IABSE SYMPOSIUM

WEIMAR 2007

Improving Infrastructure Worldwide

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Preface

Infrastructure projects are the key to development. They allow for the transportation of goods and the communication of people.

After so many political barriers for example between East and West Germany have been withdrawn or have started to open one major step towards a fruitful development of the relationships and a growing together of people are transportation means such as roads, rail- and waterways and flight lines including structures such as bridges, tunnels, stations and airports which are all embedded in supra—regional infrastructure concepts. These concepts do not only define the demands in view of the actual situation but have to develop visions for the future in order to fulfil the promises given to people—bringing them closer together.

Looking into future means to take responsibility also for the structures in future by trying to make them fit not only to fulfil their tasks now and today but also for the rest of their planned service life. Considering life cycle costs and design and construct for durability form part of a greater responsibilty we take in view of the exploitation of our resources in future—sustainable design is therefore the key.

Within the overall symposium title and the themes identified above the following topics were selected: Infrastructure as Unifying Concept, Traffic Structures—Built for a long and Efficient Life, Important Design Considerations—Design for Durability and Sustainability, Important Design Considerations—Design for movements, Check Engineering and Monitoring—International Review on Quality Control.

Based on the the high number of submitted abstracts—finally over 550 abstracts were received from all over the world—approx. 250 papers were selected for oral and poster presentation. Furthermore, well known experts were invited as keynote lecturers to present new developments and outcomes according to the symposium's topics.

The present symposium report includes the short versions of the presented papers and posters as well as the short versions of the keynotes lectures. The full versions are available on the accompanying CD. We thank all authors for their efforts to achieve contributions of a high quality level.

In the end, I would like to express my sincere personal thanks to all members of the Scientific and the Organizing Committees for their work and their valuable support in order to make this symposium a success. Further, I want to include in my thanks all volunteers and co-workers of IABSE and our various institutions who worked hard for this sympoisum which could not be executed without them.

Stuttgart, September 2007.

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Ulrike Kuhlmann

Chair of the Scientifc Committee

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