

# NEWSLETTER

June 2014



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We in EFEE hope you will enjoy the present EFEE-Newsletter. The next edition will be published in September after the council meeting in Tallinn in September 2014, where this is being written. Please feel free to contact the EFEE secretariat in case:

- You have a story you want to bring in the newsletter.
- You have a future event for the next EFEE-newsletter upcoming events list.
- You want to advertise in a future newsletter.

Or any other matter.

*Johan Finsteen Gjørdvad, Chairman of the Newsletter Committee and the President of EFEE*

## Dear EFEE members, the president's voice

Springtime has arrived everywhere in Europe and we hope that you have been able to enjoy the first warm and sunny days.

We are sending you this first newsletter in 2014 to inform you about current events in the blasting sector and in our Federation.

The Board meetings in November 2013 in Bratislava covered the evaluation and conclusion of the 7th EFEE Conference in Moscow as a central point. We would like to use this opportunity to thank Alexander Efremovtsev from NOEE again as well as the sponsors and exhibitors of the Moscow conference whose commitment contributed quite considerably to the success of our conference.

Our spring board meeting in Rome was used to prepare for the Council Meeting and Annual General Meeting (AGM) which took place on the 3rd May 2014 in Dublin. As well as the election for the EFEE Board. Furthermore, preparations of the 8th EFEE Conference which will take place from 26th to 28th April 2015 in Lyon are going full speed. For further information please see the latest EFEE newsletter.

The result of the Dublin election during the 14th AGM means that the federation will be run by the following the next year:

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EFEE Secretariat,  
Roger Holmberg Coniston Court F18, St Eija Street,  
St Julians, STJ1122, MALTA

# NEWSLETTER

## June 2014



Johan Finsteen Gjødvad (Denmark) - President  
Igor Kopal (Slovakia) - Vice President  
Heinz Berger (Austria) - Treasurer  
Jörg Rennert (Germany) – Past President  
Ricardo Chavez (France)  
Donald Jonson (Sweden)  
Vegard Olsen (Norway)

As the past President I wish the new Board all the best for tackling all future tasks. I would like to use this opportunity to thank all Board members for the very, very good and constructive cooperation during my two years as President. Despite all the work it was a very good time for me and so I leave from this position with mixed feelings. I am looking forward to continuing this good cooperation in the Board – now as the Past President.

*Jörg Rennert, Past president of The EFEE board*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Rennert', is positioned below the typed name.

Dear EFEE Members,

As the new president I step in to a row of past presidents big shoes. I am humble for the forthcoming tasks which I will do my best to solve in the interest of EFEE.

While speaking about past presidents I would like to use the opportunity to thank Jörg Rennert for his great contribution and steering of EFEE the past years, as its president. I know I am not alone when I say that he was the perfect match for the challenge EFEE faced in arranging the 7th EFEE conference in Moscow. Thank you Jörg; and I can tell you, that I as the new president am happy to still have you on my side in the new board.

The new board contains a good mix of skilled people whom will be of great use in the coming year. The board says goodbye to Alexander Efremovtsev, which has been part of the board the last couple of years. His main focus has been in preparation of the past EFEE conference in Moscow, which we as Jörg mentions earlier thank Alexander for. The new member of the Board is Vegard Olsen. Vegard have put a lot of energy in to EFEE the last few years, we welcome Vegard to the board and look forward to make use of your skills.

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The next board meeting will be held in July 2014 in Amsterdam, Holland, where the conference location of the 9th EFEE conference in 2017 will be in focus (the 8th is to be held in Lyon 2015, see more in this Newsletter). In September 2014 follows the next EFEE Committee, Council and board meeting which is to be held in Tallinn, Estonia. Here the latest EFEE supported project ESSEM II will be in focus, read more in this Newsletter.

I wish you all a great summer and look forward to see as many of you for the next EFEE meetings and to inform you in the next Newsletter which will be sent out after the Meeting in Tallinn.

Johan Finsteen Gjødvad, President of The EFEE board



*The former president Jörg Rennert and present president Johan Finsteen Gjødvad with the members of the board - Igor Kopal, Heinz Berger, Ricardo Chavez, Donald Jonson, Roger Holmberg and Vegard Olsen*

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## 25 Years of EFEE

A look at the past 25 years (1988 to 2013)

During the conference of the American Society of Explosives Engineers in 1988, now named ISEE, At Anaheim/California several colleagues from Europe met, among them Roger Holmberg and Walter Werner (Germany). The conference of the American Society of Explosives Engineers was good, even though the thought and idea was obvious; that the Europeans could manage something similar. Werner had earlier been in contact with several explosives specialists he had met at the international conferences at Linz/Austria and Budapest/Hungary.



Picture of lineup from EFEE foundation meeting 1988, in Aachen.

Witzgall, Becker, Fink, Broadhurst (GB), Ebner, Grünfeld (NL), Böking, Peeters (NL), Dell, Werner, Fardel (CH), Gysin (CH), Groves (GB), Vogt-Sasse, Roller and Vuolio (Fin)

W. Werner being the president of the German Blaster's Association invited his colleagues to Aachen in West- Germany to establish a European institute of explosives engineers. Aachen was chosen by Werner because it was situated in the center of Middle-Europe close to the Netherlands and Belgium.



Different EFEE logos through time, the logo on the right is the present

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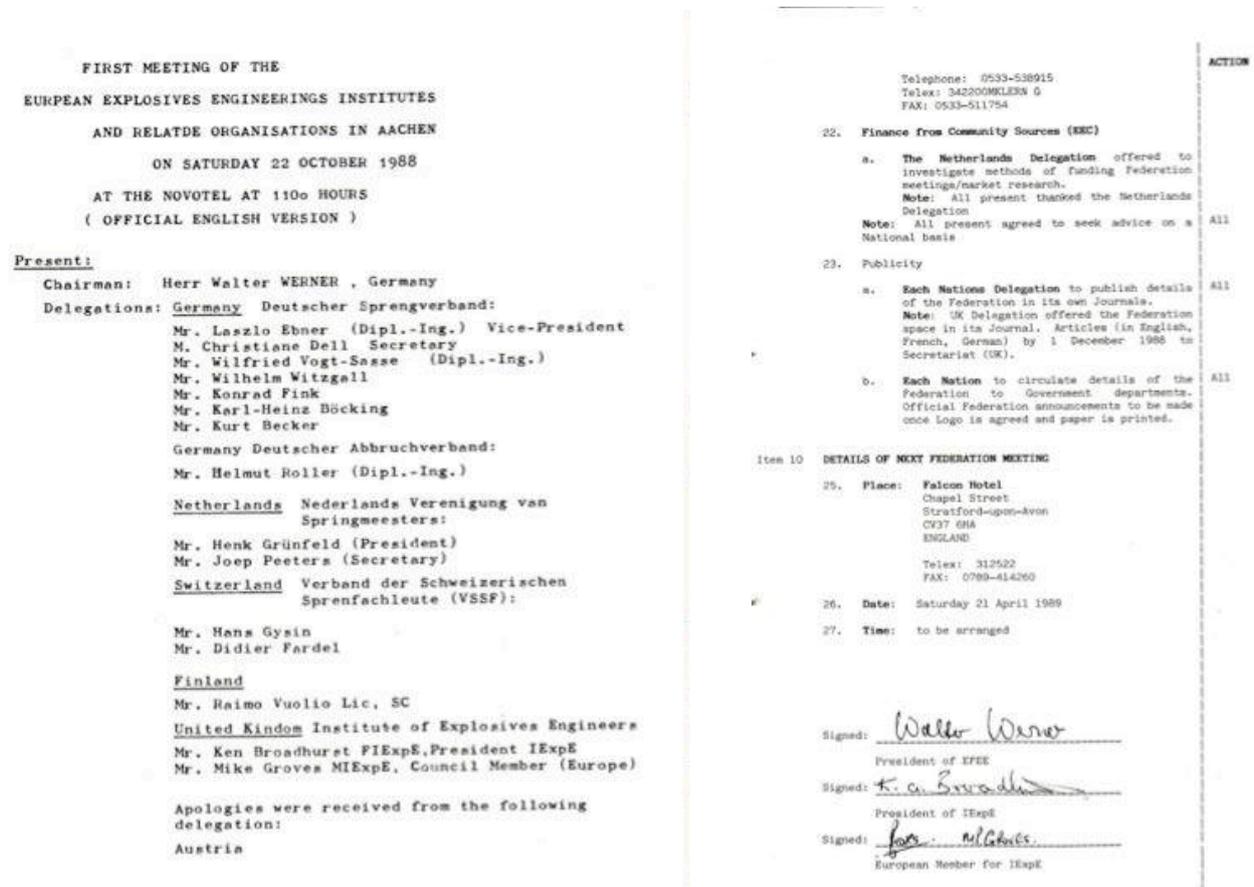
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Five nations were present at October 20th, 1988 when EFEE was founded: Finland (Raimo Vuolio), the Netherlands (Henk Grünfeld and Joep Peeters), Switzerland (Didier Fardel and Hans Gysin), UK (Ken Broadhurst and Mike Groves) and Germany with nearly the complete board of the German association. Roger Holmberg, Sweden showed interest, but sent an apology as well as Austria. Both countries joined EFEE later.

After long discussions regarding the English name of the organization, with suggestions as “European Explosives Engineering Institute”, the name was finally decided to be the present name “European Federation of Explosives Engineers” (EFEE). The German name easily followed “Europäischer Sprengverband”, copying the German Blaster’s Association. Fortunately there was with Didier Fardel a French speaking colleague and the French name was found as “Fédération Européenne des Spécialistes de Minage”. The difficulty with finding a suitable name was an indication of one of EFEE’s and EU’s future challenges in the big variety of languages.

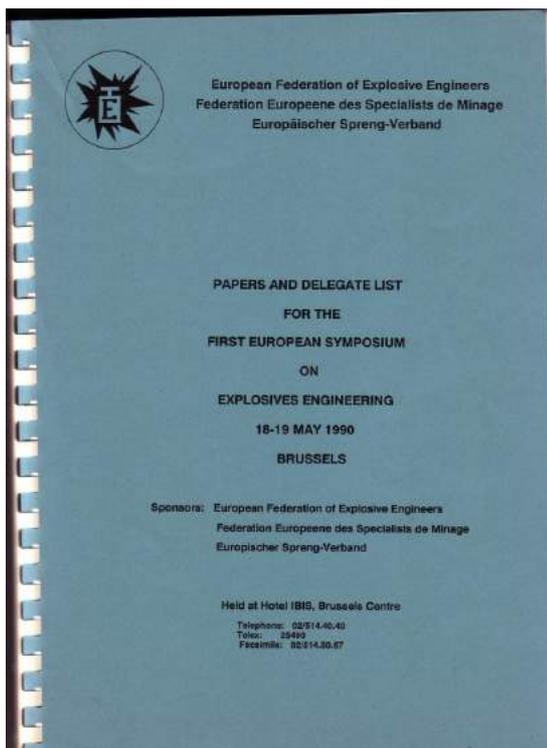


The First and last page of the first minutes of an EFEE meeting, Aachen 1988

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Period	President	Country
1988	Walter Werner	Germany
1989	Ken Broadhurst	UK
1991	Henk Grünfeld	Netherlands
1992-1993	Hans Solenthaler	Switzerland
1993-1994	Björn Jonsson	Sweden
1994-1995	Herbert Holluba	Austria
1995-1996	Jørgen Schneider	Denmark
1997	Raimo Vuolio	Finland
1998-2000	Rolf Schillinger	Germany
2000-2002	Aslak Ravlo	Norway
2002-2003	Remy Müller	Switzerland
2003-2004	Heinz Berger	Austria
2005-2006	Mark Hatt	United Kingdom
2007-2008	Roger Holmberg	Sweden
2008-2009	José Carlos Gois	Portugal
2010-2011	Donald Jonson	Sweden
2012-2013	Jörg Rennert	Germany
2014-	Johan Finsteen Gjøvdad	Denmark

In May 1990 a first EFEE – conference was held in Brussels with, now counting 9 nations and more than 90 participants.



European Federation of Explosive Engineers Enclosure 3  
 Federation Europeene des Specialistes de Minage  
 Europäischer Spreng-Verband

Please reply to:

M P GROVES MIEpE  
 Academic Registrar  
 RMCS  
 Shrivenham  
 SWINDON  
 Wiltshire SN6 8LA  
 United Kingdom

#### SUBJECTS AND PRESENTING COUNTRIES

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Transportation and Security  | Austria     |
| 2. Quarrying Systems  | Switzerland |
| 3. Initiation Systems   | Sweden      |
| 4. Precision Blasting   | Denmark     |
| 5. Shaped Charge Design   | UK          |
| 6. Decommissioning Nuclear Power Plants   | Germany     |
| 7. Collapse Mechanisms  | Netherlands |
| 8. Environmental Aspects  | Belgium     |
| 9. Blasting Software and Sequential Blasting  | France      |
| 10. Vibration Effects, Standards  | UK          |
| 11. <b>Note:</b> Visiting Speakers would be invited by Council from:<br>(a) <b>FELM</b> , to speak on "Reliability, Safety and Management as applied to the Design of Explosive Systems".<br>(b) <b>The Commission</b> , to speak on their problems and how the Federation can help them. |             |

*Proceedings and program, Symposium at Brussels April 1990.*

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Even though the next conference the 1st “EFEE World Conference on Explosives and Blasting Technique” was held in Munich with 16 member countries and 450 participants, the Brussels conference was an important event which lifted EFEE to a higher level. Between these first two conferences EFEE was developing through regular meetings all over Europe and through national conferences with international guests.

Since 2000 seven “EFEE World Conference on Explosives and Blasting Technique” has been held around Europe with increasingly success. The conferences are listed with year and location below:

Location	Year
Munich, Germany	2000
Prague, Czech Republic	2003
Brighton, United Kingdom	2005
Vienna, Austria	2007
Budapest, Hungary	2009
Lisbon, Portugal	2011
Moscow, Russia	2013

The location of the 8th and 9th “EFEE World Conference on Explosives and Blasting Technique” are already decided and will be held in 2015 and 2017. The planning is in full process and information about the 8th conference in Lyon can already now be found at EFEEs homepage [www.efee.eu](http://www.efee.eu) or the conference homepage <http://www.efee2015.com/> .

Council meetings have been held in numerous member countries and cities, ensuring the steady successful development of EFEE. Today EFEE has grown to a well-represented organization listing 25 member nations from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Kasakhstan, Liechstenstein, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK and Ukraine, followed by 23 corporate members, 61 individual members and one associated member.

In between the conferences, council meetings and board meetings EFEE have initiated research projects, communicated with the authorities of European countries and EU on legislation and directives. Several EFEE Newsletter have been published over the years. Below are examples of the newsletter.

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**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of EFEE will take place in SWEDEN spring 2001. Details will be released subsequent to the Munich September 2000 meeting.

**THIS ISSUE**

- The Munich Conference
- Are we ready for the next Conference?
- News from the members
  - CROATIA
  - FRANCE
  - PORTUGAL
  - NORWAY
- Shotfirers Certificate
- EFEE and days ahead
- Conference Calendar
- EFEE Structure
  - Members
  - Committees
  - Secretariat

**The 2<sup>nd</sup> World Conference. Are we ready?**

If, where, when, who - These are matters to be explored by the members in the wake of Munich. Do think about it!

**First World Conference on Explosives and Blasting Technique**

Welcome to Munich and the 1<sup>st</sup> World Conference on Explosives and Blasting Technique. The International Society of Explosives Engineers (ISEE) and the German Society of Explosives Engineers (DSV) are sponsoring the conference. The conference provides access to a broad market of users of explosives products and accessories. The conference has attracted the interest of explosives users, manufacturers of explosives and equipment for drilling operations, researchers and professionals involved in the construction and mining industries and will provide a forum for the discussion of practical and technical information as well as presentations of the latest development in the industry worldwide. Papers from authors representing 27 countries provides technical information and covers recent advances in the field of explosives application, research and technology. Be sure to allow some time for the exhibition with display of products, equipment, blasting tools, and innovative technology for the explosives industry. A conference depends on the authors, the papers and the active participation of all delegates. EFEE feels confident your contribution will support the exchange of information and technical transfer within an important sector of the industry. EFEE takes this opportunity to express sincere thanks to the Sponsors of the conference. Without their support such arrangement would be more difficult to organize. The program is fairly tight, we do hope your having the possibility to enjoy some of the attractions of the city. Munich in September should by all standards be enjoyable.

EFEE's principal aim is to enable collaboration between those people professionally involved in the use of explosives throughout Europe. This collaboration focuses on advancing expertise, technology and management, health and safety and, most importantly, education and common high standards of training and certification.

Education applies firstly to those who are directly involved in the use of explosives. To this end, EFEE has established a common standard of training and certification for shot firers and blasters in the field. A European certificate in shot firing may be awarded to those suitably qualified with a national certificate. For details of how an individual blaster can apply, please see below. Information may also be found on home page <http://www.efee.org>

However, education must also apply outside our own federations or institutes - to the general public and to the governmental and state authorities. We must strive to make the general aware that explosives make an essential contribution to other industries and, therefore, to national prosperity, and that that contribution is made safely and with every effort to safeguard the environment.

Education of the authorities, in the form of consultation between them and the explosives professionals brings about mutual understanding. EFEE's aim is to ensure that such consultation and understanding results in well-considered legislation that is not only wise but also practicable. EFEE is currently involved in considering the legislation applying to the carriage of explosives

**Technical Program**

The conference will focus both on practical and theoretical issues

The headlines are:

- 1. EU Directives and Harmonization Work
- 2. Health, Safety and Environment. HSE.
- 3. Recent Technical Development - Products and Processes.
- 4. Shot hole development.
- 5. Blasting Experiences.
- 6. Management of Blasting operations.

**NEWSLETTER**

December 2013



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Or any other matter.

Johan Finsteen Gjøvdal, Chairman of the Newsletter Committee and Vice president of EFEE

**Dear EFEE members, the president's voice**

After a long summer and autumn being a bit unstable, we are now seeing the first snowflakes coming down in the lowlands thus ringing in the fourth season. The Christmas markets have spread the scent of mulled wine and Christmas cake (Stollen) and, with the Christmas season, the year's end is fast approaching.

Right in time for this year's end, we are sending you this third newsletter informing you about current events and developments in the explosives sector and the European Federation of Explosives Engineers itself.

This autumn, EFEE's 7th World Conference on Blasting took place from 15th to 17th September in Moscow



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St Julians, STJ1122, MALTA

Left: EFEE - Newsletter Nr. 8 in 2000 edited by Rolf Schillinger and José Carlos Góis.

Right: EFEE - Newsletter 3rd edition in 2013 (December). Edited by Johan Finsteen Gjøvdal.

The latest initiative of EFEE is the ESSEM II project; which aims to further harmonize the education for work with explosives, elaborating at the past EFEE research project ESSEM I. The project application involves nine companies from seven European countries, and EFEE has applied for funding from ERASMUS +.

It is a great challenge to get a united Europe, but we owe it to future generations and the growth of EFEE to proof that it is worth the efforts. The newsletter congratulates EFEE for the successful 25 years, and hope for many more to come.



Saint Barbara we beg You:

“Good Luck, and continued success for EFEE“

Walter Werner, Germany and First EFEE President, Roger Holmberg Secretary General of EFEE and Johan Finsteen Gjøvdal President of the board

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## Blasting the highest building in Europe

On February 2nd 2014 in Frankfurt (Germany) the highest sky scraper in Europe fell down by blast demolition.

With a mass of about 50,000 tons, a height over ground of about 117 m and a difficult neighbourhood, it was a big challenge for the demolition company AWR, the blasting company Reisch and the design engineer Dr. Melzer.



The basic principle of the blast demolition was a first vertical collapse of the skeleton part and a following folding of the core. The first vertical collapse was caused by blasting all columns in five floors. The three seconds later core folding completed the building drop down to an only 8 m high debris heap with a total length of about 100 m and a breadth of about 50 m.

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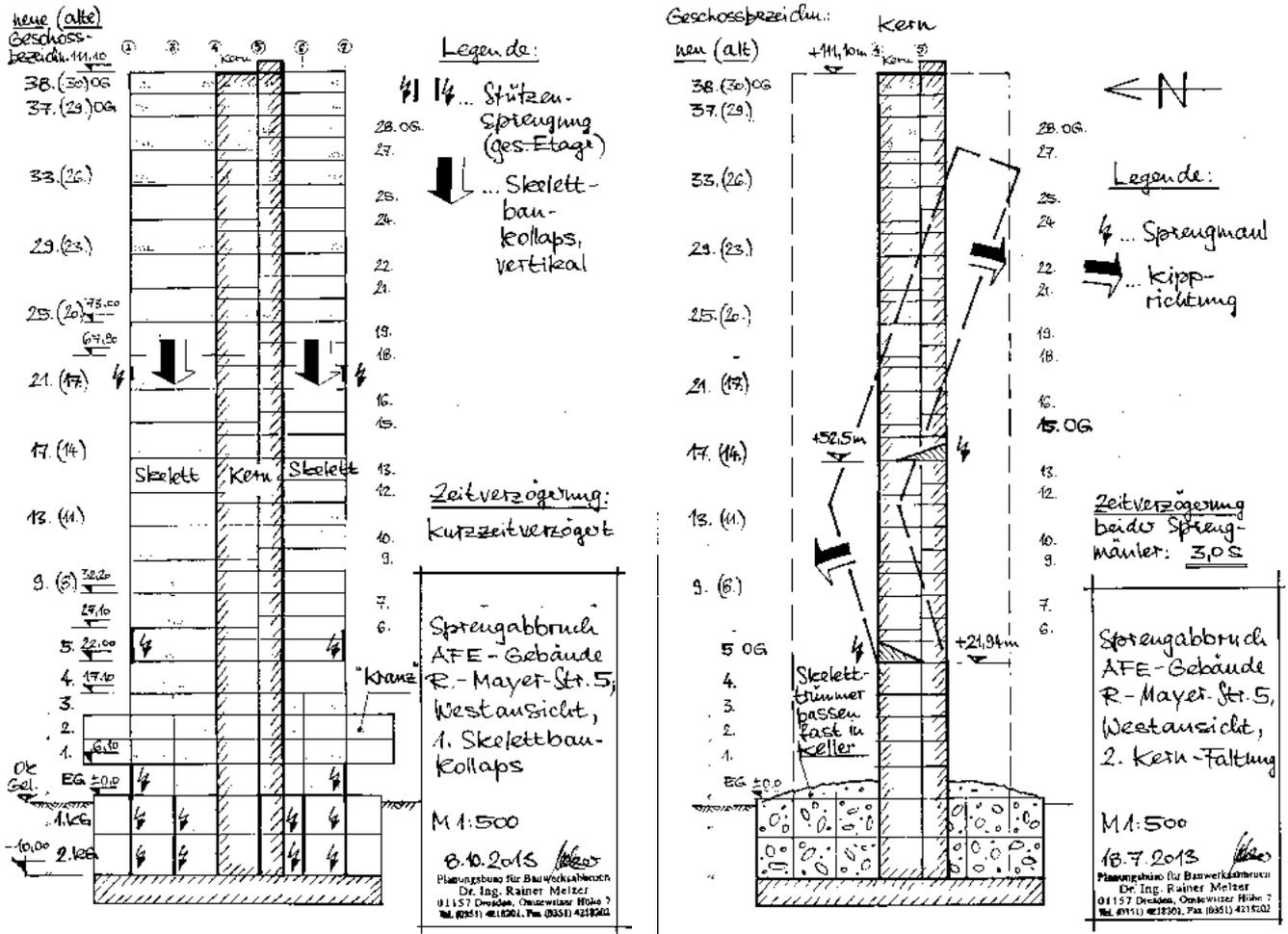
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On the contrary in the blast mouth charges were placed about 400 electronic detonators. The three second time displacement was decided so that dropping slabs were sheltering the upper core blast mouth in its detonation yet. Water filled “big bags” on the roof should help to control the dust. To the blast a 250 m exclusion zone was established around the tower.

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The predicted vibrations in the only 20 m neighbored subway tunnels were as 15 mm/s the same as finally measured. No damages or unexpected results of the blast were realised. The white building nearby the tower to see on the picture was used as shelter only and it was to demolish too.



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## Status on the ESSEEM II project

In december 2013 there was an article in EFEE Newsletter about a new project for the ESSEEM - European Shotfirer Standard Education for Enhanced Mobility. Now, Viive Tuuna from Voglers Eesti, has finished with the application form under the Erasmus+ program as a Strategic Cooperation and presented it to the Archimedes bureau in Estonia. The results are expected to become public in August 2014.

The ESSEEM II project has 9 partners from different countries in Europe – Dresdner Sprengschule from Germany with Jörg Rennert, Norges Teknisk-Naturvitenskapelige Universitet from Norway with Vegard Olsen, Universidade de Coimbra from Portugal with Jose Carlos Gois, Institute of Explosive Engineers from England with Nigel Taylor, Spolecnost pro Trachi Techniku a Pyrotechniku from Czech Republic with Pavel Krivanek, Geoblast from Portugal with Antonio Galizia, Bergsprängnings Entreprenörernas Förening from Sweden with Jan Johansson, Egide Environnement from France with Anne Charline Sauvage, Kure-Fjellsprengningsteknikk from Norway with Karl Kure.

If the decision about the project will be positive, and the grant will be given by European Commission, there will be a lot of work to do in the following three years. To summarize shortly the most basic activities will be working with materials – adding examinations, exercises, tunnelling and creating a designed certificate; then making sure that the courses and learning materials will follow the principles and framework of ECVET – European Credit system for Vocational Education and Training; if materials are ready we start with seminars/courses to train first trainers for the ESSEEM II courses; finally there will also be a Guidebook for the future trainers to carry on with the courses, the Guidebook will ensure the quality of the courses, explain any added pictures or charts and help with frequently asked questions. The materials will be translated into German, French, Portuguese, Czech, Estonian, Norwegian and Swedish, according to the partner countries. As the new application form differs a lot from previous Leonardo da Vinci project, there was some changes to be made. The form was very technical, every piece of information was registered in internet which later will be used for check-ups. Some of the activities were modified to fit with the baseline of the application form, for example the seminars/courses. But eventually everything fitted and we hope for the best. And hereby big thanks to all the partners, as they stood by the coordinator and helped in any way, did not mind a phone call during weekend and few extra hours for checking the project with a fresh eye.

If there is anyone interested in being a trainer for ESSEEM and European Shotfirer Certificate, there will be a possibility to participate in these seminars/courses on the third year of the project. Then they should contact EFEE for more information and registration.

*Viive Tuuna, CEO in Voglers Eesti  
Rakvere, Estonia*

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## **New EFEE members**

*EFEE likes to welcome the following Members who recently have joined EFEE.*

### ***Company Members***

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#### ***MDL, UK***

MDL, part of Renishaw plc, is a global pioneer and world leader in the design and manufacture of high speed laser measurement systems for use in extreme environments. MDL has been supplying the Quarry and Mining industry worldwide since 1983 and has an international network of offices, distributors, and service centers. MDL's Quarryman® Pro 3D rock face laser profiler, Boretrak® borehole deviation probe, and associated blast design software have become industry standard tools within the Quarry industry for blast optimization, burden finding, and stockpile measurement. More details available at [www.mdl.co.uk](http://www.mdl.co.uk)

#### ***Impact Technologies GmbH, Germany***

Impact Technologies GmbH provide boiler explosive cleaning services in Europe under the name Impact Cleaning.  
[www.impact-cleaning.eu](http://www.impact-cleaning.eu)

### ***Individual Members***

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**Stefan Orth**, Ontaris, Germany

**Günter Kleinrath**, Schaffler GmbH & Co KG, Austria

**Antonio Lozano**, Geoengineering Services & Consulting E.I.R.L., Peru

**Alexander Kravtsov**, Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic

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**EFEE**

**8th WORLD CONFERENCE  
ON EXPLOSIVES AND BLASTING**

# **LYON, FRANCE 2015**

**26th – 28th April**

On Sunday 26 April 2015 the European Federation of Explosive Engineers will present its 8th World Conference on Explosives and Blasting at the Lyon Convention Centre, France.

The World Conferences on Explosives and Blasting is an excellent platform for becoming familiar with the current developments in the blasting technology sector. It is also an excellent arena for blasting technology experts from all over the world to extensively exchange their experiences.

**The conference includes:**

- Large Industry Exhibition
- Latest Innovations and Technology
- Technical Presentations
- Partner Leisure Programme
- Industry Specific Workshops



For further details visit [www.efee2015.com](http://www.efee2015.com)  
or email: [info@efee2015.com](mailto:info@efee2015.com)

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## The art of successful blasting

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## Upcoming Events

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### **Swiss Tunnel Congress 2014**

11-13 June 2014

Luzern Switzerland

<http://www.ita-aites.org/>

### **2014 North American Tunneling Conference**

June 22-25, 2014

Los Angeles, USA

<http://www.smenet.org/page/index.cfm?id=913>

### **15th Australian Tunnelling Conference, 2014**

17-19 September 2014

Sydney, Australia

[www.atstunnellingconference2014.com](http://www.atstunnellingconference2014.com)

### **Austria Tunnel day 8th October 2014**, organized by ITA Austria - 63rd Geomechanics Colloquium

8 – 10 October 2014

Salzburg Austria

[www.oegg.at](http://www.oegg.at)

### **2015 ISEE**

1-4 February, 2015

New Orleans, USA

<https://www.isee.org/>

### **8th EFEE Conference on Explosives and Blasting**

April 26-28, 2015

Lyon, France

[www.efee2015.com](http://www.efee2015.com)

### **World Tunnel Congress 2015**

May 22-18, 2015 Dubrovnik, Croatia

[www.wtc15.com](http://www.wtc15.com)

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## Proceedings

A new release of the Proceedings from the 7th EFEE World Conference on Explosives & Blasting is now available. Contact [simon@tylerevents.co.uk](mailto:simon@tylerevents.co.uk) for sales price and shipping. He may also have a few extra of the earlier proceedings in stock.

Conference	Where	Title	Editor	Contact for purchase	Publisher	Listed price ex freight	ISBN
1 st EFEE World Conference on Explosives and Blasting	2000 Munich	Explosives and Blasting Technique	R. Holmberg	Taylor & Francis Group Ltd Tel: +44 (0) 20 7017 6000	Balkema		ISBN: 9789058091680
2nd EFEE World Conference on Explosives and Blasting	2003 Prague	Explosives and Blasting Technique	R. Holmberg	Taylor & Francis Group Ltd Tel: +44 (0) 20 7017 6001	Balkema		ISBN: 9789058096050
3rd EFEE World Conference on Explosives and Blasting	2005 Brighton	Third EFEE world conference on explosives and blasting	R.Holmberg et al	<a href="mailto:Simon@tylerevents.co.uk">Simon@tylerevents.co.uk</a>	EFEE	60 €	ISBN 0-9550290-0-7
4th EFEE World Conference on Explosives and Blasting	2007 Vienna	Fourth EFEE world conference on explosives and blasting	P. Moser et al	<a href="mailto:Simon@tylerevents.co.uk">Simon@tylerevents.co.uk</a>	EFEE	60 €	ISBN: 978-0-9550290-1-1
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