

The
ICNDT
Journal

ICNDT Journal

The Official
Journal of the
**International
Committee for
Non-Destructive
Testing**

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January 2000

The world Organisation for NDT

ICNDT for 2000!

An International Community for an International Era



Baldev Raj
Chairman of PGP

Message for the new year

by Baldev Raj

It is a pleasure to know that the current issue of the International Committee for Non Destructive Testing (ICNDT) Journal is the millennium issue, being published at the turn of this century. The year 2000 is important to all the professionals of NDE, scientists and technologists in the world as

we are keenly looking forward to a tremendously successful 15th World Conference on Nondestructive Testing in Roma, Italy, October 2000. In the recent weeks we have had a very fruitful and effective dialogue on re-structuring of and re-dedicating ourselves to the ICNDT through a series of formal and informal meetings. I am sure the important decisions taken there would propel the ICNDT and its other bodies such as the PGPC towards achieving more - and achieving what it wants to, more systematically in the professional arena of NDT Science and Technology in the new millennium. I wish to take this opportunity to share with you the four most important directions in which the PGPC and the ICNDT should focus in the new millennium. These directions are: (1) thrust towards increased Web presence of ICNDT and PGPC and recasting our Journals and Articles from a web-centric perspective, (2) harmonisation of Training and Certification among all the member countries of the ICNDT, (3) seamless sharing of our knowledge and ideas to enhance contributions to NDE science and technology towards enhanced safety, productivity and quality through NDT, and (4) application of effective NDT towards the preservation of our Cultural Heritage. I believe focussed and synergistic efforts in these four areas would achieve better quality of life on our planet in the new millennium.

These four issues have been consistently discussed at various levels of the ICNDT and the PGPC, and are now widely accepted as essential for our growth. These thrust directions and their derivative actions will mould the heights ICNDT and PGPC will scale in the coming millennium. The turn of this century and the arrival of the next, present immense opportunities and challenges, and hence call for better co-ordination and sustained work to promote these aspirations of ICNDT. I am confident that the new charter of the ICNDT before us will help us face these challenges and reach those goals.

The immediate target, however, is the forthcoming 15th World Conference on NDT, and I am sure Dr. Nardoni and his team are doing an excellent job both from a professional and an administrative perspective. We are all with him and our experiences in conducting such a huge Conference are for him to use.

We wish him and his team all success.

I take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year.

Dr. Baldev Raj

Dr. Baldev Raj, Director, Metallurgy & Materials, Chemical Reprocessing Groups Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research Kalpakkam 603 102, Tamil Nadu, India email: secdmg@igcar.ernet.in

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st. It has an address. It has achievements to its credit.

When governments, urged along by civil society, come together to adopt a statute for the creation of an International Criminal Court, that is the international community at work for the rule of law. When we see an outpouring of international aid to the victims of earthquakes in Turkey and Greece, that is the international community following its humanitarian impulse. When people come together to press governments to relieve the world's poorest countries from crushing debt burdens, that is the international community throwing its weight behind the cause of development. When the popular conscience, outraged at the carnage caused by land mines, obliges governments to adopt a convention banning those deadly weapons, that, too, is the international community in action.

The international system for much of our century has been based on division and hard calculations of realpolitik. In the new century, we can and must do better. I do not mean to suggest that an era of complete harmony is within our reach. Of course, interests and ideas will always clash. The international community is a "work in progress". Many strands of cooperation have asserted themselves over the years. We must now stitch them into a strong fabric of community – *of international community for an international era.*

Greetings from Vienna



Welcomes in the year 2000!

Have you heard the "Neujahrskonzert" of the Viennese philharmonics? It was grand and mood-full, as always. Riccardo Muti wished us, the world, peace and happiness.

He called the music an eternal ambassador for spirit and culture! ICNDT is the worldwide ambassador for the methods of Non-destructive Testing, mediating knowledge across borders. We as ICNDT-Task Group WHxx-85 became engaged to fit the harmonised education of NDT-personal to the stand of the technology within the NDT Training-Syllabuses of the ICNDT.

Many thanks to all NDT-colleagues already collaborating and trying to complete this groundwork by March 2000.

The revised NDT Training-Syllabuses should be given a farewell by the ICNDT in Rome, October 2000. Please help us through the participation of your national NDT-experts!

For queries, don't hesitate to ask ÖGFZP, Mr. G. Aufrecht. A successful start into the coming new Millennium combined with my gratitude for the pleasant and trustful co-operation.

Gerhard Aufrecht
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G. Aufrecht

A Shared Vision Of a Better World

by Kofi Annan

Ours is a world in which no individual, and no country, exists in isolation. All of us live simultaneously in our own communities and in the world at large. The same icons, whether on a movie screen or a computer screen, are recognizable from Berlin to Bangalore. We are all influenced by the same tides of political, social and technological change. Pollution, organized crime and the proliferation of deadly weapons likewise show little regard for the niceties of borders; they are "problems without passports". We are connected, wired, interdependent.

Much of this is nothing new; human beings have interacted across the planet for centuries. But today's "globalization" is different. It is happening more rapidly. And it is governed by different rules or, in some cases, by no rules at all. Globalization is bringing us new choices and opportunities. It is making us more familiar with global diversity. Yet, millions of people experience it not as an agent of progress, but as a disruptive force that can destroy lives, jobs and traditions.

Faced with the potential good of globalization as well as its risks, faced with the persistence of deadly conflicts in which civilians are the primary targets, faced with the pervasiveness of poverty and injustice, we must be able to identify the areas where collective action is needed to safeguard global interests. Local communities have their fire departments and town councils. Nations have their courts and legislatures. But in today's globalized world, the mechanisms available for global action are hardly more than embryonic. It is high time we gave more concrete meaning to the idea of the "international community".

What makes a community? What binds it together? For some it is faith. For others it is the defense of an idea, such as democracy. Some communities are homogeneous, others multicultural. Some are as small as schools and villages; others as large as continents. Specifically, what binds us into an *international* community? In the broadest sense there is a shared vision of a better world for all people, as set out, for example, in the founding Charter for the United Nations. There is our sense of common vulnerability in the face of global warming and the spread of weapons of mass destruction. There is the framework of international law, treaties and human-rights conventions.

There is equally our sense of shared *opportunity*, which is why we build common markets and joint institutions such as the United Nations. Together, we are stronger.

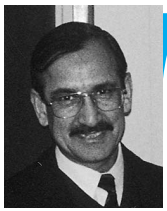
Some people say the international community is only a fiction. Others say it is too elastic a concept to have any real meaning. Some say there are no internationally recognized norms, goals or fears on which to base such a community. Op-ed pages refer routinely to the "so-called" international community. I believe these skeptics are wrong. The international community *does* exist.



Letters, Messages, Events joined with ICNDT

AUSTRIA - IAEA

IAEA PROJECT-BACKGROUND INFORMATION



A. Khan

A regional project on NDT is in progress in the West Asia region with numerous activities spread over the years 1999-2000 cycle. The main focus of the project is to establish in each of the member

states a core group of qualified personnel so that the activity of training and certification of NDT personnel could be carried out on a sustainable basis. Besides the project emphasizes the establishment of support organizations such as the Professional NDT Societies and National Certifying Bodies and Examination Committees etc. After a sound system for the training and certification NDT personnel has been established in each member state the next step would be to harmonize all these qualifications and certification schemes within the region and then at the international level. For this purpose it is important to establish contacts with ICNDT so that the member states could benefit from its efforts at the international level. Also it is important for the IAEA to work in collaboration with ICNDT for achieving its international goals in the field of NDT. Therefore it is recommended to invite some officials from the current Secretariat of ICNDT in Rome to the meeting of the National NDT Co-ordinators.

CANADA

2004 WCNDT

Since the First World Conference on Nondestructive Testing, held in Brussels, Belgium in May 1955, the NDT community has continued to seek a venue to improve communications and build cooperation and harmonization within the nondestructive testing industry. With almost 15 World Conferences behind us, it's safe to say that the International Committee for Nondestructive Testing has met this goal.



Sharon Bond

As a long time member of the International Committee for Nondestructive Testing, Canada is honoured to have been chosen to host the 16th WCNDT and although the 15th WCNDT will not take place until this October, preliminary preparations for the 16th WCNDT have already begun.

Under the direction of the Canadian Society for Nondestructive Testing, Montreal, Canada has been chosen as the site for this distinguished event to be held in September 2004; and in keeping with past World Conferences promises to once again bring together the International NDT community to celebrate further research and development and growth within the industry.

Along with establishing a local Conference Organizing Committee consisting of eight dedicated professionals from the Canadian NDT community; the CSNDT has selected Events International Meeting Planners to assist with the planning and implementation of this major international event. As well, a conference coordinator has been chosen to act as liaison between the two organizing groups.

The Canadian Society for Nondestructive Testing looks forward to this opportunity which has been bestowed upon them and hopes to see everyone at the 15th World Conference on Nondestructive Testing in October 2000.

For further information contact Canadian Society for Nondestructive Testing 135 Fennel Ave. West Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8N 3T2 (905)387-2004 sbond@ndeinst.org

CHINA

Welcome to ICME 2000

On behalf of the Chinese Mechanical Engineering Society and the International Steering Committee of ICME 2000, I cordially invite engineers and professors from all ICOMES member societies as well as other professional organisations throughout the world to attend the First International Conference on Mechanical Engineering-ICMES 2000 to be held in Shanghai, China's largest industrial and commercial municipality.

To be the official concurrent event of the 6th International Congress of Mechanical Engineering Societies-ICOMES 2000, ICME 2000 is the meeting place for mechanical and manufacturing engineers to share the pleasure and excitement of extensive and intensive technical exchanges. ICME 2000 is also designed to be a special forum for engineers to make presentations on how they are going to meet the challenges, obtain opportunities and manage risks in the new millennium. With the theme of "Globalisation of Manufacturing Industry", ICME 2000 will focus on a wide range of technical concerns that might affect our life in the new century.

It is important to have your participation in this event to further promote the art and sciences of mechanical and manufacturing engineering, as well as to greatly strengthen the technical collaboration among engineers from different parts of the world. In the name of ICOMES, I encourage your enthusiasm to make your due contribution to this event.

HE Guangyuan, President of The Chinese Mechanical Engineering Society.

UKRAINE

UkrNDT 2000

The Ukrainian Society for NDT and Technical Diagnostics and other institutions are organising the 3rd National Conference "Ukr NDT 2000" which will be held near Dnepropetrovsk from 23 to 25 May 2000. The Conference will be devoted to the 10th anniversary of establishment of the Ukrainian Society for NDT&TD. The conference will try to cover all NDT topics we have as well the Exhibition of NDT Equipment and Apparatus presented by domestic and foreign producers.

The 2nd UkrNDT Conference held in 1997, had more than 250 attendees and 110 presentations. Well known companies as AGFA Gevaert, Olympus, Kodak, Philips Industrial X-ray GmbH, Institute Dr. Forster, Rich Seifert & Co, Force Institute, SEMAT, Cenith Inspection Equipment and other domestic companies participated in the Exhibition.

ISRAEL

The opening of the Second National Conference on NDT, held in Telaviv, December 1999.

From Speech given by Mr. Gavriel Shoef, President of the Society

Dr. Nardoni, President of the International Committee for Non-Destructive Testing, Mr. Oded Tira, President for the Manufacturers Association, Gen. (RES) A. Lapidot Former Chief of



G. Shoef

the Israeli Air Force and the President for the Thechnion, distinguished colleagues and guests. A year ago we were gathered here in a similar forum, to embark the establishment of the Israeli National Society for Non-Destructive Testing. It was a bold step, but highly necessary in the light of international events in this field. The European and American non-destructive testing communities were in the middle of a multi-lateral program of mutual acknowledgement and recognition.....

..... The European Parliament began issuing rules and regulations, and about a month ago, a regulation entered into force, which has direct implications on Israel regarding export of pressure vessels to Europe. According to this regulation, Europe must acknowledge the certification system for non-destructive testing provided by the country manufacturing these vessels.

We spent thousands of voluntary hours in debates, writing procedures and other documents required for the accreditation and in international relations in order to establish this system, Mr. Gideon Ronen, the spirit behind this operation, carrying out magnificent deeds to enable this. And here we are today, several months before receiving that accreditation. After which the international community will acknowledge Israeli inspectors that the Society qualified.

We have not neglected the other goals. Our relations with Europe and the rest of the world have become stronger. We are members of the Federation Council and in a geographical group with Egypt, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and South Africa, receiving invitations to participate in conferences from many countries, including countries from the Middle East. An environmental protection Palestinian delegation stayed with us, lighting the spark for common activity in several fields. We gave a seminar in non-destructive testing in Nigeria.

We were sorry to hear of the early loss of Professor Schnitger, the President of the Federation, whom we felt, as our friend. We remember his work and respect his memory. Mr. Tiara, you are our distinguished guest. Being the President of the Manufacturers Association, you are certainly aware of the situation of steel factories in this country, almost all of which are in a difficult economic position. Such deterioration in the situation of steel factories effects the non-destructive testing field as well. We hope that you work as best as you can to influence the state of the country 's economic policy and direct the Manufactures towards growth.

..... I wish all of you an enjoyable and fruitful conference.

CROATIA

Antipersonnel landmines detection

by Vjera Krstelj

At the end of the XX century, around 80 million antipersonnel landmines are left in more than 80 countries worldwide. They cause around 30,000 deaths or injuries per year. Humankind's answer to the existing



V. Krstelj

landmines threat is humanitarian demining. It is a set of activities organized and conducted to remove all the antipersonnel landmines with a probability of 99,6 %. However, at the present level, it is not sufficient and the activities related to the process of detection and demining are unnecessary, time-consuming and dangerous. Moreover, the particularly problematic operation is the mine detection.

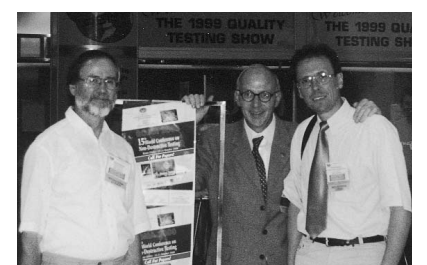
In raising the humanitarian demining detection equipment (HDDE) performances, the possible breakthrough is supposed to be a result of R&D process conducted by intensively collaborating experts. The contribution of NDT community to the expert collaboration for HDDE development is seen in the establishing of the fifth EFNDT Working Group, that for Antipersonnel Landmines Detection – EFNDT WG 5-APLD (EFNDT WG5). It was established in March 1999 on the EFNDT Board of Directors meeting in Berlin, under the proposal of Prof. Vjera Krstelj and unanimously accepted at General Assembly of EFNDT on November 29. 1999 in Paris. The first WG 5 meeting was held on 22nd of November 1999 in Zagreb. Presently, there are 45 members from 15 European countries, 1 member from USA and 1 member from Canada.

WG-APLD has several objectives: to analyse the present situation of existing NDT methods and to look for suitable physical principles not yet used for HDDE; to establish R&D programs; to measure reliability of detection and to establish a ranking list; to establish a database of experts and activities in Europe; to open special funds of interested organizations; to organize exchange of experience and special conferences; to establish an education and training system; and to support the UN proclamation of the year 2000 as international year for peace by EFNDT activities.

One and the most important initiative in WG5 is to move forward to meet the global demand for safety and to acknowledge the importance of ICNDT in supporting the relationship between NDT Community, enhancing the role of NDT in that big task at the service of humanity and healthy and productive environment for present and future generation. That's why we will appreciate attending the 15th WCNDT in Roma, share our experience in that particular implementation of NDT and make your contribution to a future mines free world.

WG5-APLD Convenor-Prof. Vjera Krstelj.

AIRCRAFT SPECIAL SESSION



Phoenix, USA. At the last ASNT Fall Conference the ICNDT President was in talks with Airbus experts to organise an Aircraft Special Session during the 15th WCNDT in Roma.

ICNDT Regional Groups: *Activities and perspectives*

AFRICA



F. Herelli

NDT in AFRICA - NEEDS AND EXPECTATIONS

by Fedric HERELLI

The needs and expectations of the developing countries in the field of non-destructive testing (NDT) can be presented in the following groups:

- development of NDT capabilities,
- development of NDT market/requirement - promotion of Quality Culture,
- advanced techniques.

DEVELOPMENT OF NDT CAPABILITIES

Radiation Safety. The implementation of the NDT projects is sometimes handicapped by inadequate Radiation Safety infrastructure regulation and practices. Even in those countries, in which NDT technology and relevant infrastructure are relatively developed, there are still needs for upgrading Radiation Safety through: a) regular maintenance and repair of the radiation source (preventive, corrective, X-rays, gamma), combined, if applicable, with reloading of the Ir-192 gamma sources and disposal of the decayed Ir-192, Cs-137 and Co-60 sources, b) permanent availability of the emergency services (damaged gamma projectors, radiation source out of control, lost, accidented, etc.) c) training and certification of the specialised industrial Radiography Radiation Safety Officers (IRRSO), capable to handle emergency situations. d) Maintenance, repair and calibration of the radiation safety instruments.

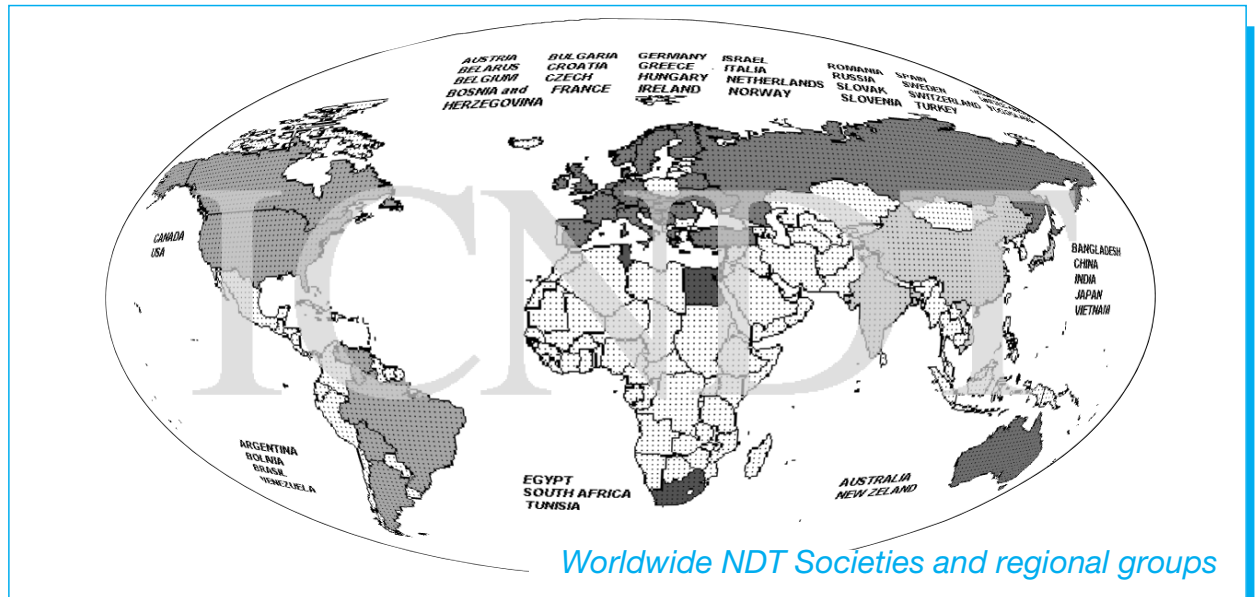
Quality Assurance. The current needs stimulated by the Quality Assurance requirements are the following: a) promotion of level III personnel; development of the harmonised training and certification schemes; mutual recognition of the NDT certificates; implementation of the new version of the ISO 9712: (1997) standard, IAEA, TECDOC, EN 473. b) Organisation of the regional, sub regional and national NDT centres of excellence, (designed centre) for training, examination and certification of NDT inspectors, capable to host the NDT fellows, c) know-how in fabrication and use of harmonised NDT test specimen for practical training and examination, d) implementation of the proficiency test programmes for harmonisation and upgrading the NDT operators' skill (QA interlaboratory tests). Some of these activities are subject to NDT regional projects in Africa (RAF/8/025).

DEVELOPMENT OF NDT MARKET/DEMAND-PROMOTION OF QUALITY CULTURE

Industrial projects. In some developing countries important foreign and mixed investments are realised, combined, in most cases, with extraction and evacuation of raw materials; e.g. oil pipe-line Tshad-Cameroon (2 billion US\$ project), off-shore platforms, phosphate plants, roads, railways, etc. In consequence, strong demands for highly specialised NDT services exist. Appearance of a huge NDT market, even when temporary, is a unique occasion to promote NDT activities. The main problem, at least in the initial stage, is the significant technological gap between the big project sponsors and local specialists, who are, sometimes, not sufficiently experienced. The effective co-operation between developing countries (TCDC) is therefore very needed. There are the needs for comprehensive advice, how to take advantage of emerging NDT market and to negotiate with foreign and local constructors the development of the local capability in NDT and to upgrade in this way the quality culture in the country. The Cameroon model project can be here a good example.

ADVANCED NDT TECHNIQUES

Implementation of the advanced NDT technology in developing countries is relatively narrow because of: first - limited national NDT capability (cost equipment included), and the second - not identified NDT market needs. The advanced radiographic techniques, like neutronography, tomography, high energy radiography and real-time digitised radioscopy have been experimented in some Agency Member States, mostly in the advanced technology sectors, like nuclear centres, air, spatial and national defense institutions. The industrial needs for the advanced NDT can not be, sometimes, clearly declared, as they are often a component of the national defence programmes, spatial and nuclear sectors included, which are, by their nature, confidential. Advanced NDT in building and civil engineering sectors are usually developed a little bit later than testing of metallic materials, sometimes with limited participation only of the NDT personnel specialised in testing metals and involved in the Agency's technical co-operation projects. The capability to programme and to perform NDT safety inspection of civil engineering structures, made of steel, reinforced concrete and pre stressed or post-tensioned concrete elements, is rather limited. Promotion of the advanced NDT methods and their applications has been proposed by the National NDT Co-ordinators in Africa; through: IAEA Co-ordinated Research Programmes-CRP: 1- running CRP on corrosion and deposit evaluation in pipes by radiography "CORDEP-97", 2- real-time radiography, tomography, 3- under regional co-operation agreements and projects, in form of Regional Research Programmes (RRP), or simple teamwork of the inter-



Worldwide NDT Societies and regional groups

sted NDT laboratories (e.g.: corrosion monitoring in pipe-lines, vibration analysis diagnostic of rotating equipment. The CRP preliminary proposals on detection of corrosion in storage tanks for environmental protection, and on vibration analysis of rotating equipment. The specialised, high level training, organised for NDT specialists and industrial and civil engineering end-users, seems to be the current need too (e.g.: microfocus radiography, topography, testing concrete by means of linear accelerators and other high energy sources, in-Service Inspection NDT methods for power and petroleum sectors, etc.).

COOPERATION IN THE FRAME OF ICNDT

The NDT world congress is planned to be held in Roma. This very important event will gather many experts involved in the NDT field targeting the improvement of new methods and techniques. The African countries are requested to install national committees to take charge and promote NDT techniques according to international requirements in order to fulfil the conditions to become an ICNDT member. In this frame, it is hopefully requested that these countries propose the creation of a Pan-African Association of NDT.

EFNDT EUROPE Regional group

EFNDT Board of Directors meeting and General Assembly. Paris, 28/29 Nov 1999.

Members of European Federation of NDT met in Paris November 29 last for their annual assembly which was attended by 31 people from 24 countries. Coinciding with the event was the EFNDT Board of Directors meeting held the previous day. The BOD, attended by Representatives from Austrian, Belgian, British, Russian, Croatian, Danish, French, German, Italian and Spanish Societies made a number of resolutions, the most important of which are given below :

- The Norwegian, Ukrainian and Romanian NDT Societies are accepted as full members of EFNDT.
- It is the intention of EFNDT that ECP should continue to align with ISO 9712 and EN 473 as these converge and to make ECP available to other certifying bodies outside Europe, once sufficient experience has been gained in Europe.
- The BOD accept the proposal to pursue the MRA (including EN 473 and EN 45013) accepted by ASME I and VIII and to continue the negotiations with ASNT on ACCP-ECP recognition.



Leluan Cofrend President



Larsen - EFNDT Acting President



Link-DGZfp



r-l: Obruz (Czech), Kijuev (Russia), Deliège (Belgium)

PANNDT PAN-AMERICAN Regional group

2nd Pan-American Conference on NDT



The American Society for Nondestructive Testing, just last week, finally approved the site for the Second Pan-American Conference for Nondestructive Testing which is to be held in Houston, Texas, USA on June 18-22, 2001. The Pan-American Conference will be held in conjunction with ASNT International Chemical and Petroleum Industry Inspection Technology (ICPIIT) VII Topical Conference. The PACNDT Conference Committee and the ICPTIT Conference Committee will be forming shortly and it is expected that they will begin holding monthly meetings starting in January 2000. However, early discussions with ASNT's Conference Department Manager, Tina O' Donnell, indicate a plan to host an over all five day program beginning with a golf outing on Monday, June 18th, with a welcoming party and opening of table top exhibits on Monday evening. Tuesday through Thursday it is planned to have three simultaneous sessions (2 PACNDT & 1 ICPIIT or 1 PACNDT & 2 ICPIIT alternatively during the week as needed and determined by papers received). A banquet will be held either on Wednesday or Thursday evening, June 20th or 21st. There will be a Post-Conference Seminar planned for Friday, June 22nd.

The PACNDT Organizing Committee is as follows:
David Culbertson, ASNT (President); C.P. Woodruff, ASNT; Joao Conte, ABENDE; Peter Brady, CSNDT; Tina O'Donnell, ASNT (Secretary)



Dr. C. Culbertson ASNT President

APNDT ASIAN-PACIFIC Regional group

Asian-Pacific Conference on NDT Brisbane Australia 17th-21st Sept.2001

Planning for the tenth Asian-Pacific Conference on NDT is on schedule. AGFA have been awarded naming rights. The conference is now named AGFA Tenth A-PCNDT. The first call for papers will be posted in April this year. Concurrent with the conference is an equipment exhibition. Prospective exhibitors are advised to book early to ensure their first choice booth site. Booths will be allocated on a first in best dressed basis with competitor neighbour consideration.

A web page is being developed and when it is on line all societies will be informed. In the meantime information is available from the Conference Steering Committee at PO Box 47, Brisbane Markets, Qld 4106, Australia or by Facsimile number 617 3870 4570 or e-mail aindt@immanet.asn.au.

Our conference committee are planning a full daytime schedule for accompanying spouses. Brisbane and surrounds has a host of interesting places to visit, from shopping malls to river cruises rainforests to whale watching. Start planning now to arrive early and stay on after the exiting conference so that you can enjoy true Australian hospitality.

We look forward to meeting with many friends in Rome next October; we will have the latest news and information on the program, plus information on travel and accommodation.

Derek A. Olley
President A-PCNDT

TALKING ABOUT CERTIFICATION

ICNDT's Role in International Reciprocity

21 December 1999

Dear Giuseppe,

It was a pleasure to meet you in Phoenix in October. I enjoyed our discussions regarding common issues and your presentation of the upcoming World Conference in Roma. Please contact me by telephone in the United States at 423.751.3319 at your convenience. I have an idea that may interest you with regard to the World Conference in Roma in 2000. It has to do with directing our collective energies toward a single international standard for the qualification of NDT personnel, administered through a governing accreditation body, and administered through the national NDT societies of each member country. If we can agree on this principle and sign a Memorandum of Understanding to that effect, perhaps Roma can serve as the hallmark event in finally solving the dilemma of multiple certification schemes. At this point, I believe I have significant support from a number of other countries.

I look forward to our discussion.
Respectfully, Robert Rankin Doggart, Ph.D., President, ASNT

support of the "central agency" perhaps under the ICNDT banner, to get this going. And where should it be housed? In what country? If we can't gain wide support, not just talk, we will be wasting our time, and we don't have any extra of it. I think that Roma is our chance, and we must meet in Birmingham to set ourselves on the right course. We can ask Dr. Sotirios Vahaviolos to put this on the International Committee agenda and I think he would agree, or can have a separate meeting for this purpose. The separate meeting sounds more conducive. And its not just the European Community or the US, we must include the other interested parties, especially the Far East.

I will host an ASNT President's Meeting in my suite for this purpose. There will be plenty of room for all. In the meantime, I am in contact with the US Department of Commerce regarding this issue and will be able to report their thoughts as well.

I hope you and your family enjoyed the holiday season and wish you well in this new year.

Sincerely,
Bob Doggart, President, ASNT

PRESS RELEASE

NDT Personnel Certification Satisfies Both the New Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) and ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code

The American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT), Columbus, Ohio, USA, and Rheinisch-Westfälischer Technischer Überwachungsverein (RWTUV), Essen, Germany, have entered into an agreement to offer NDT personnel certifications for both the New European Pressure Equipment Directive (PED) and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code. The PED specifies NDT personnel certification in accordance with European Standard EN 473.

RWTUV and ASNT have incorporated minor modifications to bring ASNT's Central Certification Program (ACCP) into compliance with EN 473.

Serving as an accredited organization within the European Union, RWTUV will issue EN 473 certifications upon successful completion of qualification and examination requirements, while ASNT will simultaneously issue ACCP certification.

The ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code recently accepted NDT personnel certifications in accordance with ASNT's ACCP. The ASNT and RWTUV arrangement will provide a convenient and economical means to obtain both EN 473 and ACCP certifications from a single examination process while satisfying the requirements of the European Pressure Equipment Directive and ASME Code.

Currently, manufacturers wishing to obtain both ASME stamp holder status and PED certification are required to maintain two separate NDT personnel qualification and certification programs. The ASNT and RWTUV arrangement will provide a single qualification and examination process resulting in certification acceptable to both the PED and ASME Code.

Through ASNT's Authorized Examination Centers and RWTUV multi-national offices, the ASNT/RWTUV certifications will be available later this year to all pressure equipment manufacturers around the world. Examination dates will be forthcoming.

Founded in 1941, ASNT has an individual membership of almost 10,000 representing more than 90 countries, and nearly 400 corporate members.

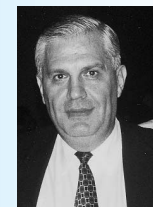
The membership represents a cross section of NDT practitioners working in manufacturing, construction, education, research, consulting services and the military.

ASNT is a nonprofit corporation governed by a board of directors and national officers. The Society is recognized world wide as the leading authority for NDT certification, publications and educational activities.

For more information regarding this joint certification, contact:

1.) ASNT, 1711 Arlingate Lane, P.O. Box 28518, Columbus, OH, USA, 43228-0518 - Attn: Jim Houf, Senior Manager, Technical Services - Phone: 1.800.222.2768 or 614.274.6003, Fax: 614.274.6899, or

2.) RWTUV, Kurfürstenstrasse 58, D-45138 Essen, Germany, Attention: Detlef Reichwaldt - Phone: 201.825.2754, Fax: 201.825.2632



S. Vahaviolos

4 January 2000

Dear Mr. Doggart,

Greetings from Italy!!

Your message, in your e.mail of 21/12/99 has been a great Christmas present for me. Your idea is splendid and fully supports the ICNDT efforts to harmonise around 9712 certification schemes. This will encourage more and more industry to follow this scheme that will guarantee more reliable NDT examinations. The advanced project coming in 2000 needs effective NDT. In Rome, as you suggested we can sign the 'Universal Charts' of NDT certification.

It is on our shoulders to build up the right international NDT community for the incoming century.

At the Spring Conference I will be in the States and there, we can formalise our intentions for Rome.

All my best regards to you and your beautiful family.
Yours Sincerely G. Nardoni, ICNDT

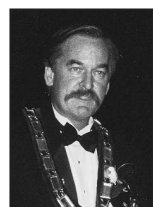


G. Nardoni

12 January 2000

Dear Dr. Nardoni,

Estamos de acuerdo! While the various certification schemes around the world pursue their own efforts, I agree that it falls to us, the leaders of the international NDT community, to facilitate some genuine progress. What I'm talking about is true harmonization, which would not be a threat to any nation's program, in fact, it would be a boost to those who move quickly. But it will not be easy or without harsh criticism. There are the issues of governance, procedures, personnel, and financial



Dr. Doggart

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ICNDT Secretariat open Window

The ICNDT Secretariat, with a view to maintaining a close, lively link with its membership, issues this column devoted to publishing news, information or simply messages received from Societies. All are invited to take part in keeping this column alive!



S. Gbia



E. Rochfort

The ICNDT Directory on Internet

With a view to updating the ICNDT Directory, a questionnaire has been circulated by the Secretariat, to the NDT Societies of the world.

Responses have been received from:

Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia, Bosnia H.Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Rep., Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, The Netherlands, Tunisia, Turkey, UK, Ukraine, USA, Venezuela, Yugoslavia.

We would kindly request those countries which have not yet responded, to do so at their earliest convenience.

Questionnaires are available at ICNDT Secretariat e-mail: <aipnd@numerica.it> or fax +39 030 3739176

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Mr. Gilbert, INSIGHT

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