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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After so many political barriers for example between East and West Germany have been withdrawn or have started to open one major step towards a fruitful development of the relationships and a growing together of people are transportation means such as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 responsibility 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 symposium which could not be executed without them.

Stuttgart, September 2007.

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Ulrike Kuhlmann

Chair of the Scientific Committee



Table of Contents

Keynotes

<i>“German unity”—a success story on the development of infrastructure in the newly-formed German states</i>	
Engelbert LÜTKE-DALDRUP—Joachim NAUMANN, Germany	2
<i>Great demand and great challenge—Chinese major bridge projects under construction for improving traffic infrastructure nationwide</i>	
Yao Jun GE—H. F. XIANG, China	6
<i>Evolution of Bridges</i>	
Man-Chung TANG, USA	10
<i>Retrofitting of fatigue damaged steel bridge structures</i>	
Chitoshi MIKI—T. KONISHI, Japan	14
<i>Life cycle management of infrastructures: towards an integrated approach of design, execution and maintenance</i>	
Aad VAN DER HORST, The Netherlands	20
<i>Design for movements in bridges</i>	
Ove SØRENSEN—M. L. BLOOMSTINE, N. BITSCH, P. LINNEBERG, Denmark	24
<i>Adding confidence and reducing risk—the role of independent design checking in major projects</i>	
Ian FIRTH, UK	28

SESSION B

B1 Infrastructure as a Unifying Concept

<i>The Oeresund and the Great Belt Links. Experience and Developments</i>	
Leif J. VINCENTSEN—P. LUNDHUS, Denmark	34
<i>Technical Challenges and Solutions in the Management of the Designs in a Motorway Project</i>	
George KONSTANTINIDIS—I. PAPAZIOGA, I. RENTZEPERIS, E. SARRIDOU, Greece	36
<i>The National Motorway Construction Programme in the Republic of Slovenia</i>	
Ksenija MARC, Slovenia	38
<i>Congestion taxes: a way of financing new infrastructure</i>	
Lahja RYDBERG FORSSBECK—M. KARLSSON, B. HÖÖK, Sweden	40
<i>Unified planning, design and implementation of infrastructure</i>	
B. C. ROY—A. CHAKRABARTI, India	42



<i>Public Private Partnership Approach to an Integrated Life-Cycle Management of Highway Infrastructure in Hong Kong</i> Kevin SO—M. CHEUNG, Hong Kong	44
---	----

B2 Traffic Structures - Built for a Long and Efficient Life

<i>A Pedestrian Arch Bridge with a Span of 230 m</i> Uwe HÄBERLE—W. STROBL	48
---	----

<i>La Vicaria Arch over La Fuentesanta Reservoir</i> Santiago PEREZ-FADON—J. E. HERRERO, L. MARTIN-TERESO, M. SANCHEZ*, Spain, Ireland*	50
---	----

<i>Two Steel Bridges for the High Speed Railway line Madrid-Barcelona-French Border</i> Juan A. SOBRINO, Spain	52
---	----

<i>Stonecutters Bridge—Latest Construction Challenges</i> Steve KITE—I. HUBERT, C. VENETZ, Hong Kong	54
---	----

<i>Cable-stayed Bridges across the Panama Canal and the Orinoco</i> Karl HUMPF—R. SAUL, Germany	56
--	----

<i>Design of the Golden Ears Bridge</i> Don BERGMAN—D. RADOJEVIC, H. IBRAHIM, Canada	58
---	----

B3 Traffic Structures—Built for a Long and Efficient Life

<i>Seismic Design of Elevated Traffic Systems</i> Martin EMPELMANN, Germany	62
--	----

<i>Earthquake resistance and cost-effectiveness of multi-span bridges</i> Ioannis A. TEGOS—S. A. MITOULIS, E. GAVAISE, K. STYLIANIDIS, M. TSITOTAS, Greece	64
--	----

<i>Application of sleeve joints between steel beams and CFT columns to railway structures</i> Teruhiko YODA—M. YAMADA, A. HAYASHI, S. NOZAWA, Japan	66
--	----

<i>Use of FRP Reinforcement constructing diaphragm pit walls</i> Ludger SPEIER—G. KARPA, Germany	68
---	----

<i>Tunnels Supported on Bearing Blocks</i> Silvino POMPEU-SANTOS, Portugal	70
---	----

<i>Ship Collision Analysis of Pile-Supported Structure for Protection System</i> Seong-Lo LEE—Y.-G. BAE, H. KIM, Korea	72
---	----

B4 Important Design Considerations—Design for Durability and Sustainability

<i>Lifetime Performance of GFRP Pultruded Profiles for Structural Applications</i> João R. CORREIA—F. BRANCO, J. FERREIRA, S. C. FONSECA, J. P. C. RODRIGUES, Portugal	76
--	----



<i>Structural behaviour of GFRP beams under high temperature condition</i> Janine VIEIRA—E. BATISTA, Brazil	78
<i>Design of an innovative composite road bridge combining reinforced concrete with UHPFRC</i> Eugen BRÜHWILER*—E. PELKE, E. FEHLING, K. BUNJE, Switzerland*, Germany ..	80
<i>Separation of structural and practical functionalities for wearing courses on steel box girders</i> Hans DE BACKER—A. OUTTIER, P. VAN BOGAERT, Belgium	82
<i>Use of Duplex Stainless Steel Plate for Durable Bridge Construction</i> Graham GEDGE, UK	84
<i>Simulation of Low Cycle Fatigue in Integral Abutment Piles</i> Robert HÄLLMARK—P. COLLIN, H. PETURSSON, B. JOHANSSON, Sweden	86

SESSION C

C1 Infrastructure as a Unifying Concept

<i>The Development of Cable-Stayed Bridges since John Röbling</i> Holger SVENSSON, Germany	90
<i>Traffic Structures in East Germany—A Historical Review</i> Bernhard WELLER—M. TASCHE, Germany	92
<i>Bridging the Border</i> Fritz WENZEL, Germany	94
<i>Railway tunnel between Sicily and Tunisia</i> Pietro LA MENDOLA—M. MINISCHETTI, A. TATI, Italy	96
<i>Trau Kod Dam Near Siem Reap, Cambodia: Sustainable Infrastructure in a Developing Community</i> Ryan WOODWARD, USA	98
<i>Selected engineering structures on the reactivated suburban railway track near Stuttgart</i> Christoph KESSLER-KRAMER, Germany	100

C2 Traffic Structures—Built for a Long and Efficient Life

<i>Amsterdam Bijlmer arena station</i> Hans TEN VOORDE—H. VAN WEELDEN, H. BEERTSEN, The Netherlands	104
<i>Beijing Airport Terminal 3</i> Holger FALTER*—M. MANNING, R. HENLEY, Ireland*	106
<i>Planning and construction of the new Lauenburg lock</i> Andreas DOHMS, Germany	108
<i>Vertical Microtunnelling technology developed for retaining wall Amsterdam</i> Carlos BOSMA—B. OBLADEN, The Netherlands	110



<i>The effect of wave passage on immersed tube tunnels—Busan Geoje Fixed Link in South Korea</i>	
Ronald HEIJMAN—P. JACKSON*, G. MEINHARDT, J. SCHMITT**, T. KASPER*, H. VOORTMAN, The Netherlands, Denmark*, France**	112

<i>Innovative Technique for the Construction of Luntou Tunnel—Casting IMT on Submersible Barge</i>	
W.W. YANG—J. Y. C. LO, F. H. Y. NG, W. YANG, G. LUO, China	114

C3 Important Design Considerations—Design for Durability and Sustainability

<i>Fatigue sensibility of R/C secondary elements of bridges</i>	
Carlos ZANUY—P. DE LA FUENTE, J. PACHECO, L. ALBAJAR, Spain	118

<i>Crack widths close the reinforcement</i>	
Kristian TAMMO—S. THELANDERSSON, K. LUNDGREN, Sweden	120

<i>An Experimental Study on the Concrete Durability</i>	
Corneliu BOB, O. ABRI, Romania	122

<i>Influence of sustained and cyclic loading on the bond behavior of pretensioned strands</i>	
Josef HEGGER—S. BÜLTE, N. WILL, Germany	124

<i>New approaches for the determination of the cable factor in post-tensioning tendons</i>	
Hermann WEIHER—E. SPECHT, B. PFEIFFER, K. KLAMROTH, K. ZILCH, Germany	126

<i>Long-term behaviour of timber-concrete composite bridges</i>	
Antje DÖHRER—K. RAUTENSTRAUCH, Germany	128

C4 Traffic Structures—Built for a Long and Efficient Life

<i>Tubular Trusses for Steel-Concrete Composite Bridges</i>	
Manfred A. HIRT—A. NUSSBAUMER, Switzerland	132

<i>Holistic Design Methods for Hybrid Arch Bridges</i>	
Matthias WEISSBACH, Germany	134

<i>Lateral torsional buckling of steel-concrete composite bridge I-girders</i>	
Laurence DAVAINÉ—J.P. LEBET*, France, Switzerland*	136

<i>A Survey on Patch Loading Models for Bridge Launching</i>	
Ulrike KUHLMANN—B. BRAUN, B. JOHANSSON*, J. RAOUL**, M. CLARIN*, L. DAVAINÉ**, J. GOZZI*, P.-O. MARTIN**, Germany, France**, Sweden*	138

<i>Compression members with slender Class 4 box sections susceptible to combined local and global buckling for use in steel arch bridges</i>	
Hervé DEGÉE*—U. KUHLMANN, R. MAQUOI*, A. DETZEL, Belgium*, Germany	140

<i>New Steel-Concrete Adherence Connections for Composite Bridges</i>	
Jean-Paul LEBET—M. THOMANN, Switzerland	142

**SESSION E****E1 Important Design Considerations—Design for Durability and Sustainability***The Durability of Repaired Concrete Structures*

Graham TILLY, UK 146

A new European Standard on products and systems for Protection and Repair of concrete structures—EN 1504

Peter J. GUSIA, Germany 148

Structural Assessment and Rehabilitation of Concrete Bridges

Guido FURLANETTO—A. MARCHIONELLI, L. F. TORRICELLI, Italy 150

Methodology for Inspection of Reinforced Concrete Subway Tunnel

Fernando YANEZ—F. DELFIN, V. AGUILA, V. TORRENS, I. LOPEZ, Chile 152

Punching Shear Retrofit of Reinforced Concrete Flat Slabs Subjected to Static and reversed Cyclic Loads

Wensheng BU—M. A. POLAK, Canada 154

Effects of Light Rail Traffic on a 30 year old Cable Stayed Bridge

Philippe VAN BOGAERT, Belgium 156

E2 Traffic Structures—Built for a Long and Efficient Life*The “Ziegelgrabenbrücke” Main Structure of the second “Strelasundquerung”*

Karl KLEINHANSS, Germany 160

Indigenous and Signature Bridges-Attitudes towards improvement of infrastructure

Mike SCHLAICH, Germany 162

Zhoushan Island-Mainland Connection Project Built for a long and efficient life

Chang-Jiang WANG—Y.J. GE, H. SONG, Y.-X. YANG, W.-G. WANG, X.-Y. CHEN, China 164

Design and Construction of Metsovitikos Bridge, Greece

Kamran AHMADI-KASHANI—P. PAPANIKOLAS, I. RENTZEPERIS, Greece 166

Pushing the limits of U shaped viaducts

Yves GAUTHIER—A. TOUAT, S. MONTENS, R. KATARIA*, France, India* 168

A new concept for a large vertical lift bridge over the river Seine in Rouen

Michel MOUSSARD, France 170

E3 Important Design Considerations—Design for Durability and Sustainability*Steel-concrete composite bridges subjected to fatigue loading*

Markus PORSCHE—C. USTUNDAG, G. HANSWILLE, Germany 174

Fatigue assessment of composite bridges in high speed railway lines including resonance phenomena

Helder FIGUEIREDO—R. CALÇADA, R. DELGADO, Portugal 176



Strength and Ductility of Welded High Strength Steel (HSS) Connections in Bridges

Hans-Peter GÜNTHER—C. RASCHE, U. KUHLMANN, Germany 178

Benefits of post-weld treatment to improve tubular bridge fatigue performance

Scott WALBRIDGE—A. NUSSBAUMER*, Canada, Switzerland* 180

Steel railway bridge deck design for noise emission and maintenance cost reduction

Bert HESSELINK—B. SNIJDER, The Netherlands 182

A Review of North American Railway Bridge Research

Robert A.P. SWEENEY—D. OTTER*, Canada, USA* 184

E4 Traffic Structures—Built for a Long and Efficient Life

Segmental hollow box girder bridges with bow shaped segments

Guenter ROMBACH—R. ABENDEH, Germany 188

Analysis and behaviour of CFRP-strips at deviation saddle for CFRP prestressed bridges

Jan KNIPPERS—F. SAAD*, M.HWASH, Germany, Egypt* 190

Wedge Anchor Fiber Reinforced Plastics (FRP)

Stefan BURTSCHER, Austria 192

Self-compacting concrete in bridge construction on federal trunk roads

Franka TAUSCHER, Germany 194

Development of a structural system for short span bridges

Anja STERNBERG—V. SIGRIST, Germany 196

Integration of manufacturability in structural optimisation, applied to optimisation of cast nodes

Jeroen COENDERS—H.D. PEARSE*, The Netherlands, UK* 198

E5 Check Engineering and Monitoring—International Review on Quality Control Systems

Structural health monitoring with wireless sensors to enhance sustainability in structural engineering

Markus KRUEGER—H. W. REINHARDT, C. U. GROSSE, Germany 202

Structural health monitoring of existing bridges by vibration measurement

Takeshi MIYASHITA—M. NAGAI, E. IWASAKI, Japan 204

Laser scanning for bridge inspection and management

Pingbo TANG—B. AKINCI, J. GARRETT, USA 206

Monitoring of bridges by advanced methods of experimental-mechanical symbiosis

Klaus BRANDES—W. DAUM, F. BUCHHARDT, Germany 208

Remote monitoring of bridge stay cables

Roman GEIER—S. HOFFMANN, J. DISTL*, Austria, Germany* 210



<i>Dynamic characteristics of Seohae cable-stayed bridge based on results from long-term structural health monitoring</i>	
Jong Chil PARK—C. PARK, H. KANG, B. JO, Korea	212

SESSION F

F1 Important Design Considerations—Design for Durability and Sustainability

<i>Structural steel maintenance and rehabilitation methods of current canadian infrastructure</i>	
Siegfried F. STIEMER, Canada	216
<i>Efficient reconstruction of bridges with small and medium spans</i>	
Oliver HECHLER—A. GIRKES*, Luxembourg, Germany*	218
<i>Using SPS technology to strengthen an orthotropic bridge deck</i>	
Gero A. MARZAHN—M. HAMME, Germany	220
<i>Replacing US railroad bridges within hours, a.k.a Change Outs “Railroad Bridge Change-outs”</i>	
Fernando MOREU, USA	222
<i>Rehabilitation and Simulation of Movable Bridge</i>	
Xue LIU—W. CHEN, G. YANG, China	224
<i>External post-tensioning retrofit and high- and low-cycle fatigue study of connections and joints in steel-concrete box-girder bridges</i>	
Oreste S. BURSI—M. FORTE, A. MAMMINO, N. TONDINI, E. TONON, Italy	228

F2 Traffic Structures—Built for a Long and Efficient Life

<i>Canal-Bridge-Magdeburg—Preliminary investigations, design, construction and operation</i>	
Michael MUENDECKE—C. RUSZCZYNSKI, H. STRATMANN, Germany	232
<i>Design and construction innovations for the puente centenario, Panama</i>	
Rafael MANZANAREZ—A. SANJINES, R. DONIKIAN, K. HUMPF*, USA, Germany*	234
<i>Cable-stayed bridge over the Labe River at Nymburk—hybrid and efficient solution in given context</i>	
Milan KALNY—V. KVASNÍČKA, P. NÍMEC, A. BRNUŠÁK, Czechia	236
<i>The Balsberg viaduct of the new light rail network to Zurich-airport</i>	
Daia ZWICKY—T. LÜTHI, Switzerland	238
<i>Large composite bridges with strutted frame systems</i>	
Karl-Heinz REINTJES, Germany	240
<i>Nescibrug, Amstrdam. A symbol for a new suburb, inspirational and functional</i>	
Angus LOW—Y. ICHIMARU, UK	242



F3 Check Engineering and Monitoring—International Review on Quality Control Systems

<i>Monitoring of railway bridges—an advanced component of maintenance and sustainability</i>	
Steffen MARX—K. GEISLER, G. BOLLE, Germany	246
<i>Development of advanced robot system for bridge inspection and monitoring</i>	
Jong Seh LEE—I. HWANG, H. S. LEE, Korea	248
<i>Planning the future of regional road infrastructure: a case study</i>	
Daniele ZONTA—R. ZANDONINI, R. BORTOT, Italy	250
<i>Soft-WIM: vehicle identification from bridge measurement</i>	
Martina SCHNELLENBACH-HELD—P. LUBASCH, W. BUSCHMEYER, Germany ..	252
<i>Preliminary estimation of seismic vulnerability of a database of bridges located at the Mexican Pacific Coast</i>	
Consuelo GÓMEZ-SOBERÓN—L. A. Barrera Bautista, Mexico	254
<i>Monitoring of a bridge with integral abutment</i>	
Martin NILSSON—M. VELJKOVIC, W. HUSSON, H. PETURSSON, P. COLLIN, Sweden	256

F4 Traffic Structures—Built for a Long and Efficient Life

<i>Aesthetic issues of railway stations in Japan and in Europe</i>	
Ewa Maria KIDO, Japan	260
<i>Glass constructions for infrastructure—new subway stations in Munich</i>	
Geralt SIEBERT, Germany	262
<i>Blast resistance of structural members</i>	
Marcus P. RUTNER, Germany	264
<i>Development and design of noise protection walls for high speed railways</i>	
Benno HOFFMEISTER, Germany	266
<i>Ensuring safety for building construction in the UK</i>	
D A NETHERCOT—G. HARDING, UK	268
<i>A concrete code for Africa</i>	
Jan A. WIUM—A. S. NGAB*, South Africa, Libya*	270

F5 Infrastructure as a Unifying Concept

<i>Projects German unity—the tunnel chain of A 44 overcomes the division of Germany</i>	
Eberhard PELKE—K. J. SEEGER, Germany	274
<i>Earthquake resistant post-tensioned concrete bridges in Egnatia Motorway</i>	
Theodoros TZAVEAS—E. GAVAISE, K. PARASCHOS, Greece	276
<i>The New Metro of Oporto: A variety of bridge projects</i>	
Antonio REIS—N. LOPES, D. RIBEIRO, Portugal	278



<i>Bridges along highway ring road of Wrocław</i> Jan BILISZCZUK—J. ONYSYK, W. BARCIK, K. SADOWSKI, P. PRABUCKI, J. SZCZEPAŃSKI, M. SULKOWSKI, Poland	280
---	-----

<i>Incrementally launched bridges along the A 71/73—Special Features</i> Roland VON WÖLFEL, Germany	282
--	-----

SESSION G

G1 Important Design Considerations—Design for Durability and Sustainability

<i>Management and design software for the entire bridge life cycle</i> Jose ALDAYUZ—J. CAMPBELL, J. DURAY, USA	286
---	-----

<i>LCC-based bridge maintenance strategy in Yamaguchi prefecture</i> Ayaho MIYAMOTO—J. ISHIDA, Japan	288
---	-----

<i>Maintenance planning for deteriorating bridges using preference-based optimization method</i> Sun Young LEE—H.-M. KOH, W. PARK, S. W. LEE, H. J. KIM, Korea	290
---	-----

<i>A risk-based approach to corrosion protection and maintenance of steel bridges</i> S. F. STIEMER—P. CHAN, Canada	292
--	-----

<i>Risk assessment of a long span unsymmetrical extroversion arch bridge</i> Xin RUAN—A. CHEN, China	294
---	-----

<i>Evaluation on remaining bearing capacity and service life for parallel wire cable</i> Weizhen CHEN—X. LIU, J. XU, China	296
---	-----

G2 Important Design Considerations—Design for Movements

<i>Expansion joints subjected to extreme movement conditions—The particular challenges</i> Thomas SPULER—G. MOOR, T. BRÜGGER, Switzerland	300
--	-----

<i>Bridge expansion joints—design for movements, performance and durability</i> Bo EDLUND—R. CROCETTI, Sweden	302
--	-----

<i>Dynamic design of modular bridge expansion joints by the finite element method</i> Eric ANCICH, Australia	304
---	-----

<i>Dynamic behaviour of modular expansion joints</i> Johan LEENDERTZ—B. VOLK*, O. NAGEL*, F. WEBER**, The Netherlands, Germany*, Switzerland**	306
--	-----

<i>Integral bridges. First integral railway bridge in Czech Republic</i> Roman SAFAR, Czech Republic	308
---	-----

<i>Jointless concrete bridges-development of a flexible abutment</i> Michael PÖTZL, Germany	310
--	-----



G3 Check Engineering and Monitoring—International Review on Quality Control Systems

<i>Uniform concept for structural stability and fire protection</i> Bernd DRESSEL—H. P. ANDRAE, Germany	314
<i>Comparison of European building control systems</i> Rainer MIKULITS—M. TIEDEMANN*, Austria, Germany*	316
<i>Failure analysis as a base for developing quality control system</i> Robert HERTLE, Germany	318
<i>A review of 30 years use of UK design check procedures for bridges</i> Angus LOW, UK	320
<i>Certification and operation audit of segmental bridge launching gantries</i> Jonathan C. MCGORMLEY—R. SCHUETTE*, H. J. HILL, USA, Canada*	322
<i>Incheon bridge project—the role of the contractor's checking engineer</i> Innes D. FLETT—M. CARTER*, A. YEOWARD**, N. HUSSAIN*, UK, Hong Kong*, China**	324

G4 Traffic Structures—Built for a Long and Efficient Life

<i>Design of first hybrid UHPC-steel bridge across River Fulda in Kassel, Germany</i> Ekkehard FEHLING—K. BUNJE, M. SCHMIDT, N. V. TUE, W. SCHREIBER, E. HUMBURG, Germany	328
<i>Collapse process analysis in construction of concrete-filled steel tube arch bridge</i> Xuefei SHI—X. RUAN, K. HU, D. SUN, J. WANG, China	330
<i>The FRP Bridge in Friedberg Germany: design, analysis and material tests</i> Jan KNIPPERS—E. PELKE, D. BERGER, M. GABLER, Germany	332
<i>Traffic infrastructure innovation by integration of the traffic and parking facilities</i> Volkhard ANGELMAIER, Germany	334
<i>Design of an aluminium bicycle path integrated in a steel bridge</i> Johan MALJAARS—F. SOETENS, H. BURGGRAAF, The Netherlands	336
<i>A cable-stayed footbridge made of glued-laminated wood—design, erection and experimental investigations</i> Jan BILISZCZUK—P. HAWRYSZKOW, A. MAURY, M. SULKOWSKI, M. WĘGRZYŃIAK, Poland	338

SESSION H

H1 Important Design Considerations—Design for Durability and Sustainability

<i>Improving bridge infrastructure through rehabilitation—an indian experience</i> Padmakar MANJURE, India	342
<i>Replacement of the woodrow Wilson Memorial Bridge Bascule Span</i> Serafim G. ARZOUMANIDIS—S. BLUNI, USA	344



<i>Rehabilitation and strengthening of Sylva Bridge at Kungur, Russia</i> Michael TIMOFEEV—R. GEYZEN, Russia	346
<i>Parameter- and system identification on bridges with optimization methods</i> Roger SCHLEGEL—J. WILL, Germany	348
<i>Reconstruction of Lahti station area, demands of the new fast speed railroad between Helsinki and Lahti</i> Ilkka VILONEN, Finland	350

H2 Important Design Considerations—Design for Movements

<i>Elongated Life Span for Bearings and Expansion Joints</i> Georg M. WOLFF, Austria	354
<i>Modeling of bearings in structural systems for bridges</i> Ursula FREUNDT—R. VOGT, Germany	356
<i>Long-term monitoring the bearings of the Ponte 25 de Abril in Lisbon</i> Simon HOFFMANN—K. BERGMEISTER, Austria	358
<i>Long-term monitoring of Haavistonjoki Bridge</i> Anssi LAAKSONEN—Olli KEROKOSKI, Finland	360
<i>Improvement of safety on bridges—measured-impact-loads</i> Ulrich BERGERHAUSEN, Germany	362

H3 Check Engineering and Monitoring—International Review on Quality Control Systems

<i>Design of infrastructure including monitoring regimes to evaluate the performance and schedule maintenance on infrastructure over the entire life time</i> Michael SIEGWART—P. ZWICKY, Switzerland	366
<i>Inspection and risks of hidden defects</i> Graham TILLY, UK	368
<i>Inspection, Monitoring and Management of Bridges on Federal Roads in Germany</i> Jürgen KRIEGER—R. HOLST, Germany	370
<i>Monitoring as a tool for the “Observational Method”</i> Onno LANGHORST—B. OBLADEN, G. KAPTEIN, C. BOSMA, The Netherlands	372
<i>Automation based structural monitoring systems for ordinary bridges</i> Risto KIVILUOMA, Finland	374

H4 Traffic Structures—Built for a Long and Efficient Life

<i>Behavior of partially earth anchored cable-stayed bridge considering construction phase and operational phase</i> Sang-Hyo KIM—J.-H. WON, C. KWANG-IL, K.-I. CHO, A. JIN-HEE, J.-H. AHN, Korea	378
<i>Effect of cable loss in cable stayed bridges—Focus on dynamic amplification</i> Yongsuk PARK—U. STAROSSEK*, H.-M. KOH, J.F. CHOO, H. KIM, S.W. LEE, Korea, Germany*	380



<i>Experimental study on vibration mitigation of long stay cables using cross ties</i> Limin SUN—Y. ZHOU, China	382
<i>Software for structural engineering and construction: the past, the present, and the future</i> Ondrej KALNY, USA	384
<i>Computer Aided Design & Erection of Long Suspension Bridges</i> Dorian JANJIC, H. BOKAN, H. SORSKY, J. STAMPLER, Austria	386

SESSION I

I1 Important Design Considerations—Design for Durability and Sustainability

<i>Quantitative risk analysis for road tunnels</i> Jürgen KRIEGER—F. HEIMBECHER, C. ZULAUF*, Germany, Switzerland*	390
<i>End-to-end maintenance management of major bridges and tunnels using the internet-based DANBRO + System</i> John BJERRUM—J. K. TUXEN, B. LASSEN, F. JENSEN, Denmark	392
<i>Facility Management for an improved serviceability of road tunnels</i> Frank HEIMBECHER—I. KAUNDINYA, Germany	394
<i>Risk management system for pylon Construction of a Long Span Cable-Stayed Bridge</i> Airong CHEN—X. RUAN, X. OUYANG, J. ZHANG, China	396
<i>Modeling for Frost Damage and Life Cycle Prediction</i> Tamon UEDA, Japan	398
<i>Differences in maintenance strategies between infrastructure and real estate buildings</i> Hans-Joachim BARGSTÄDT—K. AILLAND, Germany	400

I2 Important Design Considerations—Design for Movements

<i>The Sliding isolation pendulum for seismic protection of buildings</i> Peter HUBER—R. MEDEOT*, Germany, Italy*	404
<i>Improvement of seismic capacity of bridges using seismic isolation system in Korea</i> Dong-Ho HA—H.-M. KOH, S.-Y. OK*, S. Y. LEE, Korea, US*	406
<i>Sensitivity-based optimal design of linear damper system for enhanced seismic performance of coupled structural system</i> Dong-Seok KIM—H.-M. KOH, S. Y. OK*, K.-S. PARK, C. Y. CHOI, Korea, US*	408
<i>Calculation of displacements for base isolation systems with bilinear behaviour</i> Heiko MÜLLER—U. FREUNDT, Germany	410
<i>Studies on Seismic Retrofit of the Honshu-Shikoku Bridges Using Isolation and Dissipation Devices</i> Kazuo ENDO—S. KAWABATA, S. OGO, Japan	412



Design, Implementation and Field Test of the Adaptive Damping System of the Franjo Tudjman Bridge nearby Dubrovnik, Croatia

Felix WEBER—H. DISTL*, P. HUBER*, O. NÜTZEL*, M. MOTAVALLI,
Switzerland, Germany* 414

I3 Check Engineering and Monitoring—International Review on Quality Control Systems

Reliability and progressive collapse of structures

Ane DE BOER—C. VAN DER VEEN, The Netherlands 418

The work and influence of the Standing Committee on Structural Safety (SCOSS)

John CARPENTER—S. ALEXANDER, UK 420

Quality Control on an Australia's Largest Road Construction Project

Geoff TAPLIN—P. BALFE, Australia 422

How reliable is our building process

Dirk MANS—E. KOOL, The Netherlands 424

The Key Techniques For Sutong Bridge Construction Control

Hong ZHANG—R. SHAM, Y. ZHANG, China 426

Developments in Private Sector Certification of Building Structure Design

Douglas WALKER, UK 428

POSTER SESSION

Bi-directional Seismic Response Control for Bridge Structures

E. Shehata ABDEL RAHEEM—T. HAYASHIKAWA*, Egypt, Japan* 432

Development strategies for a web-based bridge maintenance management system

Ferhat AKGÜL, Turkey 434

Design and Durability of Highway Overpasses

Peter SESAR—Z. BANIC, S. PASTORCIC, Croatia 436

The durability of timber bridges

Vincent BARBIER, France 438

Life cycle considerations for infrastructure facilities

Hans-Joachim BARGSTÄDT—A. HEGEWALD, Germany 440

Bridges using an innovative wood-concrete-composite system for applications under dynamic loads

Leander A. BATHON—O. Bletz, Germany 442

Wind Tunnel Validation of Vortex Method for Aerodynamic Coefficients

Marcos BEIER—A. LOREDO-SOUZA, M. M. ROCHA, D. JANJIC*,
A. DOMAINGO*, Brazil, Austria* 444

Movable Bridges in the Infrastructure

Charles BIRNSTIEL, USA 446

Shear capacity of reinforced concrete pile caps

Jing CAO—A. BLOODWORTH, M. XU, UK 448



<i>Condition Evaluation of Riveted Steel Bridges by Minimal Invasive Methods</i> Klaus BRANDES, Germany	450
<i>Road Bridge Expansion Joints—Reduction of the overrolling Noise caused of Vehicles during crossing the Expansion Joint</i> Joachim BRAUN—T. SCHULZE, Germany	452
<i>Assessment of steel railway bridges for future traffic demands—a case study</i> B.Ozden CAGLAYAN—E. UZGIDER, K. OZAKGULK, O. TEZER, Turkey	454
<i>Experimental and Numerical Study of Full-range Behaviour of Partially Prestressed Concrete Beams with Externally Tendons</i> K. H. Enoch CHAN—F. T. K. AU, A. K. H. KWAN, Hong Kong, China	456
<i>Experimental Study on Flexural Behavior of Concrete Filled Steel Tube Girder Bridges</i> Won Jong CHIN—J. Y. KANG, E. S. CHOI, J. W. LEE, B. S. KIM, Korea	458
<i>Hysteretic Model Development and Seismic Response of Unbonded Post-Tensioned Precast CFT Segmental Bridge Columns</i> Chung-Che CHOU—C.-P. HSU, Taiwan, China	460
<i>Fatigue evaluation of a railway steel bridge based on field test data</i> Chunsheng WANG —H. QIAN, A. ZHAN, X. YU, China	462
<i>Use of whitetopping to strenghten and repair damaged road pavements</i> Gianluca CUOMO, Italy	464
<i>Mix design and properties of Ultra-High Performance Fibre Reinforced Concrete for the construction of a composite UHPFRC—concrete bridge</i> Michael SCHMIDT—E. BRÜHWILER*, E. FEHLING, E. DENARIE*, T. LEUTBECHER, T. TEICHMANN, Germany, Switzerland*	466
<i>New structural frontiers for the self compacting concrete. The Tevere RiverBridge</i> Guido FURLANETTO—L. F. TORRICELLI, Milan, Italy	468
<i>A1 Milan-Naples Motorway—The Variante di Valico Project</i> Guido FURLANETTO—, O. MAZZA, L. T. FERRETTI, A. MARCHIONDELLI, Italy .	470
<i>The importance of the four-eye principle and site supervision</i> Matthias GEROLD, Germany	472
<i>Loads caused by earthquakes and ship impact—experiences from current projects</i> Rainer GRIMM—M. KEUSER, J. TIKALSKY, Germany	474
<i>Fatigue life of concrete bridges unter consideration of inreasing traffic loads</i> Jürgen GRÜNBERG—M. HANSEN, J. P. LIEBIG, Germany	476
<i>Strenthening of Coupling Joints on Concrete Bridges</i> Peter J. GUSIA, Germany	478
<i>Seismic performance of bridges with isolation bearings</i> Kyoung-Bong HAN—S.-K. PARK, K.-S. KIM, T.-W. KIM, Y.-J. LEE, Korea	480



<i>Expansion Joints for Road Bridges—Requirements and Reality—Durability and Noise</i>	
Arnold HEMMERT-HALSWICK, Germany	482
<i>Cost-benefit criteria in optimizing maintenance strategies</i>	
Shoko HIGUCHI—M. MACKE, Germany	484
<i>Structural Performance of Easy Slab Bridge as New Structural Type</i>	
Hideyuki HONDA—M. TOKUNO, H. KOMATSU, Japan	486
<i>Flexural Behavior of RC Beams strengthened with Near Surface Mounted Prestressed CFRP</i>	
Sung-Nam HONG—J.-M. Park, D.-S. YANG*, S.-K. PARK, J.-H. PARK, J.-S. PARK, Korea, Canada*	488
<i>Experimental Study on Repairing Method for Corroded Steel Member by Carbon Fiber Sheets</i>	
Naofumi INABA—M. NAGAI, Y. TOMITA, A. KOBAYASHI, H. SUGIURA, Japan ..	490
<i>Ecoduct Zanderij Crailo</i>	
Hans JONGEBLOED—B. BOODE, A. M. KRUIDERING, The Netherlands	492
<i>Risk-orientaed computerized planning of structural health monitoring of infrastructure</i>	
Christoph KLINZMANN—R. SCHNETGÖKE, D. HOSSER, Germany	494
<i>Croatian Experiences in Motorway Network Development and Possibilities for the Future</i>	
Petar SESAR—A. KRECAK, S. PASTORCIC, Croatia	496
<i>Control of dimensioning and investigation of the bridge</i>	
Valdek KULBACH—E. KIVI, Estonia	498
<i>The ultimate strength of concrete-filled composite columns</i>	
Young Bong KWON—J. H. KIM, Korea	500
<i>Flight Optimization Algorithms for Aerial LiDAR Capture for Urban Infrastructure Model Generation</i>	
Debra F. LAEFER—H. CARR, T. HINKS, Ireland	502
<i>Anticipation of repair need of bridges besed on visual inspection of Finnish bridges</i>	
Markku ÄIJÄLÄ—J. LAHDENSIVU, Finland	504
<i>Load-bearing reserves of existing bridges</i>	
Hans-Gerd LINDLAR—J. SCHNELL, Germany	506
<i>Evaluation of connection flexibility in a road bridge</i>	
Czeslaw MACHELSKI—R. TOCZKIEWICZ, Poland	508
<i>Planning of Rail Bridges on Katra—Quazigund Railway line in Jammu & Kashmir</i>	
Pradeep MAHAJAN, India	510



<i>Durability of fiber reinforced lightweight aggregate concrete</i> Mehrdad MAHOUTIAN—N. A. LIBRE, M. SHEKARCHI, M. MORADI MARANI, Iran	512
<i>Tests to investigate explosive spalling of concrete lining exposed to fire</i> Radim CAJKA—P. MATECKOVA, P. KUCERA, Czech Republic	514
<i>Effective Use of Corrosion Inhibitors in Highway Structures</i> Mark G. RICHARDSON—C. MCNALLY, Ireland	516
<i>Re-centring Capability Evaluation of Seismic Isolation Systems</i> Renzo MEDEOT, Italy	518
<i>Possibilities of Using Sensing Technology for Railroad Bridges Repair and Maintenance</i> Fernando MOREU—T. NAGAYAMA*, USA, Japan*	520
<i>Innovative Solutions in immersed tunnelling</i> Ronald GOETHEER—B. LOUIS, The Netherlands	522
<i>Ramberg-Osgood and Manson-Coffin Relation for Headed Shear Studs in Fatigue Loading</i> Christoph ODENBREIT—W. DORKA*, Luxemborg, Germany*	524
<i>Experimental and numerical investigations for I-girders in bending and shear stiffened by closed trapezoidal stiffeners for use in steel bridges</i> Matthias OPPE—M. FELDMANN, J. NAUMES, H. DEGÉE*, R. MAQUOI*, N. BOISSONADE*, Germany, Belgium*	526
<i>Influence of the bearing systems on the buckling behaviour of arch bridges</i> Amelie OUTTIER—H. DE BACKER, P. VAN BOGAERT, Belgium	528
<i>Fatigue Damage Study of Prestressed Concrete Bridges</i> Suraj PARKASH—R. Kumar, India	530
<i>A new bridge for gibraltar strait</i> Marco PERONI, Italy	532
<i>Checking of Bridges for the new Taiwan High Speed Rail</i> Uwe REINBECK, Germany	534
<i>National Road B 31—The Realization of a Privately Financed Project</i> Ioannis RETZEPIS, Germany	536
<i>Durable and Low-maintenance Structural Concrete infrastructures is a Long-Term Societal Asset</i> Carola EDVARSEN—S. ROSTAM, Denmark	538
<i>The Design Process for Rail Stations and Modal Integration: Delhi Metro</i> B. C. ROY—R. EKAMBARAM, T. GUHA, India	540
<i>Ultimate Load Carrying Capacity of Two Long Span Arch Bridge</i> Xin RUAN—X. SHI, Z. TIAN, J. WANG, China	542
<i>Enhancement of Service Life of Steel Bridges</i> Asim K. SAMANTA, India	544



<i>Ductility of Beams Strengthened with Externally Bonded Composites</i> Emil de Souza SÁNCHEZ FILHO—J. J. HOLTZ, J. J. H. SILVA FILHO, M. T. BARBOSA, Brazil	546
<i>Stuttgart 21 Main Station—Shape development and Modelling of the New Station Hall</i> Dieter SANDNER—D. MOK, Germany	548
<i>The Contribution of Latin America to the Development of Long Span Bridges</i> Reiner SAUL—K. HUMPF, Germany	550
<i>730m Main Span Combined Highway and Railway Cable-stayed Bridge</i> Changyu SHAO—Y. LU, Q. DENG, China	552
<i>Effect of Cracking on the Torsional Stiffness of the Taiwan High Speed train Box Girder Bridge</i> Josef HEGGER—A. SHERIF*, N. KERKENI, H. DOSER, Germany, Egypt*	554
<i>Transparent sound screens made of glass for motorways and railway stations</i> Barbara SIEBERT, Germany	556
<i>Bridge Bearings—Structural design requirements</i> Harminder SINGH, Ireland	558
<i>Evaluation of Durable Protective Systems for Sewage Structures</i> Norbert STRATEMEIER—I. SPOHR, R. HÜTTL, R. BREITENBÜCHER, Germany ...	560
<i>Remote monitoring: A new cost-effective, self-sufficient and versatile system will change the way bridges are monitored</i> Thomas SPULER—G. MOOR, C. O’SUILLEABHAIN, Switzerland	562
<i>Expansion joint renewal with “zero” traffic disruption? A solution using modern sliding finger joints</i> Thomas SPULER—G. MOOR, R. REIMANN, Switzerland	564
<i>Expansion joints with noise reduction—will recent developments become widespread across Europe</i> Thomas SPULER—G. MOOR, B. URICH, Switzerland	566
<i>Integrated Computer Wind Design for Bridge Engineering</i> Johann STAMPLER—D. JANJIC, A. DOMAINGO, Austria	568
<i>Identification Strategies for Maintenance of Bridges</i> Roman WENDNER—A. STRAUSS, K. BERGMEISTER, D. NOVÁK*, D. LEHKY*, D. M. FRANGOPOL**, Austria, Czech Republic*, USA**	570
<i>Improving infrastructure—saving of resources as a criteria for the award of public works contracts</i> Walter STREIT—A. JÄHRING, Germany	572
<i>Modern expansion joints—design, applications and developments</i> Holger FLEDERER—R. STROETMANN, Germany	574
<i>Durability of highway steel bridges in Czech Republic</i> Jiri JIRAK—J. STUDNICKA, Czech Republic	576



<i>Performance of thin-walled steel structures by longitudinally and transversely profiled steel plates</i>	
Takuji KUMANO—K. SUGIURA, T. YAMAGUCHI, E. WATANABE, Y. SUZUKI, Japan	578
<i>Comparative study of highway steel girder bridge between Japan and USA</i>	
Shouji TOMA—L. DUAN*, Japan, USA*	580
<i>On assignment in Istanbul: Retrofitting for 0.4g</i>	
André PLUMIER—W. VAN ALBOOM, Belgium	582
<i>MOBILE—moveable bearings innovation launch in enlarged Europe</i>	
Helmut WENZEL—E. FORSTNER, Austria	584
<i>The main cable shape control and design of Sanchaji bridge</i>	
Song Xu MING—D. G. LIAN, China	586
<i>Erecting analysis of cable-stayed bridges by substructure procedures</i>	
De-Can YANG—Z.-J. CHEN, China	588
<i>Design and Construction of Shinminato Bridge</i>	
Hiroshi YOSHINAGA—T. YAMANOUCHI, Y. GOTO, M. NAGAI, Japan	590
<i>Ship Impact Protection System of Sutong Yangtze River Bridge</i>	
Hong YUAN—L. XU, X. ZHANG, China	592
<i>The Dynamic Behaviour of the “Erlebnisbrücke” on the BUGA in Ronneburg</i>	
Volkmar ZABEL—J. BLEIZIFFER, J. TRABERT, Germany	594
<i>Structural Health Monitoring and Safety Evaluation System for Sutong Yangtse River Bridge</i>	
Yufeng ZHANG—Y. Q. NI, P. YAO, China	596
<i>Application of Logical Framework Approach on Sutong Bridge</i>	
Jian ZHAO, China	598
<i>Refurbishment of an arch bridge increasing its stiffness and reducing its weight</i>	
Tobia ZORDAN—B. BRISEGHIELLA, E. DE LA GRENNELAIS, E. SIVIERO, Italy ..	600
<i>Structure evaluation of medium span steel bridges</i>	
Matej ZUPCIC—D. BANIC, D. TKALCIC, Croatia	602