

August 2007

# NEWS LETTER



*Dear EFEE members*

*It was not long ago we discussed where the 2007 EFEE World Conference should take place but very quickly September is approaching! Time really flies!*

*The member situation today is encouraging. We have National, Company and Individual memberships and it is stimulating to see all new applications. The EFEE Board will make every effort to serve new members in the best sense and the Board welcomes professionals that contribute to the EFEE aims and to the important work carried out in our specific working committees. There are today three committees where we would like to see more members contributing. These are:*

- Shotfiring Committee*
- EUExcert Committee*
- EU Directives Committee.*

*Should you be interested to work within these committees please contact our secretary Katarzyna Allen at [info@efee.eu](mailto:info@efee.eu). New members that like to start a discussion or to announce some news please use the website. It is really easy to upload documents at the website. If you have a success story, any professional tip, ideas or questions do not be afraid to upload it on the website in order to involve other members!*

*See you soon in Vienna!*

*Roger Holmberg, EFEE President*

## ***The 4<sup>th</sup> EFEE World Conference, Vienna 2007***

*Tylerevents, the EFEE conference organiser, has announced in end of July that there were over 200 people who had signed up for the conference. This looks good and we hope we will get an additional 100 delegates It also looks like there will be 100 people attending the workshop on Sunday before the cocktail party.*

*There will be a workshop offered on Sunday afternoon from 14.00hrs to 17.00hrs on European vibration standards and practice and explosive demolition.*

*The Pope is coming to town!*

*There is a shortcoming of hotel rooms the days before the 4th EFEE World Conference takes place. The reason for this is that the pope will visit Vienna and a few hundred of thousands people will invade Vienna to catch a glance of Benedikt XVI. The Pope will stay in Vienna from 7th to 9th of September.*

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## ***Future EFEE World Conference***

*The 2009 conference will be held in Budapest, Hungary April 26-28 at the InterContinental hotel. Still we have not any association from Hungary as a National member but the EFEE Board are hoping this will be a reality before the conference are to be held. The 5th Conference is held in springtime in order not to clash with the FRAGBLAST 9 Symposium, which will be held in Spain Autumn 2009.*

*At the upcoming Council meeting in Vienna, September 8 any country that like to have EFEE to consider where the 2011 venue will be, must present their proposal.*

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## **EUEXCERT**

*In June 13-15 a symposium "Education and Training in Explosives" was held at Cranfield University, UK. The aim was to examine and focus on the development of a range of explosive competencies and qualifications in research, design and development, safety management, test and evaluation, manufacture, maintenance, procurement, storage, transport, and disposal. Current and future requirements was presented and Aslak Ravlo and Karl Kure from EFEE presented a paper "Harmonised European Training and Training Requirements for End Users of Explosives within the Civil Sector". The paper was reflecting EFEE views on the harmonisation work for shotfirers.*

*The paper can be found in the EFEE Members portal or at the EUEXCERT homepage [http://www.euexcort.org/pdf/Cranfield\\_Paper\\_0706141.pdf](http://www.euexcort.org/pdf/Cranfield_Paper_0706141.pdf).*

*José Carlos Gois is the EFEE representative in EUEXCERT from August 1 2007. José is actually operating under "two hats" as he also is the representative for University of Coimbra in EUEXCERT. The EFEE Board also decided in Lisbon at the recent July meeting that, when needed and when EFEE economy allows for it additional members can be sent to any EUEXCERT meeting.*



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## ***New secretary for EFEE***

*Mrs Valerie J Stroud has handed over the EFEE office to Mrs Katarzyna Allen August 1. Valerie has to give 100% of her worktime to the Institute of Demolition Engineers, which made it necessary for the Board to find a successor to Valerie. Valerie will assist Kararzyna with the bookkeeping for some time until Katarzyna is updated with the work procedures. Katarzyna or Kasia as she is happy to be addressed has a remarkable language skill. You are welcome to speak any of the following languages with her; English, Polish, Russian, German, French (just started to learn) and Hungarian (basic). She was born and brought up in Warsaw, Poland, has spend time in Holland and Switzerland and lives today in Whitchurch Hill, UK.*

*We warmly welcome Katarzyna to EFEE!*

## ***EU Action Plan for enhancing the security of explosives, precursors and detonators***

*The importance of enhancing the security of explosives has been underlined many times. The Commission and in particular the Explosives Security Experts Task Force with many participants from the manufacturers, traders, users and polices have developed an important work in the first half of 2007. The Portuguese Presidency of EU and the Commission jointly organised the second EU Conference on Enhancing the Security of Explosives in Braga, Portugal, on 16 and 17 July 2007. At this conference, the report of the Task Force was presented and discussed as well as the elaboration of an EU Action Plan on the Security Enhancement of Explosives, Precursors and Detonators, which was based on the report of the Task Force.*

*It is foreseen that the Commission will adopt the proposal such an Action Plan by mid-October. Since the Presidency's aim to have the Action Plan adopted by the Council in its meeting in November, it is necessary to start detailed discussions. At the conference in Braga, there was a general consensus about the usefulness of setting up an EOD (explosives ordnance disposal) Units Network. If this is agreed upon by delegations and included in the Action Plan to be adopted by the Council, the Portuguese Presidency would endeavour to start this network still during its term in office. Clearly, on a near future, the EOD units network will represent a significant preventive measure on a law enforcement perspective, as well as an exchange of interoention methods, training programs and relevant information and expertise on this matter. An Early Warning System (EWS) for explosive related incidents should be established, taking in account already existing systems and experiences, including the G6 system, in order to prevent potential situations and to undertake measures in case of theft, robbery and explosives suspect transactions. Again on the EWS, all relevant entities amongst MS have to have access, being this principle expressed on the 40th Recommendation of the RESETF. It should be available in particular for Member States public security authorities (national contact points) and Europol. Continuing the supply chain side, the 2nd Recommendation of the RESETF is widely explicit: a special but simple channel should exist for anyone within the supply chain to alert the relevant national authority if they see a suspicious transaction or a theft. The relevant national authorities are required to inform their national central agency which is responsible for gathering this information. Concerning manufacturing and all explosives facilities (such as storing, distributing and using), Security Plans and Security Management Systems should be transversal to all MS and effectively operative. All staff of manufacturing, storage, distribution and use of explosives ought to be subject to mandatory security vetting checks, in order to comply with the necessary security measures all other issues concerning explosives observe. Also a constantly updated professional development should be given to all personnel, in order to increase levels of knowledge within this working field. Regarding last issue on facilities and the present one on personnel, both should be implemented simultaneously, has they are strongly interconnected.*

*Personnel and facilities are always an issue. Defining procedures and measures towards better security conditions drives the Portuguese Presidency forward. A proper balance between relevant public security issues and corporate industry interests has to be achieved, for the Action Plan's effectiveness and sustainability.*

## Coming Events

2007	Sept 9-11	The 4th EFEE World Conference on Expl and Blasting	<a href="http://www.efee.eu">www.efee.eu</a>
	Oct 8-11	Europyro 2007	<a href="http://www.afpyro.org">www.afpyro.org</a>
	Nov 5-7	AETOS - Tunnels, drivers of change	<a href="http://www.congresoetos.es">www.congresoetos.es</a>
	Nov 15-16	Internationale Tagung für Sprengtechnik	<a href="mailto:Helga.dornfeld@wifi-ooe.at">Helga.dornfeld@wifi-ooe.at</a>
	Nov 27-29	STUVA - Connections by Tunnels	<a href="http://www.stuva.de">www.stuva.de</a>
2008	Jan 27-30	ISEE 34th Annual Conference on Expl & Blasting Technique	<a href="http://www.isee.org">www.isee.org</a>
	Apr 9-11	New Trends in Research of Energetic Materials	<a href="http://www.ntrem.com">www.ntrem.com</a>
	June 9-11	MassMin 2008	<a href="http://www.bergforsk.se/eng_index.htm">www.bergforsk.se/eng_index.htm</a>
	July 13-18	The 35th International Pyrotechnics Seminar	<a href="http://www.ipsusa.org">www.ipsusa.org</a>
	Oct 6-8	AFTES - Building underground for the future	<a href="http://www.aftes.asso.fr">www.aftes.asso.fr</a>
	Sept 3-6	STEINEXPO	<a href="http://www.steinexpo.de">www.steinexpo.de</a>
	Sept 19-25	ITA-AITES World Tunnel Congress 2008	<a href="http://www.wtc2008.org">www.wtc2008.org</a>
	Sept 22-24	MINEExpo 2008	<a href="http://www.minexpo.com/">www.minexpo.com/</a>
2009	Feb 8-11	ISEE 35th Annual Conference on Expl & Blasting Technique	<a href="http://www.isee.org">www.isee.org</a>
	Apr 26-28	The 5th EFEE World Conference on Expl and Blasting	<a href="http://www.efee.eu">www.efee.eu</a>
	May 23-28	ITA-AITES World Tunnel Congress 2009	<a href="http://www.wtc2009.org">www.wtc2009.org</a>
	June 14-17	2009 RETC - Rapid Excavation & Tunneling	<a href="http://www.retc.com">www.retc.com</a>
	June 22-26	Securing the Future	<a href="http://www.securityskelleftease">www.securityskelleftease</a>
	Sept	Fragblast-9	<a href="mailto:fragblast9@fragblast.org">fragblast9@fragblast.org</a>

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## Transport of dangerous goods by road

The 3rd meeting of WP15 Working Group on Mobile Explosives Manufacturing Units (MEMU) will be held on 22 – 23 August in Bonn. The working group agreed that harmonized regulations on the transport of dangerous goods with mobile units for the manufacture of explosives will be incorporated in ADR in a new chapter and that the process for the manufacture of explosives at the point of application or use, as well as the use of the manufactured explosives, should not be governed by ADR regulations but remain subject to national regulations. In the previous meeting the WGP reached the following conclusions:

- the manufacture of explosives can continue to be governed by national rules and not by the ADR, provided that it does not impact on the safety of transport;
  - existing vehicles should continue to be used within the framework of a transitional provision;
  - the regulations governing the construction of tanks as well as those governing the construction of bulk containers or the load compartments of vehicles could be used as a basis for the design of the containers;
  - regarding the design of tanks for ammonium nitrate emulsion, the thickness of the walls should be specified, because it cannot be calculated.