringing additional value to the harmonisation effort.

Editorial and technical comment can be made at the next stage (DIS/CEN enquiry) and will be considered in the appropriate way during a joint meeting of ISO/TC135/SC7/WG3 and CEN/TC138/AHG9. This will definitely ensure that the opinions expressed by any member of the one or the other organisation are considered cautiously and that the final document will represent the best achievable consensus.

The recommendation by the TC chairmen is as follows:

- For the ISO CD enquiry: agree to process the document to the DIS stage without making comments.
- For the CEN NWIP enquiry: agree on the revision of EN 473, with application of the Vienna agreement under ISO lead and agree to progress the document to the CEN enquiry stage without making comments.

If there are no comments at the ISO CD enquiry and the CEN NWIP enquiry, then the parallel vote (CEN enquiry and ISO DIS enquiry – which, if positive, would result in the issue of a Draft International Standard) could be launched shortly after the closure of these enquiries, and the next meeting of the joint WG (composed of CEN/TC138/AHG9, ISO/TC135/WG3 and ISO/TC135/SC7/WG2), intending to discuss the comments to the parallel vote, could be held in Cancun (Mexico) at the beginning of October 2011 (in conjunction with the Pan-American NDT Conference). Otherwise, the comments will have to be discussed and, consequently, the schedule will be delayed by several months.

It is vital that all concerned fully understand the importance of the process for the benefit of our industry and NDT community, and to support the common goal of moving quickly to the DIS stage, when we can then carefully study the DIS EN ISO 9712 and compile comments and proposals for amendment of the draft at the national level, submitting these through our respective standards organisations to the Joint WG. Given that there are no (or insignificant) comments received from the ISO CD enquiry and the CEN NWIP enquiry, it is expected that the DIS EN ISO 9712 would be released for its five month enquiry during February or March (concluding July 2011), and it is proposed that BSI Panel WEE/46/-/4 (steering committee on NDT personnel certification), be tasked with reviewing any UK comments submitted to BSI during the period March to June 2011. It is envisaged that the first meeting of WEE/46/-/4 could be held during June or early July, and the meeting would most likely be hosted by BINDT in Northampton, UK. At this stage we are seeking expressions of interest from individuals that would like to participate in this process as a member of BSI Panel WEE/46/-/4. Please send your positive response to Sarah Meagher (email: sarah.meagher@bsigroup.com).

John Thompson
 Director, International Affairs, BINDT
 Member, ISO/TC135/SC7/WG3
 Member, CEN/TC138/AHG9

10th International Conference on Non-Destructive Investigations and Microanalysis for the Diagnostics and Conservation of Cultural and Environmental Heritage – art '11

13-15 April 2011 | Florence, Italy

Organised by the Italian Society for NDT (AIPnD) and supported by the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities.

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Call for Presentations

CERTIFICATION 2011

The European Federation for Non-Destructive Testing (EFNDT) and the Spanish Society for Non-Destructive Testing (AEND) are proud to host **The 6th International Conference on Certification and Standardisation in NDT, CERTIFICATION 2011.**

The conference will take place in Valencia, Spain, from **13 to 14 June 2011.**

Send offers of presentations to certification2011@upv.es before **28 February**, supported by a brief summary of the scope of the presentation, and please register for this important conference soon.

The potential topics that could fall within the conference scope are:

- Accreditation of organisations conducting assessment and certification of NDT, condition monitoring and inspection personnel
- Accreditation of organisations providing commercial inspection and testing services
- Assessment and certification of personnel against second and third party standards
- Competence assessment by performance demonstration for improved PoD – case studies
- Development, revision and implementation of national, regional and international codes and standards related to qualification and certification of personnel for NDT, condition monitoring and inspection
- Mutual recognition agreements
- Peer review of accreditation and certification bodies
- Psychometric testing
- Qualification of NDT personnel, NDT procedures and NDT systems (equipment)
- Regulations requiring certification of personnel competence
- Special industrial sector applications (nuclear, offshore, petrochemical, aerospace, etc) for qualification and certification of personnel for critical NDT, condition monitoring and inspection tasks
- Third party audit and verification of compliance of second party (employer-based) personnel approval systems against recognised standards
- Training of personnel for NDT, condition monitoring and inspection
- Training, qualification and certification of personnel for advanced NDT, condition monitoring and inspection techniques.

Even if you do not offer a presentation, if you are involved with NDT certification and standardisation in any way, you should attend this conference, which takes place at a time when there are significant developments in the field of standardisation affecting the qualification and certification of NDT personnel and the accreditation of personnel certification bodies.

Enquiries or offers of presentation should be submitted **before 28 February** to certification2011@upv.es or Rodolfo Rodríguez: r.rodriguez@aend.org

For further information, or to register an interest in attending as a delegate or speaker, please contact Elena Gómez: e.gomez@aend.org

Message to all national NDT Societies – members of the EFNDT – regarding ECNDT 2014

The 10th European Conference on Non-Destructive Testing held in Moscow in 2010 was very successful and a truly remarkable event organised by the Russian Society for NDT and Technical Diagnostic and its sponsors.

This 'Olympics of European NDT', with the theme: 'NDT – Basis of Safety', was an event where the whole NDT world met, exchanged and shared state-of-the-art knowledge, experiences and ideas and made many future plans. A thorough and detailed report from a technical and scientific point of view of ECNDT 2010 and all events that accompanied the Conference, such as the exhibition, ECNDT General Assembly, ICNDT 34th Meeting and ASNT/EFNDT Joint Meeting, were described in an article: 'ECNDT REPORT: The 10th European Conference on Non-Destructive Testing, 7-11 June 2010, Moscow' by D J Gilbert, in *Insight – Non-Destructive Testing and Condition Monitoring*, Vol 52, Issue 9 (<http://www.atypon-link.com/BINT/doi/abs/10.1784/insi.2010.52.9.466>).

At the closing of the 2010 ECNDT, the European NDT community turned its attention to the next European Conference on NDT, which will be held in October 2014 in Prague, Czech Republic. It

may seem that this Conference is a long way off at this moment but there is a lot of organisation needing to be done during the next three years or so in order to achieve a successful event.

ECNDT 2014 is being organised by EFNDT and the Czech NDT Society. You are encouraged to visit the website at <http://cndt.cz/ecndt2014/ecndt2014/> on a regular basis and to be active, collaborative and supportive of this major event.

The Chairman of the ECNDT 2014, Prof Dr Pavel Mazal, has begun his mandate in the EFNDT Board of Directors and played an active role in the last BoD meeting held in Brussels.

According to the decisions from this Board of Directors meeting, dated 10 December 2010, and actions arising from those decisions, NDT societies are requested:

1. to enable the constitution of the Scientific Committee of ECNDT 2014 by proposing their candidates for members from distinguished and selected NDT experts.
2. not to organise any meetings and events relating to NDT in the period close to October 2014 – immediately before or after the Prague 2014 ECNDT.

11th ECNDT

Prague, Czech Republic | 6-10 October 2014

The 11th ECNDT will be held in the heart of Europe – in the capital city of the Czech Republic, Prague. The main aim of this exceptional event will be to support the expanding role of NDE/NDT methods in manufacturing, transport, aircraft industry, energetics, mechanical and material engineering, electrotechnics and microelectronics, extending also to other safety branches – war against terrorism etc, as well as in research and development. The current situation in the areas of education, certification, accreditation and standardisation will also be discussed. Special sections will be concerned with application of new mathematical and physical methods in NDT/NDE. Attendees from different industrial and research branches will be invited to exchange information, experience and knowledge, explore new ideas and benefit from the expertise of other practitioners, engineers, scientists and students. All NDT/NDE-related companies will be invited to participate at a very important part of the 11th ECNDT: the NDT Expo – instruments and services exhibition.

PRAGUE

Prague is a magical city of bridges, cathedrals, gold-tipped towers and church domes, whose image has been mirrored on the surface of the Vltava river for more than ten centuries. Prague is also a modern European metropolis full of energy, music and art. It's a city of contrasts: serene green isles in the river and peaceful parks draping the city's seven hills are just steps away from the architectural treasures and bustling street life of the city centre. It's a place where different architectural styles stand cheek by jowl, creating an atmosphere that's both intimate and romantic, and quite impossible to forget once seen.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Conference Secretariat:

GUARANT International, spol s ro, Opletalova 22, CZ 110 00 Praha 1, Czech Republic. Tel: +420 284 001 444; Fax: +420 284 001 448; Email: ecndt2014@guarant.cz; Website: www.ecndt2014.com

Organising Committee (director):

Czech Society for NDT, Assoc Prof Pavel Mazal, Technicka 2, CZ 616 69 Bmo, Czech Republic. Email: cndt@cndt.cz; Website: www.cndt.cz

Conference Venue:

Prague Congress Centre, 5 kvetna 65, CZ 140 00 Praha 4, Czech Republic. Website: www.kcp.cz



EF European Federation for
Non-Destructive Testing
NDT

11TH ECNDT
PRAGUE 2014
October 6th - 10th, 2014

Prague – the right place to host the 11th ECNDT in 2014



 **GUARANT**
INTERNATIONAL

EFNDT Working Group 5 faces up to new challenges

In a global view, it is almost trivial to say that the world is in a change. Nevertheless, this pertains particularly to anyone who is committed to technical safety on one hand and to public security on the other hand. Numerous existing common methodological principles, the current threat situations and the ubiquitous budget constraints provide sufficient reason for a revival of the EFNDT Working Group 5 'Public Security and Safety NDT Technology', following its core commitment to bridge safety, i.e. non-destructive testing technologies and security applications. The mutual exchange of experiences should pave the way to common projects, increasing R&D efficiency by avoiding unnecessary duplications in developments while including the interests and experiences of either side.

In 2010, the vision and the idea of the WG5 PSSndtT has been presented to the German and European non-destructive testing communities on two occasions: at the German Annual DGZfP Conference in Erfurt in May 2010⁽¹⁾ and at ECNDT 2010 in Moscow in June 2010⁽²⁾. As a first step of realisation, an informal meeting and workshop took place in Berlin on 7-8 October 2010, subsequent to a EU-FP7 CREATIF workshop on standardisation and certification in security applications. The main purpose of this event was to become acquainted with each other and to revive the working group activities. Though it was announced at short notice, nearly 20 participants from several countries and various fields of activities gathered in two different meeting locations: in the lecture hall of the BAM branch Fabeckstraße and the general aviation airport Schönhagen (not to forget the nice evening in a typical German restaurant). The presentations given shall be uploaded onto the EFNDT WG5 web page^(3, coming soon) as well as the draft of a 'white paper' expressing the future intentions of the Working Group. As a result, it was a fruitful meeting bringing together different groups such as the Fraunhofer Institutes, the EU JRC in Ispra, the CEN, universities, industry, enterprises and so on. This could not happen

without the hospitality of BAM and the Schönhagen Airport, as well as the generous support from the DGZfP.

The different provenance of the participants of the WG5 meeting has been identified as a certain strength. In particular, tackling the security matter entails a multitude of aspects to be considered, not only technological ones. From the NDT perspective, this would offer an opportunity to learn also from other fields, underlining the mutual character of the dialogue intended to be maintained by the EFNDT WG5. Suggestions about future events are currently being discussed. Undoubtedly, it shall be necessary to go beyond networking and forming consortia for common fundraising. Since the subjects tackled clearly have an interdisciplinary character, there is a need for mutual information. Therefore, a primary task shall be to organise workshops on selected aspects pertaining to both; all the technical matters, including the practical ones, on one hand and those raised from the public security side on the other hand, including considerations on possible applications in either field. Similarities have to be identified as well as differences. This is already regarded as the most efficient first step for a mutual understanding and essential for drafting future common research and development applications.

1. K Osterloh, U Ewert, V Krstelj, EFNDT Arbeitsgruppe 5: ZfP für die öffentliche und technische Sicherheit, DGZfP-Jahrestagung 2010, DGZfP-Berichtsband BB 122 - CD, 2010, Poster 15, ISBN 978-3-940283-26-9.
2. K Osterloh, U Ewert, V Krstelj, EFNDT Working Group 5: Public Security and Safety NDT Technologies, 10th European Conference on NDT (ECNDT) 2010, Moscow, 7-11 June 2010, report 2.6.
3. <http://www.efndt.org/Organisation/WorkingGroups/WorkingGroup5.aspx>

Kurt Osterloh

International Symposium: Digital Industrial Radiology and Computed Tomography

Berlin, Germany | 20-22 June 2011

Co-sponsored by BINDT and COFREND. Organised by the German Society for NDT (DGZfP).

This international symposium is devoted to promote a broad exchange of information on technologies, applications, quality assurance and standards in the area of digital industrial radiology and computed tomography. The meeting provides a unique opportunity for users, scientists, equipment suppliers and all who are interested to discuss the present and future possibilities for industrial applications. The programme is complemented by a table-top exhibition.

CONTACT

Steffi Schäske, DGZfP, Max-Planck-Str 6, 12489 Berlin, Germany. Tel: +49 30 67807120; Fax: +49 30 67807129; Email: tagungen@dgzfp.de

www.dir2011.com

Visit of the delegation of the Serbian NDT Society to Hungary

Accepting the invitation of Prof P Trampus, President of MAROVISZ (the Hungarian Association for NDT), a delegation from the Serbian Society for Non-Destructive Testing visited Hungary and met the members of the board of MAROVISZ on 18 and 19 November 2010. The members of the delegation were Mr Dragoljub Radojicic, President of the Serbian Society, Mr Goran Sofronic, Vice President and Ms Vesna Perunicic, member of the board. The meeting came to existence in line with the MAROVISZ intent of strengthening relations with neighbouring societies. Within this framework, last year the Slovakian NDT Society's board members came to Hungary. After an informal dinner on the 18th, the official meeting took place in the MAROVISZ office in Budapest the following day.

Prof Trampus described the main fields of activity of MAROVISZ and, similarly, Mr Radojicic provided a cross-section of the Serbian Society's activities. Representatives of both sides expressed their wish for cooperation with the other society. Cooperation could include exchange of information, participation in the other's events (conferences, workshops) and joint organisation of meetings with involvement of further societies from the region.

Representatives of MAROVISZ provided some details on two recent achievements. This year, the organisation of interlaboratory proficiency tests began. The first in this kind of test was an ultrasonic thickness measurement (already completed), then a radiography film evaluation (in progress) and a portable hardness measurement (announced). MAROVISZ also invited laboratories from neighbouring countries to participate in the tests. Also this year, MAROVISZ published a list of proposed prices for basic

NDT activities. The goal of this activity has been to help the NDT laboratories in creating realistic prices, as well as making their customers familiar with the content of the price offered to them. This may help to increase the quality of NDT services. Both subjects were of interest to the Serbian guests.



Delegates from the Serbian Society for NDT, Mr Dragoljub Radojicic (President, third from right), Ms Vesna Perunicic (second from right) and Goran Sofronic (right) with members of the board of MAROVISZ at the meeting in Budapest

The two presidents agreed upon the intensification of the cooperation between the Hungarian and the Serbian NDT societies. The MAROVISZ board accepted an invitation from Mr Radojicic to visit the Serbian Society in Beograd during the first half of 2011. The visit was completed with sightseeing in Budapest, guided by Mr P Kecskés, Vice President of MAROVISZ.

Peter Trampus

The Eighth International Conference on Condition Monitoring and Machinery Failure Prevention Technologies

CM2011 / MFPT2011

20 – 22 June 2011, St David's Hotel, Cardiff, Wales

BI NDT
THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF
NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING



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MFPT



Radiation protection

EAN:

A fundamental principle in radiation protection is that of optimisation, that is that radiation exposures should be kept As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA). The European ALARA Network (EAN) – <http://www.eu-alara.net/> – aims at optimising practical radiation protection through integrating the know-how of European radiation protection authorities, users in industry, medicine, research and teaching, and of national radiation protection associations and international organisations.

The objectives of the EAN are:

- Preservation, improvement and further development of the competency in radiation protection, the focus being on the implementation of the ALARA principle for radiation exposures in the occupational and medical field as well as for radiation protection in the population in routine operation and in cases of emergency.
- Harmonisation of radiation protection with respect to ALARA, both on the level of legal regulations and on the operational level in the European countries.
- Integration of the expertise in radiation protection that is available in the European countries and effective cooperation of experts in the field of optimisation.
- Inclusion of all types of radiation applications in the various fields of industry, research and medicine, and handling of naturally occurring radioactive materials (NORM).
- Treatment of radiation protection topics that are of equal importance to all radiation protection fields, as well as of special topics for one or several fields.

The objectives are oriented towards the necessities of the practical implementation of the optimisation principle at the national and the European level. The EAN regularly conducts workshops on current radiation protection topics and publishes the ALARA newsletter twice per year.

In November 2008, EFNDT and EAN signed a collaboration agreement. Since that time, Matthias Purschke has acted as the official observer of EFNDT at the steering committee of the EAN. As the convenor of EFNDT's Working Group 2 (WG2), he supports the particular needs and requirements of industrial radiography within the EAN. During the last meeting on 10 December, he encouraged EAN participation at NDT events in order to promote the network and its activities. He recommended the WCNDT 2012 in Durban and the ECNDT 2014 in Prague as a good opportunity for the EAN members to get a feeling for the needs of the international industrial radiography community.

ISEMIR:

In order to gain worldwide information on particular areas of occupational exposure, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) launched, in 2009, the Information System on Occupational Exposure in Medicine, Industry and Research (ISEMIR). In 2009, following a recommendation from the ISEMIR Advisory Group, the IAEA set up a first Working Group devoted to occupational exposure in interventional cardiology. This was followed in 2010

by a second Working Group devoted to occupational exposure in industrial radiography (WG IR).

In order to gain an initial picture of the present situation with regard to occupational radiation protection in industrial radiography, the WG IR has developed questionnaires, addressed to each industrial radiographer, companies that perform industrial radiography and national radiation protection regulatory bodies. Meanwhile, questionnaires are available in different languages, including Russian and Chinese. The documents are also available on the WG IR homepage (link below).

The Working Group is convened by an expert from the Netherlands, Richard van Sonsbeek, and seven more experts from Malaysia, France, Brazil, Germany, Canada and Morocco are members of the group. The ISEMIR WG IR is also in very close contact with the European ALARA network. Matthias Purschke is a member of this Working Group and represents EFNDT and ICNDT. Therefore, ISEMIR used the contact data of EFNDT and ICNDT for the distribution of the questionnaires.

For more information about ISEMIR:

<http://www-ns.iaea.org/tech-areas/communication-networks/norp/isemir-wgir.htm>

EFNDT Railway Forum

Two years ago, EFNDT's Board of Directors (BoD) decided to try to establish a 'European Railway Forum' under the umbrella of EFNDT. The idea was born by the very good experiences with the 'European Forum for National Aerospace NDT Boards'. However, in principle, aerospace cannot be directly compared with railway, but the Trans-European approach is very similar. Railway business is not limited to the national railway systems and companies anymore. It is quite usual that trains are running across the national borders, but international approaches, for maintaining the trains for example, are rare.

Therefore, the German Society for NDT (DGZfP) invited European railway experts for a first meeting. With the strong support of Deutsche Bahn AG (DB AG) it was possible to arrange a first meeting at the DGZfP's headquarters in Berlin. The meeting took place on 4 November 2010. We had the chance to welcome 11 experts from France, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Austria and Germany. The participants elected Mr Ronald Krull as convenor and agreed on several work items.

First of all, the focus was put on getting in touch with more interested European colleagues. Additionally, the forum members want to deal with harmonisation in training and certification in the field of maintenance and to discuss the different approaches for maintenance in Europe. During the first meeting, the forum members decided to deal with tracks and rolling stock. Maybe at a later stage it would make sense to establish different working groups for these different topics. Even European standardisation on the basis of existing different European and company standards is conceivable. The next meeting is already scheduled for Tuesday 1 March 2011 in Ammersfort, Netherlands. Interested colleagues should contact the convenor, Ronald Krull (email: ronald.krull@deutschebahn.com).

Matthias Purschke