An Amazing Congress!

It proposed 30 presentations with speakers coming from 12 different countries and a total of 35 technical posters. Yves Morin, President, and Françoise Nicolas, General Secretary of the UITIC, as well as the Executive Committee, would like to thank everyone involved for this successful event:
• The attendees, first of all, for their presence and their active involvement,
• The presenters and speakers,
• Kenmore Shoes, BBK Leathers Private Ltd. And KH Group for organizing the factory visits,
• The sponsors of the congress.

They would like to specially thank the CLE for its major contribution to the success of this congress. CLE provided a strong support organizing this event under the Presidency of Rafeeque Ahmed, Chairman of CLE, Aqeel Ahmed, Convener of the Congress and Regional Chairman of CLE, and Ramesh Kumar, Executive Director of CLE.

The pictures and the different presentations of the Congress are available on the UITIC website: www.uitic.org

UITIC News
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During the 18th Congress UITIC in Guangzhou (China) in 2013, I recalled that the footwear industry had a "promising future", which was notably confirmed by world production in 2014 exceeded 24 billion pairs of shoes, an increase of 8%. Our 19th Congress will be an opportunity to present actionable insights that help define the contours of the "Future Footwear Factory" to accompany this growth.

Innovation, technology, automatic machines are present in our workshops and long, this is so for example with computer-aided design, digital cutting or robotic gluing and many other developments specific to each business. But other major changes are in preparation and will change the entire supply chain, that is to say both the way we design, manufacture and sell shoes. The new technologies of information, corporate social responsibility or the distribution on the internet, generate greater responsiveness, flexibility and more communication between customers and suppliers, in order to attract ‘connected’ consumers, in ever more demanding markets.

I hope that the broad panel of selected presentations will gauge the progress made and identify the ones you want to implement in your plants in the coming years. We must think big, we must look ahead and plan for the future if we want to be an industry capable of attracting skilled workers tomorrow, in modern factories which have nothing to envy to other industrial sectors.

Company visits, quality and diversity of speakers and visual presentations in the form of posters, experts from some twenty countries are originality of our UITIC Congress and explain its growing success for 44 years. On behalf of the UITIC, I warmly thank the teams who have worked in the preparation of this Congress, including members of our Scientific Committee and the Council for Leather Exports, without whom nothing would have been possible.

I also hope that this 19th Congress is an opportunity for each of you, to discover or rediscover India, its culture and history so prestigious, but also its footwear industry that ranks second in the world with a production of 2 billion pairs a year, and this will make you want to practice the "Make in India".
Portugal, Romania and United Kingdom) and were distributed on the following themes:

1. A manufacturing based on the needs of the consumers;
2. Intelligent Factory and Smart Supply Chain;
3. Sustainability and Regulatory Trends impacting on Factories;
4. Attractive Footwear Factories and New Way of Management.

On the 4th of February, the official kick-off of the Congress was given with an opening ceremony beginning with a message of welcome with Jayne Esteve Curé of the agency Jayne Fashion, followed by several official speeches and by rites such as the "Invocation" or still "the Lighting of the Lamp ".

In introduction of the congress, Jayne Estève Curé and Sergio Dulio proposed a presentation titled "From the millenial fashion consumer to the millenial footwear factory " in which Jayne Estève Curé painted a portrait of the consumers' new generation underlining that "physical" stores had a major role to play next to the digital channels to put the consumer at the heart of their strategy, by entering into a direct relationship with the consumers' new generation. Sergio Dulio ended their presentation declaring that the Factory of the Future would need: an intelligent automation; of less specialized, more multi-purpose(versatile) machines; of flexibilityRFID for the marking and the screening and of new tools of CAD for new products.

**HIGH-QUALITY PRESENTATIONS**

The theme of the first session of the Congress was "A Manufacturing based on the needs of the consumers". It was chaired by Ms Satyam Srivastava, Footwear Design and Development Institute(FDDI), India and Mr Uwe Thamm, ISC, Germany.

The introductory presentation in this session was made by Mr Claude Eric Paquin of the French Footwear Federation, France, who proposed the following conference “Consumers are always right, but do they really know what is right for them? How can a shoe company work under such uncertainties?”

The second session was about the "Intelligent Factory and Smart Supply Chain". It was chaired by Mr Ricardo Guerra Sanchez from CIATEC, Mexico and Dr Bhabendra Nath Das from CSIR-CLRI, India.

Mr Cesar Oqigles from INESCOP, Spain made the introductory presentation on “Footwear and Technology Base”.

The third day of the Congress, the third session was about “Sustainability and Regulatory Trends impacting on Factories” and it was chaired by Mr Leandro de Melo from Centro Tecnologico Do Calçado De Portugal and Mr Sergio Dulio from ATOMLab, Italy.

The introductory presentation in this session was made by Ms Dorothy Adolf from Deichmann, Germany who spoke on “Transparency in the Supply Chain-the expectations of the Consumers and NGO’s”.

The fourth and last session was about the “Attractive Footwear Factories and New Way of Management”. This Session was chaired by Ms Francois Nicolas from CTC, France and Mr Miguel Angel Martinez from INESCOP, Spain.

Dr Ferenc Schmel from TECHNORG, Hungary made the introductory presentation with his conference about the “Human Drive of the Future Shoe Industry”.

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Find all the presentations & pictures on www.uitic.org
UITIC Awards

- **Ferenc Schmell**
  A scientific & technical award had been given to Ferenc Schmel, consultant, Hungary, for his commitment, throughout the years, in the improvement of the competitiveness of the footwear companies.

- **Andreas Tepest**
  A scientific & technical award had been given to Andreas Tepest, Deichmann, Germany, for his commitment to the promotion of sustainability in the Footwear industry and the actions he has made to implement sustainability in the companies.

- **Shri T. Loganathan**
  The Best Visual Poster award had been given to Shri T.Loganathan, a student at M.Tech (Footwear Science and Engineering, CSIR-CLRI, Anna University) for his presentation on the "Biodegradability Study of Footwear Soiling Materials".

Minutes of UITIC General Assembly

UITIC General Assembly had been held on the 4th of February 2016 as part of the congress in Chennai.

The meeting schedule was the following:

**Approval of the last UITIC General Assembly**
The members approved the minutes of the last meeting held on the 2013 in Ghangzou.

**Report of the President**
The President Yves Morin made his report and reminded to the participants the main tasks led by UITIC during the past three years.

**Report of the Treasurer**
Miguel Angel Martinez, in replacement of Enrique Montiel, who quitted the Association in 2015, informed the attendees about balances of the UITIC’s accounts and released the entire financial documents.

**New members for the Executive Committee**
Following the President's proposal, three new members entered the UITIC Executive Committee:
- Andrés Tespest, Germany;
- Miguel Angel Martinez, Spain;
- William Wong, Hong Kong.

**Next UITIC Congress**
This meeting also recorded the election of the organizing country of the 20th Congress. Portugal and Colombia were both candidates to the organization.

The application of Portugal, presented by the CTCP, by the voice of Leandro de Melo, his Director, and by APICAPS (Portuguese Footwear, Components and Leather Goods Manufacturers’ Association, based in Porto), obtained all the votes facing the Chamber of Commerce of Bogota, Colombia.

During the gala dinner of the Congress, the Executive committee was proud to announce that the next congress would be held in Portugal in spring 2018.

Save the date

See you at the next UITIC’s Congress

IN PORTUGAL, SPRING 2018
UITIC INFORMATION

New UITIC Executive Committee

The current UITIC Executive Committee consists of:

President                Yves MORIN        France
Vice-president           J. Leandro De MELO  Portugal
Treasurer                Miguel Angel MARTINEZ Spain
General Secretary        Françoise NICOLAS  France
Members
Sergio DULIO            Italy
Ricardo J. GUERRA SANCHEZ Mexico
V.B. PARVATIKAR          India
Andreas TEPEST          Germany
Uwe THAMM               Germany
Abdessatar TOUMI         Tunisia
William WONG            Hong Kong
Li YUZHONG              China

Welcome to the New EC members:
Miguel Angel MARTINEZ, Subdirector of the Spanish Footwear Technology Institute (INESCOP).
Andreas TEPEST, Head of Global Quality Management of the DEICHMANN SE, Europeans leading retailer for shoes.
William WONG, Founder of Goddess International Limited, Executive Vice Chairman of the Federation of Hong Kong Brands.

Welcome to the New Members

Following the Congress, UITIC has had the pleasure to welcome 5 new members coming from 4 different countries.
Let's welcome:

Association of Managers & Experts of Iranian Shoe Industry, ASSOMES from Iran
Central Footwear Training Institute of Chennai, CFTI from India

Leather Engineers and Technologists Society, LETSB from Bangladesh
TK Footwear Ltd from Bangladesh
ATOMLab, from Italy

The next UITIC News will be the opportunity to introduce them more precisely.

Pay your membership fees online!

Paying your membership is important to ensure the quality of UITIC activities.
For the first time, the membership fees can be paid online by PayPal, credit or debit card, via a safe and secure system. You can also pay by bank transfer or cheque: more details at www.uitic.org.

Fees:
- Associations: €65 per group of 100 members / €195 maximum
- Individuals & Technical Centres: €25
FIND ALL THE PRESENTATIONS & PICTURES of the 19th congress on www.uitic.org