

Josef Windsinger deceased



At the 28th July died, after a short and severe illness, the long-term VDEI-federal chairman and honorary UEEIV- and VDEI-president Josef Windsinger at the age of 79 in his hometown of Eschborn.

The versatile railway engineer was known by railway compa-

nies, the railway industry and national as well as international railway institutions and engineer associations outside the boundaries of Germany. Until 1998 he has been secretary-general of the Union of European Railway Engineer Associations (UEEIV). Before he has been chairman of the association of German railway engineers (VDEI) after being assistant chairman from 1982 until 1992 and he has also been in active contact with various federal and regional governments and parliaments. After stepping down from his official functions Josef Windsinger has been honorary president of UEEIV and honorary president of VDEI.

As a token of his merits he received many honours and commendations, among them the VDEI-medal in gold, the honorary badge of the central association of engineer-societies (ZBI), the honorary badge of the society of German engineers (VDI). Already 1986 he received the Federal cross of merit on ribbon and due to further merits he received the federal cross of merit first class of the order of merit of the federal republic of Germany in 2001.

Windsinger started his professional career after completing his studies of construction engineer sciences in Munich in 1950 at the higher technical service of the federal railway directorate in Augsburg as it was called then. In 1965 he changed his post to the railway central office in Munich as an additionally qualified test engineer for construction statics and was called to the department for bridges of the main administration of the German railway (HVB) in Frankfurt am Main in 1968. From 1988 until 1992 Windsinger has been freed from

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his obligations as a member of the local personnel board at the main administration of the German railway. After further active service in the capacity of a scientific employee he retired in 1993.

From his various functions during several decades of professional activities and functions within the railway sector remain today many expert and professional-political publications. The professionally related farewell from the railway did not mean the end of his activities on behalf of the professional group and railway politics for Windsinger. An area of activities was provided for him by the new railway policy, which he developed vigorously from 1995 on until the end in close cooperation with the European Commission (EC) and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSZE) during many congresses, symposium and seminars all over Europe. Until shortly before his passing on he headed the central certification office EURAIL-ING of UEEIV and as consultant he prepared seminars for the colleagues in the new member states of the EU.

In Josef Windsinger the German – we could say the European – railway world loses a most committed companion for a modern and future orientated railway in Europe. UEEIV loses with him one of its founders and a true companion until his passing on. We will keep his memory in honor together with all membership associations and will not ever forget him.

His vision of a grand railway family will live on!

Interview with president Heinrich Salzman in the November-edition of EI, VDEI-NACHRICHTEN

1. President Salzman, since 1990 UEEIV represents as a European roof-organization the railway political interests of national railway engineer associations. What are the most relevant topics in this context?

There are not only railway political interests that are being represented by UEEIV but also strategic considerations of economic development of the EU and especially the far eastern countries and the aspect of the extension of the corridors that must be taken into consideration.

It is nowadays possible to think about a new silk road of the 21st century. Therefore it is of the utmost importance that the objective of harmonisation and interoperability does not end on the outer borders of the EU. Measures must be taken into account that will not only improve security of interoperability but will also lead to an increase in the efficiency of the infrastructure capacity as a whole.

23 membership associations are being organized under the roof of UEEIV in all of Europe. - VDEI is one of the most important in this context. With the foundation in 1990, which has been before the liberalization of the markets in the Eastern direction occurred, we have been able to help with the renaissance of rail bound traffic and cross border traffic as well. The extension in eastern direction has also been supported successfully by us. Topics of this wider context have kept us busy until today. One of the main topics for us will be the strengthening of our contacts with Brussels. It is here that 100 % of all guidelines that are relevant for the railway sector are being designed, discussed in the committees, decided by the parliament and implemented in the membership states.

Recently we are busy deliberating what we can do as UEEIV in the area of advanced training. Considering this our main focus will not be directed to national institutions but to international key questions. Regarding requirements of such training measures we are awaiting the input of our membership associations.

2. UEEIV supports cooperation with the railway industry, universities and the railways. What are your expectations regarding the standardization of monitoring, security and electrical systems in the future?

I must tell you up front, it will be a long way in order to reach a true standardization of the systems that you mentioned in the railway sector. I will give you an example for this:

The EC guideline 1996/48 regarding high speed lines and conventional line defines the systems and essential requirements in six requirements: control and assignment, infrastructure, energy, rolling stock, operation and maintenance. These areas are divided into segments, which must fulfil further essential requirements – safety, availability, health, protection of the environment, technical compatibility.

In a step further it is the task of the European Railway Agency (ERA), which has been founded by EC regulations, to develop technical specifications (TSI) accordingly. The development and redrafting of the various TSI's for high speed lines is proceeding well. The final draft for „normal“ trains should be finished by the end of 2009 according to plan.

A third level will be covered through standardization programs which have been developed according to standardization units, which have been drafted especially by CEN Technical Committee 256, Cenelec Technical Committee 9X and ETSI. European standards are actually mentioned by TSI or they are being considered in order to support the directives.

The various activities regarding interoperability – like technical support, monitoring of interoperability, certification of maintenance workshops a.s.o. – are still being developed, but are not synchronized yet.

All the parameters mentioned above must be taken into careful consideration.

In the following years UEEIV, the European societies, the European railway industry and the faculties of the European universities in the area of railway matters – UEEIV especially through its board of advisors – are following closely the development of the various instructions and mandates and are very aware of the danger of over-regulation – as it became very clear through the rescheduling of the launching of a recently built high-speed line.

UEEIV is planning to look into the cost of various investments that are a prerequisite, thinking all along about a reduced version as they have been recently designed by UIC for ECTS Level 1, that might just reduce cost and surmount complicated adoptions.

Especially the Eastern-European partners of our membership associations might be interested in such a procedure very much.

3. VDEI is an important pillar in the structure of the work of your association. How would you look on the further development for German railway engineers in a constantly changing railway environment?

It is true that VDEI as the association with the most numerous membership of UEEIV is supporting us very well in our work. I am sure that the national interest of German railway engineers are being represented outstandingly well by VDEI itself. Furthermore UEEIV is aiming to lend its support in a publicly relevant way. We should – and this is our only chance to achieve results in Brussels – build „strategic alliances“ for the solution of the respective national but most of all international questions and problems. We are working on the consolidation of the interests and developments of European railway engineers in order to represent them in the responsible committees of the European Union. I think an important step in this matter for example is certification for EURAIL-ING as it is being conducted by us. Also, human development is an important topic for UEEIV, so that railway engineers can plan their advanced training according to their individual needs.

Position and standing of all European railway engineers must be strengthened further. Actually we find ourselves in a constantly changing situation in the railway sector, but engineers in Germany and all of Europe must and will react to this in a flexible manner.

4. UEEIV certifies if certain prerequisites are being met for EURAIL-ING. What is the importance of this title?

The importance of this title is increasing constantly. These days we have been able to hand out the 300th document to an employee of a German engineer office. We know from the

Deutsche Bahn DB AG that the document has been attached to the personnel files of employees. In the meantime in the Eastern European area the certificate fulfils the function of proof that highly qualified personnel is being available for the work of an engineer at a railway which is marked by very high standards of responsibility. At the moment we have been able to publicly announce certifications in 17 European countries. Now more than ever we are trying to achieve the acknowledgement of „EURAIL-ING“ in the context of the guideline for services of the EU at least regarding national law.

If someone is interested I would like to use the opportunity of this interview to point out our extensive information regarding the topic „certification“ on our homepage of www.UEEIV.com. Concluding I would like to let you know that we are very delighted to say that last year also the president of your association Prof. Dr.-Ing Fendrich has let himself being certified as „EURAIL-ING“.

5. We know of a variety of UEEIV – seminars and meetings. What is being planned in the near future?

The successful organisation and execution of seminars for the railways and the industry in all of Europe until the middle of this year has become almost a trademark for UEEIV. It has been our consultant Josef Windsinger who, until his death in July, whom we as UEEIV owe a lot in this area with his outstanding commitment.

We will continue in this tradition and so I am able to tell you the dates of the following conferences/seminars until the end of 2008:

- 2.-3.10.2008 in Vilnius/Lithuania
- 27.-29.10.2008 in Sibenik/Croatia
- 29.-30.10.2008 in Vienna/Austria
- 13.-14.11.2008 in Sofia/Bulgaria
- 26.-27.11.2008 in Warsaw/Poland
- 4.-5.12.2008 in Athens/Greece.

All these dates will be made public in your journal „EI“. You are highly welcome to look up the program and further information on this topic at our homepage.

UEEIV-Session of the board at the 22nd September 2008 in Berlin

The president of UEEIV, Salzmann has been able to award the 300th certification document for „EURAIL-ING“ to Mr. Carsten Kreß, Berlin before the session opened. Afterwards a very interesting speech regarding the topic of „DB International as service-provider of the railway concern in the international area – important projects in Europe and world-wide“ has been delivered by Mr. Wegerif, head office DB International. Interesting in this regard for UEEIV have been the many positive experiences which DB International has made with its numerous certified „EURAIL-ING“ in the past.

President Salzmann requested all participants at the beginning of the meeting to rise in honour of our deceased

Honorary president Josef Windsinger

He honoured him as a founder of UEEIV, who, until the very end, has committed himself constantly to the welfare of the association. He will leave a void behind which will be very hard to cover.

The board with all its members is very glad to have had Josef Windsinger many years as a true company among its members. We owe him a lot and will never forget him.

The activity report of the presidency until 2008 that followed afterwards has been accepted unanimously.

Then the president informed the board about his intention to leave his office due to personal reasons after 11 years as a member of the presidency of UEEIV.

The board received his declaration with regret but also with a certain amount of understanding.

After a discussion the decision has been reached that an extraordinary general assembly

should be called in spring 2009 which should be tasked with the election of a new presidency with a new president at its head. The president declared himself willing to continue his office until then accordingly with the support of his vice-presidents. The next regular general assembly should only have been held in 2010.

After polling all membership associations the necessary majority to support the solution of holding an extraordinary general assembly has been secured.

The extraordinary general assembly with elections and a decision on an updated strategy of UEEIV will be held at the

20th April 2009 in Münster / Germany

The „iaf“ 25th international exhibition track technology of VDEI/Germany will take place afterwards from the 21st —23rd April.2009 also in Münster/Westfalen.

UEEIV-LGIS-Conference in Vilnius

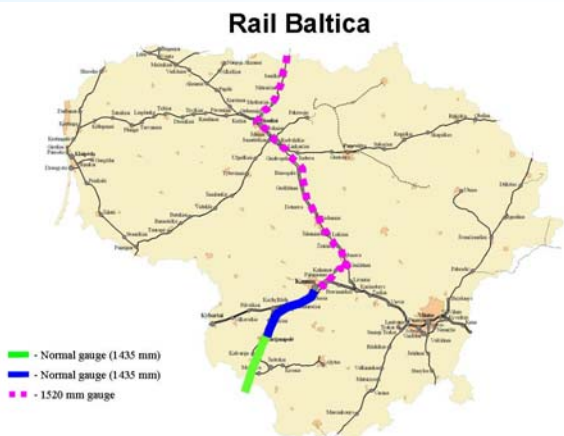
After 2006 a further conference, organised by the Union of European Railway Engineer Associations – UEEIV- jointly with our Lithuanian membership association LGIS has been held this year in order to support the railway technology in the Baltic states according to a request from the Lithuanian Railway LG at the 02nd and 03rd October in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania.

„Rail-Baltica“ – has been the general topic of our conference in Vilnius were the hosting association LGIS with its president Alfred Zubkevicius and the vice-president of UEEIV, Manfred Kehr have been able to welcome more than 80 participants.

Through some greeting remarks from the ministry of transport and the director general of the Lithuanian Railway the topic was introduced. In the first lecture by Dr. Albertas Simenas, the assistant director general of AB LG with the topic „Development of the reform of the Lithuanian railway“ the routing of the Rail-Baltica was presented. The speech of Paul Guitink of CER, Belgium, concerned the topic „CER and current activities in the European railway policy“. Here he mentioned that shortly before the conference the Lithuanian Railway LG has become a member of his organisation CER. The following speech of Vyautas Stasys Trumpa, assist. Director of the directorate railway infrastructure, made it clear, what funds are available for the infrastructure of the Lithuanian Railway in the years 2007 until 2013 and also for the implementation of the line Rail-Baltica. Pavel Telicka, EU-coordinator of the Rail-Baltica-Project, pointed out in his speech that the Project Rail-Baltica is an important investment project of the EU. He gave special emphasis to the meaning of „Rail-Baltica“, which is given a higher priority as compared to three years ago. He also pointed out that a participation of the sector of private economy in this project is of crucial importance. Saulius Poskus, director of AB LG Rail-Baltica-center commented on the status quo of the activities of the project in Lithuania. A speech by Prof. Paulauskas of the Klaipeda-University discussed the possible influence of the sea-corridors regarding the Rail-Baltica. The adjacent countries Poland, Latvia and Estonia were given the opportunity to present their views regarding Rail-Baltica.

Afterwards followed four industrial speeches by the companies EPG Eisenbahnbauplanungsgesellschaft Erfurt, Germany, HY-POWER Flexomatic GmbH, Austria, Schwihag AG, Switzerland and und Alpine Energie Holding AG, Germany. Peter Brinkmann, presidency of UEEIV, Germany spoke about certification for EURAIL-ING. At the lobby of the meeting room the products of the above mentioned companies were exhibited and aroused much interest among the participants.

At the second day five speeches regarding the „Strategy of the development of the Lithuanian railway until 2030“ – „Technical problems during the synchronisation of Rail-Baltica-Systems“ – „Rail-Baltica: Connection with Vilnius“ – „Rail-Baltica: Problems of interoperability“ – „Problems of traffic safety in the Rail-Baltica-Line“ were de-



livered and afterwards discussed.

After the discussion of all speeches the final word of the president of LGIS, Alfred Zubkevicius and Peter Brinkmann, presidency of UEEIV, concluded this important railway conference..

During a trip by bus in the afternoon all participants have been able to visit the most northern border terminal of Europe, Kena. The border formalities on the Lithuanian side regarding Belorus were demonstrated quite clearly.

The 4th international UEEIV- and ITHZ –conference about the development of the Croatian railway under the title «Croatian projects for an efficient system railway» held from the 27th until the 29. October 2008 in the holiday resort „Solaris“ in Šibenik (Croatia)

The already traditional 4th UEEIV-conference has been held in cooperation with the association of engineers and technical personnel of the Croatian railways (ITHŽ) and took place under the tutelage of the Croatian Railway. The conference had the main objective to present processes of reform within the Croatian Railways, processes of integration of Croatian Railways into the network of European railways, as well as projects of reforms of the national railway system.

The conference has been opened by both presidents, Mr. **Heinrich Salzmann** of UEEIV and **Mag. Tomislav Prpić** of ITHŽ. Both presidents underlined the importance of the event of having this conference about the development and reforms of the European railway system as well as the outstanding cooperation of UEEIV and ITHŽ during the preparation of the conference.

Words of greeting and welcome were then directed to all participants by Mr. Davorin Kobak, chairman of the board HŽ Holding, Mr. Danijel Krakić, head of department of the responsible Croatian Ministry of Traffic, Mr. Slavko Šerić, head of the central regional office Split, as well as Mr. Tomislav Jukić, deputy mayor of Šibenik.

The first part of the meeting started with speeches regarding the status of the Croatian railway system, about privatisation and planning of investments. Introductory speeches were prepared by eminent experts as well as heads of departments of the holding of Croatian railways.

Special emphasis must go to the presentation of the Croatian national program of railway infrastructure by Mr. Tihomir Lažeta, head of department of development at HŽ-infrastructure. The national program aims to allocate investments in construction and extension of the railway infrastructure in Croatia until 2012 in the amount of 18,1 mrd. HRK (approx. 2,5 mrd. EUR). Of this fund about 7,7 mrd. HRK (1,1 mrd. EUR) are be-



ing allocated to the extension and 4,9 mrd. HRK (0,7 mrd. €) to the new construction of lines and rails. The financing of this program is being secured mainly through the national budget of the Republic of Croatia and as smaller amount comes from funds of the EU (5%).

During the reform of the Croatian railway the process of privatisation plays an important role. According to Mr. Mirko Mišetić, head of department restructuring at HŽ Holding, the implementation of this processes has so far not been satisfactory. During his speech he presented the objectives of HŽ in the area of privatisation of its sub-units that have been currently outsourced during the near future.

At the end of the first day of the conference the president of the association of engineers and technical personnel of the Croatian Railways (ITHŽ) presented the visions of development, the new name and the new image of the association, which will be active starting from the 1.1.2009 under the name – Hrvatsko društvo željezničkih inženjera (Croatian Railway Engineer Association). During his argumentation regarding the change of name the president emphasised the fact that the association has transcended the framework of Croatian Railways long ago because its membership nowadays consists of seven different companies and 500 engineers and technical personnel, from the railway industry as well as from scientific- and training institutes.

Following the speeches the exhibition was opened, where many companies presented their technologies via folders, photos as well as advertisement spots.

At the 28.10.2008., the 2nd day of the conference, followed round table talks regarding the topic „**System railway today**“, under partici-



pation of railway experts, representatives of the Croatian railways, as well as European railway companies and railway associations and likewise representatives of scientific institutes and universities:

Prof. Dr. sc. Josip Zavada, faculty of traffic sciences as facilitator,

Prof. Dr. sc. Peter Veit, Technical University Graz

Paul Guitink, Association of European railways (GEB/CER)

Jan Grabowski, International Railway Association (UIC)

Carl-Henrik Lundstrøm, Danish national railway (DSB),

Harald Hotz, Austrian federal railway (ÖBB Infrastruktur Betrieb AG)

Davorin Kobak, chairman of the board HŽ Holding.

A panel discussion dealt with European experiences and perspectives of a reformed railway system as well as its further need for development. Special emphasis was applied to topics like liberalisation of the railway traffic market, interoperability, safety of railway traffic, basic and advanced training for experts in the railway sector and the relationship of the railway sector and the environment.

Afterwards presentations of the most important railway development projects were being shown by experts of the Croatian railways and from other project companies as well as experts from European and Croatian companies that produce rails and rolling stock.

Among the most important projects is the newly built line Rijeka - Zagreb, investments in the corridor X, change of electrical current of the line Moravice-Rijeka-Šapjane, were remainders of the 3-kV-railway current system are being substituted by the alternating current 25 kV/50 Hz, reallocation of the rolling stock factory "Gredelj", study regarding the structuring of area and traffic of the traffic systems road and rail in the greater area of the city of Zagreb.

After the lunch break and a press conference more presentations followed by the railway technology as well as a presentation of the production program of various societies, among them *Gredelj, Bombardier, Končar, Talgo, Dalekovod, Siemens, Alpine Energie, Rail One, Schwihag, Hy Power.*

Both organisations UEEIV and ITHŽ voiced their content with the successful organisation of the conference and the high number of participants. More than 300 participants made sure that this has been the biggest event for railway experts and the railway industry in Croatia.



More information about the event and all speeches are available for you at our homepage under www.ithz.hr.

Marko Odak, EURAIL-ING, ITHZ, Zagreb, Croatia

UEEIV-WTVV-NGSRTE-Conference and Exhibition in Sofia, Bulgaria



The minister of traffic Petar Mutafschiev, 2nd fr.l. with the presidents of WTVV, NGS RTE und UEEIV

The international conference and exhibition „railway forum 2008“ took place at the 13th and 14th November 2008 in Sofia under the tutelage of the Bulgarian minister of traffic Petar Mutafschiev. The main topic of the event has been „Modernization of the Bulgarian railways – safety and reliability“.

The three presidents of the hosting associations WTVV, NGS RTE and UEEIV, Kiril Ermenkov, Dr. Mario Galabov and Heinrich Salzmann, have been able to welcome more than 200 participants at the national house of science and technology in Sofia.

In words of greetings and speeches by speakers from the ministry of traffic and the Bulgarian railway administration the importance of the modernization of the Bulgarian railways became very clear. From the perspective of politics the priorities for modernization have been presented in a mid-level perspective.

Railway security and operative interoperability in regard to European priorities have been presented by the railway administration. Modernization and renewal of rolling stock has been a further topic. Kiril Angelov, as main controller responsible for the safety of the NG-railway-

Infrastructure, spoke about the modernization of the railway infrastructure – status quo and perspectives.

Regarding expert speeches we have heard speeches from the companies ThyssenKrupp GfT Bautechnik, Germany, from Robel Bahnbaumaschinen, Germany, ThyssenKrupp GfT Gleistechnik, Alpine Energie Holding AG, Germany, Schwihag AG, Switzerland, Knorr Bremse, Germany, Siemens Transport, Bulgaria– from some of the companies the products have also been presented. Peter Brinkmann, from the presidency of UEEIV, Germany, spoke about the topic of certification for EURAIL-ING – status quo and perspectives. Also two universities made themselves heard, so the traffic faculty of UNWW, Bulgaria, the VHS „Todor Kableschkov“ and the TU Vienna.



Finally Arjen Zoeteman, Pro Rail, Netherlands, spoke about the topic of a European railway strategy from the perspective of EIM (European Infrastructure Managers).

After the discussion of the speeches of both days the organizers were able to look back on an important and successful international conference.

UEEIV – SITK conference with exhibition in Warsaw / Poland

Under the topic, Technical and economical conditions of the development of railway transport between Europe and Asia in the II. Pan-European transport corridor an international conference with exhibition has been held at the 26th and 27th November in Warsaw / Poland. The conference has been a joint event of UEEIV with our Polish membership association SITK – Society of engineers and technical personnel of the traffic sector.

In the lecture hall of the house of technology, SITK, the presidents of both associations, Prof.



Antoni Szydlo, SITK and Heinrich Salzmann, UEEIV have been able to welcome more than 120 participants.

Salzmann pointed out during his welcoming remarks, among other things, that this joint event of UEEIV and SITK would be great opportunity to discuss the measures that have to be taken in order to optimise not only safety and interoperability in the railway sector but also to provide for a substantial increase in the capacity of infrastructure efficiency as a whole. Despite the greatest efforts to harmonise railway standards in Europe it is still a reality that national conditions and interests stand in the way of a smooth cross border railway traffic. The economical development within the European Union and especially the development of the far-eastern countries must be considered in advance regarding the extension of the various corridors. It would be appropriate today to have the vision of a great "silk road" of the 21st century and it is therefore of the utmost importance not to let the objectives of harmonisation and interoperability end at the international borders of the EU.

During the introductory remarks on behalf of the ministry of railway infrastructure the strategy of railway transport development in Poland was presented – the first high speed line in Poland will soon be operational. Dr Kaminsky of the EU Parliament talked about the economic exchange between Europe and Asia. Jaques Dirand, CER Brussels answered the question: How can a European policy support the development of the railway corridors? The president of OSZD, Tadeusz Szozda reported about the role of OSZD regarding the development of railway transport between Europe and Asia.

Lukasiak of PKP S.A. described the cooperation of the PKP with adjacent railways in the II pan-European transport corridor.

The series of expert lectures was opened by Zbigniew Janicki, PKP Cargo S.A. with the topic TSL conditions of the trade offer of PKP Cargo.

Following this speech the Bejin Jiatong-University, Beijing / China delivered a speech that has been received with great interest regarding the topic *extension of high-speed traffic in Chin..*

This speech was delivered, with the approval of Prof Dr Zhiming Liu and Prof Dr Yugong Xu of said university, who unfortunately both have been detained, by Bernd Rockstroh of Fraunhofer Institut in Saarbrücken, Germany, who has worked closely with the Chinese in the past.

Further speeches have been:

Marzanna Tchorzewska, PKP Intercity S.A. Legal barriers regarding the railway transport of persons between the *EU and Eastern Europe*.

Peter Brinkmann, presidency of UEEIV, Germany spoke about certification for *EURAIL-ING*

Bernd Rockstroh, Fraunhofer Institut for destruction free test procedures, Saarbrücken *destruction free test procedures for wheels, wheel sets and wheel axles*.

Dr Schöbel, TU Vienna, Austria *Sensor-systems for monitoring moving trains*

Prof Zbigniew Grabowsky, KRPIIB *Polish construction construction approval in the area of railway infrastructure*

Further, very interesting expert speeches of the companies *Alpine Energie, Germany, Spitzke AG, Berlin Germany, Schwihag, Switzerland, Leonhard Weiss GmbH, Germany and Rail.One, Germany* rounded out the picture of a successful conference.

UEEIV-Seminar in Athens

A well attended international seminar has been organised by the Union of European Railway Engineer Associations - UEEIV – jointly with its Greek membership association SEMS, the engineer association of Greek engineers at the 5. December at the hotel „Imperial“ in Athens.

During late afternoon of the 4. December a workshop from 4 – 7 pm preceded the seminar. The head of department track system of EDISY, director Tzanakakis was able to welcome approx. 14 guests at the ninth floor in the meeting room of the OSE-building. The general-director of the OSE-infrastructure would not let himself be detained from greeting all participants of the workshop in person. He is of the opinion that the Greek railway is currently on an upward trend, although strenuous efforts are necessary to remain on the highest level of technological standards possible – the topic of procedures of the awarding of contracts is also of the utmost importance.

The representatives of 4 European railways – Austria, Italy, Greece and Germany presented from the perspective of their respective countries „The procedures of awarding railway projects“. Afterwards, during a very interesting discussion the participants exchanged their experiences regarding this topic which is far from easy. It has been agreed that discussions of this kind should be continued. The participants all were of the opinion that workshops like this one generated many useful ideas.

The president of the Greek engineer association, Nikolaus Steinhauer, was able to greet about 100 participants to the seminar. Peter Brinkmann presented the greetings from the presidency of UEEIV and expressed his joy about the fact that after many years it could once again be achieved to hold a seminar in Greece. Steinhauer very much regretted that Josef Windsinger, a great friend of the Greek people, can no longer be among us. Windsinger had already prepared the seminar almost totally one year ago but at the scheduled time the seminar had to be cancelled unfortunately.

The main topic of the seminar has been: „Service- and maintenance technologies of railway networks“.

After some introductory remarks of the director of track systems of EDISY, Tzanakakis some very interesting speeches followed:

So initially Ing Wolfgang Nemetz, ÖBB Infra-Bau, Austria, spoke about the topic „Strategy of track maintenance at ÖBB“. Prof. Dr. Veit, TU Graz accordingly posed the provocative ques-



tion: Track quality – luxury or necessity?“ in order to present his findings. Until lunch break the following company speeches were delivered: Vojislav Djurdjev, Hy-Power Rail Lubrication Systems, Austria „Attrition- and noise minimisation via targeted atomised lubrication at the contact of rail and wheel“

Thomas Schlender, ThyssenKrupp Gft, Germany „Y-steel-switch – surface construction system for special requirements“

Rainer Wentz, Plasser & Theurer „Capability of the rail through high-technology at maintenance“

A speech by Cinelli, Italian railway RFI, Italy „Strategy of track maintenance in Italy“ followed afterwards.

Lothar Marx, consultant (formerly DB), Germany „Application of GPS at rail measurement“ and a 2nd speech „Maintenance of surface installations in Germany“

After lunch more speeches were delivered:

Klaus Vetter, Plasser Italiana, Italy „Modernisation of the rail measurement vehicle of OSE“

Dr. Andreas Schöbel, TU Vienna „Infrastructure-based provisions regarding monitoring of rolling stock“

Ulrich Rink, PINTSCH BAMAG, Motor- and traffic technology GmbH, Germany „Railway Crossing point systems“

Peter Brinkmann, Presidency UEEIV, Germany „Certification of EURAIL-ING“

Each time at the end of every speech the opportunity to discuss the contents has been given. The participants made good use of this offer.

During the concluding reception of UEEIV and SEMS for leading personnel of OSE, EDISY, ERGOSE and the companies participating in the seminar at a typical Greek restaurant further opportunities existed for discussions and talks and it has been generally agreed that SEMS and UEEIV were able to look back to a very successful seminar.

UEEIV-Events 2009

<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>	<u>Event</u>
09.02.2009	Vienna/Austria	Meeting of the Presidency
20.04.2009	Munster/Germany	General Assembly of UEEIV
13.-14.05.2009	Bucharest/Romania	Infratrans/AIFR/UEEIV
21.-22.05.2009	Durres/Albania	UEEIV-SIH-Conference

Further events will be published in short time

News regarding supporting members

We are happy to welcome **Alpine-Energie Holding AG**, Germany, as a new supporting member starting with the 01. October 2008. It is especially positive that Alpine-Energie has already participated in four conferences of UEEIV with exhibition in Vilnius, Sibenik, Sofia and Warsaw. Among other things a film has been presented by leading personnel of this company which shows the range of products of this company in a very professional manner. The film is included in our CD's documentation of the respective conference.

We are looking forward to a further good cooperation.

Reports from member associations

AIFR—Romania

AIFR Executive Committee, in its meeting on 5th May 2008, analyzed suggestions concerning the AIFR- Activity Program for the year 2008 and after, decided as following:

- INFRATRANS 2009 will be held in May – the topics will be fixed and communicate at the appropriate moment
- Will be initiated new events in the university centers of Bucharest, Brasov and Timisoara for students and didactic corps members of railway profile
- At the interested Romanian Railway Regions it will be exposures concerning technical news and standardization in the railway domain
- “Round tables” will be organized for presentation of companies offering services to the Romanian Railways; on 4th June 2008, at the Ministry of Transportation, will be ALPINE – ENERGIE from Germany

You will be informed in time about other future events.

Doru Adrian Stanescu, President of AIFR

CIFI—Italy

Report n.2/2008

During his general meeting hold the 30th of May, the Assembly of Delegates elected the Presidency of CIFI for the period 2008-2011.

Mauro Moretti, CeO of FS, was confirmed as President of CIFI, as well as Luigi Legnani, Giovannino Caprio and Antonio Sarnataro as Vice-Presidents and Luigi Morisi as General Secretary.

Giovanni Marchi was appointed as Treasurer.

The new Presidency, considering the request of Prof. Giuseppe Romolo Corazza to leave the direction of "Ingegneria Ferroviaria", after several decades in this position, nominated as Director of the magazine Renato Casale, CeO of Italferr, the engineering company of the FS group, with Prof. Stefano Ricci as Vice-Director.

In the same time, Michele Mario Elia was confirmed as Director of the other magazine of CIFI "La tecnica professionale" and Pierluigi Guida as Director for "non-periodicals".

Concerning the activity of railways in Italy, the second part of 2008 is dedicated to the last activities of commissioning and tests on the new High-Speed/High-Capacity line between Milan and Bologna, before the starting of the normal operation, foreseen the 15th of December.

Together with the lines Rome-Naples, Rome-Florence and Turin-Novara, already active, and the Bologna- Florence and Novara-Milan, both following in 2009, at the end of next year the Italian railway system will have in operation the whole high-speed connection Turin-Milan-Rome-Naples, based on the full interoperable system (for the supply as well as for the signalling system, ERTMS level 2) and the opportunity to improve the quality of transport also for the regional and freight services.

Dr. Luigi Morisi, Secretary General of CIFI

GdI—Switzerland

GdI has been able to implement a multifaceted program in the year 2008. The events at the beginning of the year have been profoundly marked by the preparations for Euro 08. This great event has been a moment of truth for public transport. Thanks to an outstanding organisation it has been made possible to gain a lot of goodwill.

The expert meeting 2008 has been held in the Jura region with focus on the topic of international connection of Switzerland. On of the scheduled high-speed lines has been designed to lead through the Jura region an onward to France.

The international excursion in 2008 had Hamburg as its objective. Visits with the various traffic societies were scheduled as well as excursions to the surrounding countryside near Hamburg. Cultural events have been visited as well, naturally.

The award of the golden rail 2008 for special achievements in the area of railway technology is currently in preparation. In the next Union-Report will be a report about it.

Roland Wermelinger, Landesstelle Schweiz

ITHZ—Croatia

The new presentation

In the context of the recently conducted UEEIV/ITHŽ - conference in Šibenik the ITHŽ (Association of engineers and technical personnel of Croatian railways) has been presented by its president Mr. Tomislav Prpić.

The reason for this has been the change of name and the new image of the association since January 1st 2009.

ITHŽ-association is a expert association that has been founded in the year 1992, which brings together experts from the railway sector in order to support the sector by developing and securing the expert interests of all members of the sector. Since the foundation of ITHŽ it is a member of the Union of European railway engineer associations (UEEIV).

Through its activities the association aims to establish itself as a platform for the acquisition of advanced knowledge and further training of railway experts, as a partner during the introduction, design and implementation of projects within HŽ as well as becoming an active promoter of modern technologies in the sector of rail bound traffic.

Practically this means that various activities in the area of basic and advanced training of its members, organisation of panel discussions, expert events, meetings and seminars, publication of an expert journal "Željeznice 21", activities aiming to implement cooperation with various institutes of the traffic-sciences as well as the organisation of expert and study journeys are being organised.

Their interest in the activities of the association has been documented by the Croatian railway, the ministry of traffic, the railway industry as well as the academy society through its membership of 500 experts and six companies from all over Croatia.



The ITHŽ-assembly has decided in April 2008 that the association should be renamed as Hrvatsko društvo željezničkih inženjera – HDŽI (Croatian railway engineer association) starting January 1st 2009.

Marko Odak, EURAIL-ING, ITHZ, Zagreb, Croatia

NGSRTE—Bulgarien

Report of the year 2008 NGS RTE activity

The main lines in the National guild -Society of Railway Track Engineers (NGSRTE) are connected with:

- the guild organizational consolidating;
- to extend and thorough the forms of interaction with the professionally oriented to it departments and structures, railway undertakings, NRIC, branch organizations, designing and civil engineering companies, higher schools, universities ecc.
- keeping and extending the international contacts mainly through UEEIV, and also on a regional basis with our neighbouring countries on the forthcoming projects realization;
- organizing and holding of instructive and thematically oriented conferences and workshops, directed to extend, thorough and contemporize the guild members professional preparation and awareness.
- ensuring the necessary conditions for certifying the railway engineers in Bulgaria.

The regular, annual NGS RTE General Assembly has been held on 14th of March, year 2008. It was presented the Managing Council report on the guild activity during year 2007, as well as the report of the annual financial audit. There were discussed the working guidelines of the next one year period. Eighteen new members were accepted.

For the first time the newly established annual NGS RTE award for a young engineer or a railway civil engineering student was bestowed. Its first winner for year 2007 became the student of the University of Architecture, Civil Engineering and Geodesy -Vassil Georgiev Shilov.

During the period of 5th -7th of June 2008 in the city of Shumen was held a conference on: "Jointless Track -normative documents, technologies, and problems". The event was supported by National Railway Infrastructure Company H.F. "VIBE" – Ltd., "DENDRIT" – Ltd., "JPSY" – Ltd. Sirnon Kotopanov, Ivo Janakiev and Rumen Malchev made a review of the newest information on the normative documents, regarding the jointless track laying, operation, maintenance and repairs. Mr. Vassil Lazov presented a report on "New technologies in jointless track laying by using mechanical complexes of "VIBE" firm -Germany for track general repairs. The "Kahov factory for electrical welding equipment" -Ukraine and "MTH Prague" –Czech Republic presentations arouse great interest; they were presented by the two entities managers, respectively Jaroslav Micitin and Peter Vagenkneht. The guild members were acquainted with the technical abilities of the produced by them contemporary, high technological mobile apparatus for electro contact welding of rails and specialized machinery for track and overhead repairs.

The report of ass. Prof. Baharov and Dipl. eng. Dilov was heard with interest. In the report were presented recycling technologies of the railway vehicles wheels through sills welding. The processes of quality control of recycled wheels and rails interaction were commented. During the statements and discussions after the general reports, it was expressed the NGS RTE embarrassment as a professional community, concerning the problems related to the jointless railway track laying during the performance of the considerable infrastructure sites.

The conference decisions on this line were presented to the NRIC Managing Board and Ministry of Transport.

We could remark with pleasure the good work on the railway engineers certifying for getting a title of "European Railway Engineer". The National Certification Bureau, chaired by Prof. Michael Sabev is conducting serious clarification work on the certifying and as a follow-up of which we already have 27 European engineers, and two new applications are placed for this year.

Referring a received UEEIV letter, regarding the approve of qualification degree "EURAIL-ING" in the context of the European Parliament Directive 2005/36/EG, the NGS RTE Managing Council has prepared in this line a well-founded appeal to the Ministry of Transport and to the Ministry of Education.

Prof. D. Eng. Mario Galabov, NGS RTE Managing Council Chairman

WTVV—Bulgaria

Since the beginning of 2008 the priority objectives and –projects of the scientific-technological association for traffic (WTW) have been the discussion of the status quo and the problems of the railway transport in Bulgaria and the measures and means regarding the optimisation and modernisation of railway infrastructure and rolling stock according to the standards and requirements of the EU.

The main events, held by WTW are:

1. Scientific-technological conference "traffic-logistic, Intermodal Transport and infrastructure" with exhibition (Sofia, 13-14.2.2008)

The conference has been held under the tutelage and with cooperation of the minister of traffic Mr. Petar Mutaftschiev, jointly with the ministry of traffic and the federation of scientific-technological associations in Bulgaria.

More than 250 leading-personnel, specialists and scientific co-workers from Bulgaria, Germany, Austria, France, Italy a.s.o. have participated in the conference. 120 of the leading European companies participated in the exhibition and presented their products in the areas of railway technology, logistic-services, and traffic-logistic and –systems.

2. Conference regarding the conclusion of the project "Railway safety and operative interoperability – practical implementation of legislation (Sofia, 29.07.2008)

120 persons, leading personnel and specialists of the ministry of traffic, BOG EAG, the national association "railway infrastructure", private service providers and construction companies, scientific co-workers and lectors participated in this event.

3. In the year 2008 the Bulgarian railways are celebrating the 120th year from their foundation and it is in this context that a special program is being implemented which is connected by discussions and operative meetings about the status quo and the future of the Bulgarian railways as well as analysis of the implementation of priority railway projects and the possibility of their funding, which are included in the operative program "Reansport" of the EU. WTW and its leaders are participating in the organisation of the event regarding the celebration of the 120th anniversary of the Bulgarian railways.

Until the end of 2008 some seminars that are important for transport and railway traffic are scheduled:

1. In October 2008 „Youth-Forum 2008“ regarding the topic „Young people in the traffic sector – challenges and perspectives " will take place.

Organizer of this event is WTVV, the ministry of traffic and universities that are training transport cadres, which has already become something of a tradition. We are expecting about 200 participants.

2. Scientific technological conference with international participation "Railway forum 2008" regarding the topic "Development of railway infrastructure and intermodal traffic ", organised by UEEIV, WTVV, GSRTE and the federation of scientific-technological associations in Bulgaria from the 13th .- 14th November.2008, Sofia, at the house of science and technology. We are expecting about 200 participants and 10 – 15 companies and universities that are participating in the exhibition. A preliminary program is already prepared and some speeches are already assigned.

3. Parliament club of WTVV will discuss the changes and supplements of transport legislation including legislation regarding railway traffic.

Cooperation and support of WTW by the ministry of traffic is secured on a high level.

Corporate members of WTW are 46 transport companies. The joint organisation and implementation of the scientific-technological main events in the year 2008 has achieved positive results.

Dipl. Ing. Kiril Ermenkov, EURAIL-ING

President of WTVV

Vice President of UEEIV

