

Rome, 14.07.2003

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

Dear Colleagues,

the annual official meeting of the WP14 "Coatings" was held on Wednesday 25 September 2002 in Granada, on the occasion of the 15th International Corrosion Conference.

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
- Expression of Interest in the FP6 and participation to Network of Excellence and Integrated Projects
- Partnerships and co-operation with existing and new Working Parties (Tribocorrosion, Corrosion of steel structures, Automotive, ecc)
- Further activities of the WP14:
 - EUROCORR 2003 (Budapest, Hungary)
 - Electrochemical methods applied to organic coatings 2003 (Portugal)
 - EMCR 2003 (Ysermonde, Belgium)
 - ASST 2003 (Bonn, Germany)
 - Corrosion Science in the 21st Century (Manchester UK)
 - 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 activities of the member of the WP involved in some relevant Conferences in 2002 such as:

- FATIPEC 2002 (held in Dresden) including a special session about corrosion related problems in organic coatings;
- 2002 Athens Conference on Coatings Science and Technology;
- Corrosion certification: the European scheme (held in Aix en Provence) where strategies about coatings certification and qualification were deeply discussed with the participation of the main European certification Societies.

Moreover, LF presented the document of the three years program of the WP14 including many of the points proposed for discussion in the agenda.

Dr. Joerg Vogelsang (J.V.) gave some details about the ISO TC 35 SC9 WG29 meeting held in Amsterdam and about related 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.

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.

Moreover J.V. remembered that one official person, appointed by each National Standard Society, is expected from every country.

Next official working meeting is scheduled in the occasion of the EMCR Conference which will be held in Ysermonde (B) next year in May.

The WP14 chairman (L.F.) gave some short information concerning the state of the art of the European project financed by the European Community and involving some WP14 members. The aim of this program is the replacement of the hard chromium with a HVOF coating to obtain coatings for corrosion and wear protection. The coatings were prepared using small powders (almost nanometric) with different chemical compositions and shapes. Preliminary results, obtained on industrial components, pointed out some problems mainly related to the substrate/coating adhesion and to the surface roughness, still too coarse for some specific applications (valve stem). On the other hand wear and corrosion resistances of the HVOF coatings seem to be quite better with respect to those of hard chromium coatings.

The WP14 chairman (L.F.) informed people attending the meeting that the WP14 submitted to the European Commission an “**Expression of interest**” (EoI) with the title “Special functional organic coatings”. The discussion was then opened about the possibility to prepare and write a specific project to be submitted for evaluation in the **VI European Framework Program**.

Some questions were discussed with the contribution of many participants and namely:

- Interest, among the WP14 members, about the topic proposed in the EoI;
- Development of a project draft as Network of Excellence or as Integrated Project;
- Possibility to extend the project participation to other groups with specific competencies (paint formulation, polymer characterization, etc.);
- Strong participation of European industries.

A great interest on this project was expressed by Prof. Mario Ferreira, Prof. Ramon Novoa and Dr. Joerg Vogelsang.

After a long and fruitful discussion J.V. and Prof. Funke suggested, as first action, to find a Prime Proposer for the project and possibly to find it among big Industries or big Research Centers with an office dedicated to preparation of European projects. Dr. Wolfram Fuerbeth (W.F.) of Dechema was asked to verify the possibility for Dechema to be the leader group of this project.

As second action, it was decided to create a task force composed by 3 or 4 people to organize the first steps of the scientific program; L.F., W.F., Valerie Souvant and Gabriele Ferrari were indicated as member of the task force. Dechema was suggested for the administrative leadership.

Concerning the cooperation with other WPs the chairman L.F. stressed the possibility to strongly cooperate with some WPs such as Automotive or Tribo-corrosion. In particular, a collaboration with the new WP18 (Tribo-corrosion) is expected since the next Eurocorr 2003 in Budapest; the new WP18 will be not officially present and a good idea is to host paper related to wear and corrosion in the WP14 “Coating Session” as a special topic. For the next Eurocorr Conferences, starting from Eurocorr 2004 in Nice, joint WP14 and WP18 sessions are welcome.

L.F. invited the meeting participants to submit papers about tribo-corrosion for the Eurocorr 2003 in Budapest.

J.V. asserted that there is overlapping between many WPs. He proposed to organize joint session at Eurocorr Conferences also with WP2, if still active; other possible cooperation can be proposed to Oil and Gas or Cathodic Protection WPs. Some possible common topics could be for example the mixed protection (C.P. together with organic coating) or delamination problems of organic layer forced by C.P..

Again J.V. suggested the possibility to organize Eurocorr Conferences as workshops not necessarily strictly related to the WPs.

L.F. suggested some events quite interesting for WP14 members in 2003 such as:

Eurocorr 2003 in Budapest Hungary (end of September);

EMCR 2003 in Ysermonde Belgium (4-9 May);

ASST 2003 in Bonn (May).

The workshop on “Application of Electrochemical Techniques to Organic Coatings”, after Schlipfkopf (1999) and Jurata (2001) will be organized by Prof. Alda Simoes (A.S.) in Sintra Portugal. A.S. suggested holding the conference in October 2003.

J.V. proposed to join to this event a meeting of the ISO standard working group, suggesting the duration of 2 days for the workshops plus one day for the ISO working group.

The next WP14 meeting will be held in the occasion of the Eurocorr 2003 in Budapest.

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