



International Federation of Surveyors
Fédération Internationale des Géomètres
Internationale Vereinigung der Vermessungsingenieure
Commission 5
Positioning and Measurement (2002-2006)
www.fig.net/figtree/commission5

Dear Colleague,

I am writing to you on behalf of the FIG Commission 5 Steering Committee, which is made up of myself (as Chair) along with the Vice Chairs (Chairs of the Working Groups) and the Vice Chair for Administration. You are receiving this as a national delegate or correspondent member of Commission 5 for your country.

This newsletter reports on recent events involving FIG Commission 5 and progress with the establishment of a new Joint Working Group. The newsletter also outlines future events involving FIG Commission 5.

7th South East Asian Survey Congress Hong Kong, SAR China, November 2003

The Chair of Commission 5 and the Vice Chair Administration attended the Congress where several Technical Sessions were sponsored by Commission 5. Two FIG Vice Presidents and two other Commission Chairs were also present, which enabled several FIG meetings and workshops to be held. A full report on the event is now available at: <http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission5/>

The FIG Regional Conference in Morocco, December 2003

Commission 5 had very successful involvement in the FIG Regional Conference in Morocco in November 2003. Commission 5 was represented by all Working Group Chairs. A report on the event, written by Dan Schnurr (Chair of Working Group 5.4) is now available on the Commission 5 web site at: <http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission5/>

United Nations Workshop on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) in Vienna, Austria

The Chair of Commission 5 attended this workshop representing FIG.

- A major outcome from the week was the proposal for the establishment of the International Committee on GNSS (ICG) under the auspices of the UN. For the first time in the more than 40 years history of GNSS, the ICG will allow organised, global input by civilians. The ICG will include strong representation from the Surveying, Mapping and Earth Sciences community.
- The UN deliberately involved people from developing countries in this process (including from many Surveying and Mapping organisations). This proved very beneficial in ensuring the recommendations really did address the needs of developing countries. Also, in working sessions, people from developing countries worked directly with office bearers in relevant international organisations, which was of benefit to both parties.

A full report on the event is now available at: <http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission5/>

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New Joint Working Group Aimed at the Needs of Developing Countries

Working Group 5.4 on Cost Effective Surveying Technology and Techniques for Developing Countries is now up and running. It is a Joint Working Group between Commissions 3, 5 and 7, with Commission 5 responsible for leadership. The draft Work Plan for Working Group is available at: <http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission5/>. People interested in participating should contact the Chair of the Joint Working Group.

9th International Symposium on Mobile Mapping Technology, Kuming, China, March, 2004.

This event is sponsored through Working Group 5.3 and is also co-sponsored by IAG and ISPRS. Details are available at: <http://www.geoict.net/mmt2003/index.htm>

FIG Working Week in Athens, Greece May 22 - 27, 2004

The FIG Working Week 2004 will be held in Athens, Greece in May 2004. Commission 5 delegates will be interested in plans for keynote speeches by the Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs and by the President on the International Association of Geodesy.

Commission 5 is responsible for the following sessions in the technical symposium, with more than 30 papers:

- TS3 Standards, Quality Assurance and Calibration
- TS7 Reference Frame in Practice
- TS11 Positioning and Measurement Technologies and Practices I – GNSS Networks
- TS26 Positioning and Measurement Technologies and Practices II – Laser Scanning and Photogrammetry
- TS29 Positioning and Measurement Technologies and Practices III – Applications and Processing

Commission 5 is also involved in the following joint sessions:

- TS13 Appropriate Technologies for Good Land Administration I
- WSH3 – Vertical Reference Frame & Marine Construction/Dredging

During the Working Week there will also be a meeting of Commission 5 open to all interested parties.

All national delegates and correspondent members of the Commission are encouraged to attend the Working Week, which is at the half way point of the current Work Plan period (2002 to 2006).

More information is available at <http://www.fig2004.gr> and technical program at: www.fi.net/figtree/athens

FIG Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific, 3-7 October, 2004, Jakarta, Indonesia

The FIG Regional Conference for 2004 will concentrate on the Asia Pacific region and will be in Jakarta, Indonesia in October. Plans are already progressing and more information can be found at: www.fig.net/figtree/jakarta

Conclusion

The Vice Chairs and myself look forward to your continued involvement in FIG Commission 5.

Your sincerely

Matt Higgins, Chair FIG Commission 5

27 January 2004
