The phenomenon of Flow Accelerated Corrosion append in numerous industrial installations, including the fossil or nuclear power plants. Although FAC mechanisms have been studied in depth over the last 40 years, FAC remains a major issue for personal safety and plant availability of the installations because of the pressure risk on carbon steel components. In the context of the management of ageing nuclear power plants (NPPs), power upgrades and the lifetime extension strategy, sharing knowledge and operational experiences of FAC is the paramount objective of this series of international conference series on Flow accelerated corrosion. Three previous conferences were held in France - on 2008, 2010 and 2013 – the last one FAC 2016 was held in Lille from 24th to 27th May. More than 170 attendees from 25 countries adhered to this event. For the first time, the conference also dealt with FAC in fossil plants. Furthermore, the erosion by cavitations and by droplets impingement was also at the heart of the concerns. 40 presentations resulted from operators, research centers from industrial utilities or universities included the study of the mechanisms of degradation and parameters, tools of modeling and calculation dedicated to engineering department but also operators on power plants and finally the last devices and procedures of non-destructive examination. A large exhibition center with booth of industrial leaders of the sector illustrated these topics.

Outside the conference, several cultural and social activities were organized during these 4 days, with in particular a lunch in a typical estaminet (tavern), a visit of downtown Lille including the “Grande Place”, the city hall and its belfry, the “Vieille Bourse” (Old Stock Exchange), two guided tours to the Musée du Louvre from Lens (the Gallery of time and the exposure of Charles Le Brun famous painter). The gala dinner took place in the hall of the Musée du Louvre with the facade completely transparent giving a view of 20 hectares of landscaped gardens surrounding the Museum.

FAC2016 was organized by EDF-DTG in cooperation with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the World Association of Nuclear Operators (WANO). A scientific committee made of experts from EDF and CEA allowed selected the best topics and manage the conference schedule by allying the scientific rigor and effective communication. FAC 2016 was an event of the European Federation of Corrosion (EFC event 406), supported by the working party on nuclear corrosion (EFC WP4).

Written by Stephane Trevin (EDF)
The delegates at the conference on flow accelerated corrosion (FAC 2016 – EFC event N°406) in front of the Lille Opera House

During the conference on flow accelerated corrosion (FAC 2016 – EFC event N°406)