EUROPA NOSTRA ACTIVITIES IN FAVOUR OF INDUSTRIAL AND ENGINEERING HERITAGE

Paper presented at THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE "Industrial cultural heritage"

Ministry of Finance of Czech Republic

OSTRAVA

5th November 2013

Pierre LACONTE Europa Nostra Council Member, Chair of the Industrial and Engineering Heritage Committee CIVVIH-ICOMOS Expert Member

Europa nostra is the voice of heritage in Europe, i.e. advocacy by people who live or have a special interest in monuments and sites. It is naturally complementary with **ICOMOS** (officials professionals of monuments and sites). Indeed its private nature allows it to have a total freedom of speech about endangered monuments of sites and strong interventions towards responsible officials.



Within the Europa Nostra membership the Industrial and **Engineering Heritage** Committee (IEHC) is endeavouring to draw attention on this type of heritage, often called "the cathedrals of industrial age". Herewith a pumping station transformed into a hotel (Photo Europa Nostra).





Blast Furnace, Sagunto, SPAIN Grand Prix 2012 Category 1

Europa Nostra's main event is its yearly congress.

It includes the European Heritage Awards ceremony and proclamation of its Grand Prix. Each year there are more candidates for these awards.

Through IEHC's active support of industrial and engineering heritage projects, the share of these projects is now around one-third of prizes, including the 2012 and 2013 Grand Prix. It has a representative in the European Prize Jury.



Grand Prix 2013, category Research

Exceptional Machines of **Wielemans-Ceuppens Brewery, Brussels,** Belgium.

The Awards are divided into four categories:

- Conservation
- •Research
- Dedicated service
- •Education, training and awareness-raising.



At each congress IEHC organises a special tour in the congress area. As an example the IEHC 2011 tour included the Dutch waterworks heritage, including the Haarlemmer pumping station: herewith, we see participants to the Amsterdam congress IEHC tour listening to the explanations by Ir. Hans Pluckel, Commissioner, Hoogheemraadschap Rijnland. © Photo: Hildebrand De Boer.



Coal-gas production plant of Athens © Photo: P. Laconte

The special Industrial and engineering excursion during the 2013 Athens Congress included a visit to a coal processing plant transformed into museum immediately after its closure.

The coal gas produced in the retorts ascends through the vertical tubes to the upper part of the retorts. The tubes lead up to the hydraulic main or "gas trap", a large pipe filled with water up to the middle. The gas passes through the water and accumulates in the upper part of the main.



As an example, **Istanbul "Sentral" power plant** (now conference and exhibition centre) proudly includes its fully preserved machinery, while in London's Tate Modern the industrial and engineering memory has disappeared. © Photo: P. Laconte

IEHC organises each year two internal scientific meetings hosted by one of its members and aiming at an exchange of the latest information and action potential in the field.

The IEHC is directly cooperating with like-minded organisations such as the International Committee for the Conservation of the Industrial Heritage - TICCIH (itself linked to the International Council on Monuments and Sites ICOMOS), and DOCOMOMO.



The 2013 scientific meeting included a tour in Landschaftspark Duisburg-Nord. See the early rail transport of melting ore.



Discussion on informing the public about heritage included heritage trails in Ruhr and Westphalia areas. © Photo: P. Laconte



Outside events of industrial and engineering are also supported by IEHC. A trip from Rome's Vatican to Orvieto, using the 1932 papal train, hardly ever used and in mint condition. Hereby the papal train ready to cross the Vatican City wall for its heritage tour. © Photo: P. Laconte