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5. Second East Asia-Pacific Conference on Structural Engineering and Construction (EASEC-2) Chiang Mai, Thailand, January 11 – 13, 1989

The Second East Asia-Pacific Conference on Structural Engineering & Construction (EASEC-2) under the Conference theme – **Achievements, Trends and Challenges**, was organized by Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in cooperation with Chiang Mai University, Engineering Institute of Thailand and University of Tokyo, during 11-13 January 1989 at Chiang Mai, under the auspices of International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE) and 15 professional associations from 13 countries in Asia-Pacific region. It is the second Conference in the series after the successful first EASEC Conference in Bangkok in 1986, initiated by a group of well known structural engineers in this region led by Prof. Fumio Nishino, a former AIT's Vice President for Academic Affairs.

The objective of the Conference is to provide a forum for professional structural engineers, researchers, and academicians working in Asia and the Pacific Region for mutual interchange of views and awareness of new tools and technology for implementation in professional application.

The EASEC-2 Conference was attended by more than 350 participants from 33 countries in and outside the Asia-Pacific region. Twelve guest papers and 262 contributed papers on subject areas within the broad fields of structural engineering and construction, and in a tone related to the Conference theme, were presented during the Conference. These papers are published in the 3 volumes of the Conference Proceedings. The are grouped into 14 subject areas, namely:

- Analytical Methods
- Composite Structures
- Computer-Aided Engineering, Expert Systems & Computer Software
- Concrete Structures & Technology
- Construction Techniques & Management

- Experimentation & Instrumentation
- Foundation and Related Substructures
- Innovative and Large Structures
- Long-Span Bridges
- New Construction Materials & Products
- Numerical & Computational Approach
- Stability, Strength & Steel Structures
- Structural Design, Reliability and Optimization
- Structural Dynamics & Earthquake Engineering.

Presided over the Opening Ceremony to deliver a keynote speech was one of the most prominent AIT's alumni, H. E. Dr. Subin Pinkayan, Minister of Commerce. In his speech, Dr. Subin stressed on important role of structural and construction engineers in the Asia-Pacific Century to come, who must continue to cope with the vast expansion of infrastructures in support to the industries, as well as to help minimize and shorten the disruption of such growth by natural disasters.

In the official meeting of the EASEC International Steering Committee during the Conference, Shanghai was confirmed as the venue for the EASEC-3 in late April 1991, and will be organized by Tongji University in cooperation with China Civil Engineering Society (CCES). The International Steering Committee has also acknowledged receiving proposal to organize EASEC-4 in Seoul in 1992 and endorsement was given, although final confirmation will be made during the EASEC-3 Conference.

The EASEC-2 Conference came to an end after the three days of high spirit among structural and construction engineers in and outside the Asia-Pacific region. They vowed to meet again in Shanghai, 1991.

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