

2010 IACDS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

International Association Begins its 16th Year

SALZBURG, AUSTRIA was the location for the 2010 annual meeting of the International Association of Concrete Drillers and Sawers (IACDS) on April 26. The meeting drew delegates from several countries who gathered to share industry knowledge and continue to learn new ways to thrive and survive. The meeting took place immediately after the 2010 bauma trade show in Munich, Germany, the biggest event in the construction and demolition industry. IACDS held a series of seminars on April 25 during bauma for general contractors, architects and engineers to learn more about the concrete sawing and drilling industry.

Representatives from Concrete Sawing and Drilling Association member companies Hilti, Husqvarna, Tractive AB and Tyrolit gave eight 30-minute presentations at the IACDS seminar to bauma attendees. The aim of the presentations was to heighten awareness of the concrete sawing and drilling industry, educate attendees about new technologies and detail the possibilities that are achievable through concrete cutting. Topics included dry cutting, efficient cutting for minimal debris and waste water, underwater wire sawing, hydraulic versus high frequency cutting equipment, nuclear power plant work, post-installed rebar and new market opportunities for concrete cutters. The seminars drew a big crowd and were standing room only.

Members of IACDS met the following day in Salzburg to discuss the current status of the concrete sawing and drilling industry around the world and how the association can continue to define its role within this industry. Current IACDS president, Peter White of the U.K.'s Drilling & Sawing Association, gave his annual report to the attendees. The mood is optimistic for the industry, although the level of business varies greatly from country to country. Housing construction and public authority works were cited as being two key areas where things need to improve to assist the sawing and drilling segment of the market.

White discussed the bauma seminar program and the Diamond Award, two events that have proven to be successful for the association. Plans are now in place for the 2011 Diamond Award, which will return to the Las Vegas Convention Center in January of next year and is now open for entries (see sidebar). A proposal to hold another series of presentations at the 2013 bauma show was accepted. The group also discussed the association's involvement with other industry trade shows like Demcon in Sweden and BeBoSa in Germany, and how IACDS could generate further interest in the sawing and drilling market by having a presence at these shows.

Each representative from the national associations present gave a summary of the current economic status of their country, together

Front row, from left to right: Anita Hermansson, Jose Blanco, Ernst Siegenthaler, Peter White, Julie White, Norikazu Shibuya, Anna Trachsel. **Back row, from left to right:** William Lee, Alfred Landl, Bernhard Seidl, Andrei Bushmarin, Lars Gustafsson, Lars Sandström, Linda Dahlin, Martin Braun, Hans-Georg Wagener, Daniel Trachsel, Dietmar Wirthgen, Alain Dupont, Martin Gödickemeier, Martin Jennings, Donat Fritsch, Antonio Zerolo, Werner Havlena.





The large number of attendees at the IACDS Seminars were able to listen to a translation of each presentation in English or German.

with some information on how each association is coping in terms of membership and dues income. While attendees from Japan, Spain, Russia, the U.K. and the U.S. report that they are still feeling the effects of the economic downturn, including decreases in membership and company bankruptcies, they also have seen signs of recovery.

Meanwhile, the markets of Austria, Switzerland and Sweden are reported to be stable with some signs of growth in both the economy and number of association members. However, the German association remains strongest and now has over 600 member companies. This continued growth is credited to a benefit given to contractors in the form of a reduced social tariff levied by the government, and to a robust construction and demolition industry in Germany.

IACDS has taken great strides to advance the industry since its inception in 1995. Technical documents have been produced like *Basic Parameters for Concrete Drilling and Sawing Equipment* and *Tolerances and Limits for Construction Sawing and Drilling*. The second edition of the association's tolerances and limits document was published in 2006, and a motion was passed to update this document with the most up-to-date information. These documents can assist concrete cutters in their day-to-day work, and can be found on the IACDS Website (www.iacds.org), in the CSDA Resource Guide or via the members section of the CSDA Website (www.csda.org). These documents are also available to members of other national associations in electronic and/or paper copies.

White will continue as president of the international association, fulfilling his two-year term, while Jose Blanco of Spain and Norikazu Shibuya of Japan remain as vice presidents until the 2011 election. The next IACDS annual meeting will be held in Brugge, Belgium from May 6 to 8, 2011. For more information, visit www.iacds.org.

The International Association of Concrete Drillers & Sawers is an international trade association of sawing and drilling associations from the concrete construction and renovation industry. Its mission is to provide an international union and cooperation of trade associations to support and promote professional development of professional sawing and drilling contractors and their methods. This umbrella organization of sawing and drilling associations formed in 1995 is composed of the associations from Australia, Austria, Germany, Japan, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States.



The International Association of Concrete Drillers & Sawers (IACDS) is proud to announce the 2011 Diamond Award for outstanding performance on jobs using diamond sawing and drilling tools.

Submit your entry of the most innovative job you have completed in the field of concrete drilling and sawing to enter the Diamond Award competition.

Go to the IACDS Website, select Diamond Award and download the relevant documents to submit a job for consideration. The direct link to the 2011 Award page is http://www.iacds.org/diamond_award_2011/index.html.

Entries should be submitted, in English, no later than October 15, 2010.

The three best entries will be awarded during a press conference at World of Concrete in Las Vegas, January 17 to 21, 2011. Each winner will be given a free flight to Las Vegas and accommodation for two people.

