



Press release – 21 July 2009

14th International Metrology Congress
22 - 25 June 2009 - Paris

Synthesis

Press Information :

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International Congress of Metrology 2009: A glimmer of hope before summer!



The colour of fitted carpet on stands was orange, which was a good sign! But the general impression and the first reactions expressed by participants were also very positive. As one of them put it: "**It was a glimmer of hope in the current gloomy outlook!**".

750 participants had registered for full access to the event, a **15% increase over previous congress' attendance!**

And 200 additional non-registered participants visited the exhibition.

30% of the participants were foreigners from 48 different countries, mainly European, but also from North and South America, Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

The Congress confirmed raising valuable interest in the gathering of the actors in this field:

- **59 % among them were industrial:** measurement tools users of all sectors, analysis laboratories, metrology laboratories or materials manufacturers ...
- **26 % were issued from big national and international institutions:** national laboratories of great European countries, Government Officials, accreditation institutions, international organisations...
- **10 % are from the university or the research field,**
- 5 % for miscellaneous (hospitals, training organisation, free lance, press..)

The Congress offered many new features this year including:

- 6 round tables running over the full course of the congress with current hot topics discussed in the field of Business Management, Environmental and Health Issues, and Future prospects for wireless equipment...
- **Best Conference Prize** awarded to Mr. Lübbehüsen of GE Sensing and **Best Conference Poster Prize** awarded to Mrs. Goyon of BIPM,
- Business Sessions providing live discussions in the conference room between service providers/manufacturers and participants,
- Lunches in the form of standing buffet allowed easy interaction and discussion among participants, although some were a bit nostalgic for the classic sitting format!
- Thursday event was very much appreciated, and exhibitors stayed until the end and attended the 4.00 pm closing party.

For the first time, we may also have found the proper balance in contents. Indeed at closing time, "scientists" said they had found this event too "industrial"; and on the other hand, "manufacturers" said that the event was too ... "science" oriented! In regard to the selection of topics discussed, generally participants found that the programme was quite exhaustive, varied and "very attractive", although some topics were missing as is inevitably the case!

The organisation committee had also some tough challenges to face this year, including keeping registration fees unchanged at 2007 price level, which involved making some difficult decisions in organisational matters. But they showed real maturity and management skill, building on experience with previous events. In fact their goal was to make the event available to the widest audience, in spite of the current budget restrictions prevailing in most companies today.

The International Metrology Congress, with this year's event held in Paris for greater appeal and with a large international audience is now held in high esteem by our European partners. Many prospects and opportunities for new future developments are now open, both in France and abroad.

The Collège Français de Métrologie, as the main operator, is aware of the high expectations such event has raised, and will spend the needed time and effort to study such new opportunities. A warm thank you to all the organisations and partners for supporting the Congress:

- The Organisation Committee members: Acac, BEA Metrologie, BIPM, Cetiati, Cetim, EA, Euramet, Eurocopter-Group EADS, IMQ, Insa of Lyon, LNE, NPL, OIML and Renault,
- The Premium Sponsors: Stork Intermeas and Hexagon Metrology,
- The technical Partners: Endress & Hauser and Trescal,
- The Institutions : the French Ministry for Industry, Economy and Finance, the French Ministry for Culture and the Ile-de-France Region.