

Trento, 11.08.2004

**To the Members of the EFC
Working Party "Coatings"**

Dear Colleagues,

the annual official meeting of the WP14 "Coatings" was held on Thursday 2 October at 11.00 in Budapest, on the occasion of the Eurocorr 2003.

The meeting agenda was:

- Approval of the minutes
- Adoption of the Agenda
- Report of the Chairman
- Report on ISO TC 35 SC9 WG29 meetings and related activities
- Report on existing European projects and related activities
- Report on submission of projects to European FP6 and future actions
- Partnerships and co-operation with EFC Working Parties
- Further activities of the WP14:
 - EUROCORR 2004 (Nice, France)
 - "Application of electrochemical techniques to organic coatings" – 22-25 October 2003 Sintra – Portugal
 - FATIPEC 2004 Aix en Provence – France
 - EIS 2004 Cocoa Beach - Florida
 - Others
- any other business
- date and place of the next meeting.

About 20 people attended the WP meeting and after agenda approval W.P. Chairman, Prof. Lorenzo Fedrizzi (L.F.) shortly described some points discussed during the meeting of the Science and Technology Advisory Committee (STAC):

- the reactivation of WP2 as suggested by Prof Darowicki was not approved; however it was proposed the setting up of a Task Force with the aim of promoting common activities between various working parties operating on steel structures, protection and testing;
- the collaboration between WPs was strongly recommended;
- it was discussed about a possible cooperation agreement with NACE mainly concerning conferences and editorial activities (organization of meetings and conference, discounts for books and journal);
- starting with 2006, Eurocorr conferences will be organised by Dechema;
- Dr. Björn Linder was suggested as the new EFC President.

Dr. Joerg Vogelsang (J.V.) gave some details about the ISO TC 35 SC9 WG29 activities. A first document (DRAFT) is almost ready mainly containing important definitions of the standard; a second one (part II) is under elaboration and a first draft will probably be ready for the end of October after the next meeting which will be held in Sintra (Portugal).

An important point to clarify is the calibration of devices. For this purpose a round robin test was organized. In a first step, 14 different laboratory groups participated carrying out impedance

analysis on several dummy cells. J.V. invited all the people attending the WP14 meeting to attend the ISO meetings too, sending an e-mail to Dr. Vogelsang to confirm the participation to the working group.

The WP14 chairman (L.F.) gave some short information concerning the European Project "Replacement of hard Chromium with HVOF nanopowder" involving some partners of the WP14 which is just concluded in September 2003. The aim of this program was the replacement of the hard chromium with a HVOF coatings to obtain coatings for corrosion and wear protection. The coatings were prepared using small powders (almost nanometric) with different chemical compositions and shapes. The results, obtained on industrial components, pointed out the beneficial contribution of submicrometric powders in diminishing the surface roughness. Consequently it was possible to eliminate the grinding operation. Wear and corrosion resistances of the HVOF coatings proved to be quite better with respect to those of hard chromium coatings. Moreover, a new special equipment for tribo-corrosion test was developed by the activities of this Project.

Concerning new projects to present in the VI Framework Programme, a long discussion was carried out during the previous meeting in Granada to promote submission of project, and it was decided to create a task force composed by 4 people to organize the first steps of the scientific program; L.F., Wolfgang Fuerbeth (W.F.), Valerie Souvant and Gabriele Ferrari were indicated as member of the task force. Dechema was suggested for the administrative leadership.

Hence, W.F. gave a short report about the very long and hard activities to prepare a Project. A STREP project was presented concerning the development of new ecological coatings using sol-gel layer as surface pre-treatment and also self assembling systems. 15 partners participated to the project, many of them members of the WP14. Unfortunately the proposal had no success (only 15% of proposals passed this first selection). Our project was rejected with the following observations:

- topics: OK
- level of innovation: insufficient
- cooperation: to small group

The next call is dated at November 2004. In order to have better possibilities, the industrial participation is quite important, and it is necessary to integrate the project considering all aspects (from the beginning to the final users).

It was decided to maintain a task force to suggest some other ideas composed by: Fedrizzi, Ferrari, Fuerbeth, Kalman. However possibilities to obtain better results are very small.

Concerning the cooperation between WPs L.F. invited the member of the WP14 to send papers to the Workshop on Tribo-corrosion organised in the next Eurocorr in Nice (France). Unfortunately it was no possible to organise a joint session with WP18 because of the new structure of the Conference in Nice composed of Workshops together with the classical sessions. A joint session with the WP Automotive was then strongly recommended.

L.F. suggested some events quite interesting for WP14 members such as:

1. "Application of Electrochemical Techniques to Organic Coatings" organised in Sintra (Portugal) in October 2003. Alda Simoes shortly presented the Conference programs.
2. Next Eurocorr in Nice in September 2004
3. Eurocorr 2005 in Lisboa
4. next FATIPEC April 2004 at Aix en Provence (France)
5. next EIS conference in May 2004 at Cocoa Beach (Florida)
6. next Eurocorr 2006 in Maastricht NL

The next WP14 meeting will be held in the occasion of the Eurocorr 2004 in Nice.

List of participants

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