

KSCE Annual Conference and Civil Expo 2004

A record number of 2,600 professionals and students from the academic, research and corporate sectors participated in this year's Annual Conference and Civil Expo, the civil engineering's most comprehensive annual event in Korea. Held at the Phoenix Park Resort located in Pyung-Chang city of the Gang-Won province from October 20 to 22, this year's conference was more successful than ever in terms of providing a field for academic exchange with a record breaking 1,106 paper submissions. Nonetheless, the meeting was held under a casual atmosphere since informal attire was specially recommended by the KSCE to all participants.

Substantial improvements were notable in the special sessions with increased contributions from the corporate professionals who have helped share their experiences and insights to construction expertise. International cooperative relations were strengthened through the International Roundtable Meeting held on the topic of "Civil Engineering in the Digital World" and the International Symposium held on the topic of "Future Construction Material: FRP". Newly organized special sessions included the Student Session and the "Workshop on Civil Engineering Youths", allowing attendees to apply their development and learning opportunities to specific needs and interests. The Civil Expo 2004 attracted 50 different suppliers, corporations and public agencies by operating 64 booths which provided plenty of networking opportunities. The KSCE annual conference which marks its 30th anniversary next year is planned to be held in the beautiful island of Cheju.



Opening of Annual Conference and Civil Expo 2004 at Phoenix Park Resort

2004 ACECC Meeting Held in Kaohsiung, Taiwan

ACECC (Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council) Executive Committee Meeting was held at the Ambassador hotel in Taiwan's harbour city Kaohsiung, during December 2-5. Hosted by CICHE (Chinese Institute of Civil and Hydraulic Engineering), thirty one participants gathered

from the civil engineering societies of Korea (KSCE), Australia (AIEAust), Japan (JSCE), and Vietnam (VIFCEA). The KSCE delegation included Dr. Young-Nam Lee (Chair, Planning Committee), Mr. In-Kuin Kim (Vice President of KSCE), Dr. Kwang Il Kim (past Chair, ACECC), Dr. Sung-Wan Hong (Chair, 3rd CECAR LOC), Dr. Hyo Seop Woo (Sec. Gen., 3rd CECAR LOC), Prof. Junboun Park (KSCE International Affairs Committee), and Ms. Joyce Par Lee (past Secretary, ACECC).

The main programs of this year's assembly were the PCM (Planning Committee Meeting), ECM (Executive Committee Meeting) and the IRF (International Roundtable Forum) which were held along with the Annual Meeting of CICHE on consecutive dates during the four day schedule. On the last day, participants made technical visits to the Kaohsiung Rapid Transit O5/R10 Station and the Taiwan High Speed Rail Depot.

Issues of discussion on the PCM agenda were the Code of Ethics, Public Perception, and other Operational Tasks. The ECM settled this year's budget including the financial report of the 3rd CECAR, then moved on to discussions on future ACECC activities. Under the theme of "New Paradigm of Civil Engineering and Mission of Civil Engineers," the IRF was scheduled with presentations from each international societies. Vice president Mr. In-Kuin Kim represented KSCE, stressing the importance of cooperative relations among the academia, industry and professional society for "Leadership Capacity Building" of civil engineers and proposing "New" civil engineer with interdisciplinary skills, management skills and communication skills.



ACECC Planning Committee Meeting held in Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Business Performances of Top Korean General Contractors

Financial performances of Korean general contractors have improved due to the boom in housing construction since 2000. New contract amounts show steady increase since 1999. Contract amount in 2003 is 102.5 trillion won compared to 48 trillion won in 1998. The contract amount from public works in 2004 is estimated around 33.5 trillion won, a slight increase from the previous year. However, private sector takes 55.5 trillion won that is decreased from 70.3 trillion won in 2003.