

Introduction

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As one of the Special Events prepared during the 10WCEE, on Wednesday 23 July a meeting was held to present and discuss the Eurocode nº 8 "Aseismic Design of Structures".

The organizer was Prof. T. P. Tassios from Athens Technical University in cooperation with Prof. E. Alarcón from Universidad Politécnica de Madrid as the local coordinator. Initially, only 50 personal invitations to attend the meeting were issued. However, the interest the subject aroused was so great that the Session had to be transformed into an event open to all interested participants. Thus, it was possible to enjoy the presence of a large number of qualified experts, practitioners and applied scientists.

The Session was organized as a series of short presentations according to the following program:

I. OPENING

E. Alarcón: "Welcome address and scope"

II. INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATIONS

T.P. Tassios: "History, character and contents of EC8"

P. Pinto: "Input data and analysis"

E. Carvalho: "Aseismic design of buildings"

E. Keintzel: "Reinforced concrete buildings"

G. Sedlacek: "Steel structures"

T. Paulay: Invited comments, New Zealand

R. Park: Invited comments, New Zealand

P. Gergely: Invited comments, USA

III. DISCUSSION

Pre-announced discussion (made known to the Organiser before the Session)

Free discussion from the floor

Later on, an animated discussion started with active participation of the audience, which highlighted the complexity of the new Code as well as the discrepancies existing inside the scientific community concerning the Code contents.

The meeting lasted four hours in spite of the fact that several announced speakers were unable to participate. This shows both the interest of the subject and the controversial character of the Eurocode and its current composition.