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## 1. Register for the IABSE Conference Geneva 2015!

We are pleased to inform that 340 papers for the Geneva Conference 'Structural Engineering Providing Solutions to Global Challenges' have been reviewed by the Scientific Committee. The Scientific Committee is now preparing the programme together with the Session Facilitators. The first draft of sessions and papers will be available by the end of July.

Plenary keynote lectures and key podia will stimulate discussions and debates among conference participants about the four Global Themes of the conference: 1) Climate Change and the Energy Challenge; 2) Global Engineering Challenges; 3) Break-Through Technologies; and 4) Urbanisation and Growth. Keynote Speakers including Kristel Vanderelst, Robert Silman and Jonathan Poritt will explore paths for the future urbanism, growth and energy turnaround and what the role of structural engineers will be.

[Register now as a participant](#) or an [exhibitor](#) for the Conference!

Bachelor and Master-students, aged 25 and below can benefit from 1 day registration. More information: [www.iabse.org/Geneva2015](http://www.iabse.org/Geneva2015)

## 2. IABSE Geneva 2015 - Pre-Conference Short Course on Forensic Engineering

On the pre-conference Day '0' of the Geneva Conference 2015 (Sept. 22, 2015), a Short Course on 'Forensic Engineering - Causes of Failures and Investigations' will be organised by IABSE WG 8 'Forensic Engineering' (Chair, R.T. Ratay, USA). The course chairmen are Fabrizio Palmisano, Italy and Karel Terwel, The Netherlands.

The objective of this short course is to provide structural engineers, with an insight to the state-of-the-art practice in forensic investigation of structural failures, and into lessons learned from failures to understand and mitigate design errors and construction defects. It is aimed at structural engineers who want to acquire a working knowledge of

forensic structural engineering, practicing forensic engineers who want to learn from and share with other practitioners, and university students who wish to gain an advanced understanding of forensic structural engineering to underpin future research/career interests. [More..](#)

### 3. Register for the Annual Meetings 2015!

Committee members are invited to register for the Annual Meetings, which will be held from September 20-22, 2015, at the International Conference Centre Geneva (CICG) in Geneva, prior to the Geneva Conference. To register for the Annual Meetings, please click [here..](#)

Non-Committee Members may participate in some meetings as a guest, with the consent of the Group's Chair. The contact information of the Chairs of the respective Technical Groups can be found [here..](#)

### 4. Permanent Committee Meeting 2015

The Permanent Committee (PermC) of IABSE will meet on Tuesday September 22, 2015. The Agenda for the PermC meeting will be available online by **August 11, 2015**, in the [PermC Members Area](#). [Chairs of the National Groups](#) are requested to ensure that the Delegates and Alternate Delegates representing their National Group at the PermC Meeting are communicated to the IABSE Secretariat at [Chep.Uytiepo@iabse.org](mailto:Chep.Uytiepo@iabse.org) by **August 31, 2015**. Click [here](#) to view the real-time list of Delegates per country.

To know how many delegates and alternate delegates are possible per country please refer to the [Membership Statement January 1, 2015](#).

### 5. How an Anton Tedesko Medal Traineeship Can Make a Difference!

The [Anton Tedesko Medal](#) consists of a medal awarded to a Laureate in recognition of his contribution to the advancement of structural engineering, and a sum of 25'000 Swiss Francs to be used by the Laureate to organise and finance a study leave for a young promising engineer. In 2007, Professor John Claude Badoux, Laureate of the Medal invited Mr Anand Singh from Nepal to be his Fellow. Mr Singh came to Switzerland and had the opportunity to work as an engineer in Montreux, from October 2007 to April 2008. After the devastating earthquake that hit Nepal on April 25, 2015, Prof. Badoux contacted his Fellow. Hearing that he was doing well, enquired if he could use his engineering knowhow on the aftermath, and if his Swiss stay and traineeship had brought him useful experience. We are happy to hear his report of June 1, 2015, about his work and how his traineeship has borne fruits. Read the report [here..](#)

### 6. Journal SEI's Impact Factor has Increased!

Structural Engineering International (SEI) journal's impact factor has increased from 0.342 in 2013 to 0.414 in 2014, as per the recently published Journal Citation Reports by Thomson Reuters.

See the list of the most searched SEI articles between June 2014 and June 2015 (source

CrossRef) which can be viewed [here..](#)

SEI Articles are written by practicing engineers and academia from around the world and reflect the high standards of IABSE. All scientific papers are peer reviewed by two External [Reviewers](#) along with the IABSE [SEI Editorial Board](#). A big thank you to all of them for their tremendous effort and valuable contribution to the journal!

## 7. News From Members

**Mikael Braestrup, Denmark and Tamon Ueda, Japan** have been awarded with the 2015 *fib* Medal of Merit at the organisation's symposium in Copenhagen in May. The *fib* Medal of Merit is awarded to a selected number of recipients in recognition of their outstanding contributions to structural concrete and to the *fib*. [More..](#)

**Dan Frangopol, USA** - Dan M. Frangopol, the Fazlur R. Khan Endowed Chair of Structural Engineering and Architecture at Lehigh University and an expert in the field of life-cycle of civil and marine engineering, together with his former Ph.D. student Mohamed Soliman, won the 2015 ASCE Alfred Noble Prize. This Prize is awarded by a committee with members representing five professional U.S. societies. [More..](#)

**BuroHappold** - BuroHappold Engineering is part of the design team acknowledged as a global leader in the development of sustainable and resilient solutions for its work on Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital in Charlestown, MA, USA. This nine-story, 262,000 ft<sup>2</sup> building reflects recent advances in computational modelling which are transforming the design process. BuroHappold and the design team were recognised by the 2015 SUSTAINIA 100, an annual guide that identifies projects, initiatives and technologies at the forefront of sustainability innovation. The top 100 sustainability solutions were found after reviewing more than 1500 projects and businesses on six continents. [More..](#)

## 8. News from the National Groups

**Germany** - On March 23, 2015, the second Colloquium for Young Engineers, organised by the German Group of IABSE, was held at the University of Stuttgart. On this occasion, contributions from research and practice were equally presented to an audience of some 60 participants from various sectors of the building industry. Attuned with the international nature of IABSE, students and members of the South African Group of IABSE were able to participate via live-stream in the interesting lecture by Rob Vergossen from Royal Haskoning DHV, who spoke about how structures were preserved and rehabilitated in The Netherlands. This was followed by selected contributions by 29 young engineers, in the form of oral or poster presentations, which were accompanied by lively discussions. [More..](#)

**Spain** - The Spanish Group of IABSE in conjunction with the Escuela de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos (Technical University of Madrid) invited Roel Vernooij, The Netherlands, to hold a lecture on 'Bridges with Cable Systems and Non-Linear Calculations. Do's and Don'ts, When and How' in Madrid, May 28, 2015. Over 110 students and professionals attended the event. [More..](#)

- After the positive outcome of the Workshop on Bridge Design 2014 '[WoBD2014](#)' in Madrid, the Spanish Group plans to organise the next Workshop '[WoBD2015](#)' at the Escuela de Ingenieros de Caminos, Canales y Puertos on October 23, 2015. Like its predecessor, the aim of this event

consists of promoting design, inspiring future generations and bringing together young designers with leading designers. It will feature talks by renowned Master and Junior speakers and an innovative workshop on bridge design guided by experts. For more information contact the Secretariat of the Spanish Group, [geiabse@ceu.es](mailto:geiabse@ceu.es).

**Switzerland** - On June 19/20, 2015, the Swiss Group of IABSE organised an excursion to the construction site 'Nant de Drance', the Chillon viaduct and the viaduct on A9 (H144). The Nant de Drance SA is currently building a pumped storage power station with a turbine capacity of 900 MW, in the Valais between Martigny (CH) and Chamonix (F) on the territory of the municipality 'Finhaut'. The power station will produce around 2,500 million kWh of electricity annually. Commissioning will be gradual from 2018. See more information and a video at [www.nant-de-drance.ch](http://www.nant-de-drance.ch). The second visit was above Montreux, where the Chillon viaducts are currently being strengthened with a layer of UHPFRC. Included in the programme was a visit to the nearby viaduct over the A95, a recently completed post-tensioned concrete structure. [More information \(in German, with photos\)](#)

## 9. International Conference Multi-Span Large Bridges 2015 and WIBE Prize 2017

The Multi Span Large Bridges 2015', organised by the Faculty of Engineering of the University of Porto in co-operation with IST Lisbon, Minho University and LNEC, was held in from July 1 to 3, 2015. This conference was co-sponsored by IABSE, *fib* and IABMAS.

MSLB 2015 was attended by many prestigious speakers and over 300 delegates from more than 40 countries to exchange know-how and expertise while enjoying the captivating and well-known qualities of the city of Porto. The Gala Dinner of the Conference took place in an iconic building in Porto - Palacio da Bolsa - where in the XVIII century, in a small room of the building, Gustave Eiffel designed the famous D. Maria Bridge. Some of the most Prestigious Bridge Engineers in the International Community were invited to present World Challenges to the Bridge Engineering Community for the XXI century. These challenges will inspire the participants of the World Innovation in Bridge Engineering (WIBE) Prize 2017, an International Award organised by BERD and by FEUP [www.fe.up.pt/wibe](http://www.fe.up.pt/wibe).

## 10. Obituary

We regret to inform that Chander R. Alimchandani, India, Awardee of the International Award Merit in Structural Engineering 2004, passed away on July 12, 2015.

Born in 1935 he graduated in 1957 from the University of Pune, in India. In 1958 and 1959 he participated in a theoretical and practical course on Prestressed Concrete, conducted under the chairmanship of Eugene Freyssinet. He stayed two more years in France, working in the Society, later to be called Freyssinet International. Back in India he became the Technical Director of a construction company set up for specialising in prestressed concrete structures. In 1962 he joined STUP Consultants Limited in Mumbai, where he became the Chief Engineer soon after. Mr. Alimchandani engineered several prestressed concrete bridges of lengths from 700 to 1000 m across major North Indian rivers with foundations which descended up to 50 m below the river bed. By 1980 Mr. Alimchandani had built STUP Consultants as an independent company active all over India, Bangladesh, Nepal, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Iraq and Jordan, doing design and construction engineering for innovative and economic major structures of all types in steel and prestressed concrete. He decided to expand STUP Consultants activities to South East Asia and Africa, and in 2004 the staff strength was 800, working across 24 countries.

Within IABSE, Mr. Alimchandani was a former member of the Technical Committee, delegate to the Permanent Committee and contributed to numerous conferences as a member of Scientific

Committees. In 2014 IABSE presented him with the [International Award of Merit in Structural Engineering](#), in recognition of his major contributions to the design of outstanding bridges and structures, as well as to the development of pre-stressed concrete structures and post tensioning technology in India and other parts of the world. IABSE friends and colleagues around the world will keep him in honourable and dear remembrance.

## 11. Calendar of Events

### 2015

IABSE Conference

September 23-25, 2015, Geneva, Switzerland, IABSE Conference 'Structural Engineering - a solution provider to global challenges'. Annual Meetings precede the Conference. [More..](#)

### 2016

IABSE Conference

May 8-11, 2016, Guangzhou, China, IABSE Conference 'Bridges and Structures Sustainability - Seeking Intelligent Solutions'. [More..](#)

Co-sponsored by IABSE

June 15-17, 2016, Zielona Gora, Poland, 'ICMS 2016 - XIII International Conference on Metal Structures'. [More..](#)

Co-sponsored by IABSE

July 27-29, 2016, Guimares, Portugal, 'ICSA 2016 - 3<sup>rd</sup> International Conference on Structures and Architecture'. [More..](#)

Co-sponsored by IABSE

June 26-30, 2016, Foz do Iguacu, Brazil, IABMAS 2016, '8th International Conference on Bridge Maintenance, Safety and Management', [More..](#)

IABSE Congress

September 21-23, 2016 Stockholm, Sweden, 19<sup>th</sup> IABSE Congress 'Challenges in Design and Construction of an Innovative and Sustainable Built Environment'. Annual Meetings precede Congress. [More..](#)

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[IABSE National Groups Events Calendar](#)

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[Calendar of the Liaison Committee.](#)

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For news contributions to the IABSE newsletter please contact: [niggeler@iabse.org](mailto:niggeler@iabse.org)

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