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3. Informatics in Structural Engineering Bergamo, Italy, October 6-8, 1982

IABSE and its Working Commission VI "Informatics in Structural Engineering" are organising the colloquium, in cooperation and with the support of ISMES, in Bergamo, Italy, October 6-8, 1982.

Objectives

The explosive development in the use of computers in structural engineering — as in many other fields — has not been accompanied by proper means for validation and qualification. Many problems such as inadequate education of engineers and discussion on responsibility in interpreting results of computer analyses have arisen.

Structural engineers must consider these matters seriously if they wish to avoid solutions imposed on them by people or agencies operating outside the field of structural engineering.

It is the objective of this colloquium to give to a limited number of persons involved in structural engineering and using the powerful hardware and software offered by the electronic data processing industry the opportunity to discuss different aspects of the present developments and to contribute to a better use of informatics in structural engineering.

Participation

Participation will be limited to a total of 40 persons. Personal invitations will be sent out. Participation is also open to a limited number of further participants.

More details: IABSE
International Association for
Bridge and Structural Engineering
ETH-Hönggergerg
CH-8093 Zurich, Switzerland

Technical Sessions

Session 1 and 2 — New applications of informatics in the construction industry

All modes of computer applications in structural engineering practice other than structural analysis. For example: Computer-aided design; drafting; preparation of a list of materials; costing; project organization and scheduling; data acquisition during construction; long-term surveillance.

Session 3 — Impact of new hardware and software technology

Impact of new hardware technology on structural computing (interactivity, minis, micros, distributed computing, networking, array and parallel processing). Impact of new software technology. Evaluation of software application.

Session 4 — Technical and legal responsibility associated with structural computations. Quality assurance procedures

Quality assurance of "mammoth" analyses (date validation, interpretation of results). Reliability of nonlinear computations. Unsatisfactory case histories. Interaction between computing and building codes. Relative responsibilities of the designer and of the structural analyst.

Session 5 — Education and computer-based structural analysis and design

How to teach the new discipline and how to use new techniques to teach old disciplines. Qualification of the stress analyst (academic background, professional developments, licensing etc.).