



**Minutes of the IULTCS Executive Committee Meeting
9th March 2009 at 12:30 hrs
Leather Tanning School Reutlingen
Reutlingen, Germany.**

Minutes of Executive Committee meeting

The Executive Secretary called the meeting to order at 14.00 hrs.

1. Attendees

Elton Hurlow (President), Dr Campbell Page (Secretary-Treasurer), Dr Bi Shi, Su Chaoying, Dr Volkan Candar, Joan Carles Castell, Dr Heinz-Peter Germann, Dr Michael Meyer, Dr S Rajamani.

Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from: Marc Folachier (Past-President), Patricia Casey, Dr Domenico Castiello, Dr Jeffrey Guthrie-Strachan, Arnab Jha, Daniel Sánchez, Katia Streit, Doug Tabor, Ricardo Weiss and Mike Wilson.

Dr Heinz-Peter Germann welcomed the EC members to the Leather Tanning School (LGR) in Reutlingen. The LGR School started in 1954 and has 20 full time staff. LGR educates and trains leather technicians and technical engineers for the leather industry, providing training for the apprenticeship and the Master Craftsman qualifications. Since the start of the new school year in Sept. 2008 this job title is now called Process Manager.

All courses are now in German and English. By working together with the University of Northampton, the students can take a one year course there and graduate with a Bachelors degree.

The heart of the technical training at LGR are the tannery facilities. Other important parts of LGR are the testing facilities and the undertaking of publicly funded R&D projects.

2. Minutes of the last Executive Committee meeting, 8th October 2008 in Rio de Janiero

These had been circulated previously and there being no amendments, the minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Action items

The separate list of action items established at the last meeting was reviewed - most items have been satisfactorily progressed.

4. President's Report

Although often thought of as counter-cyclical to the general economy, the global leather industry has proven to be not immune to the current financial crisis that is sweeping the world. The downturn in tannery business is linked directly to the slowdown in spending on leather articles at retail, and complicated within the supply chain by a lack of access to credit and a build-up of inventories. As hide and skin supply is relatively inelastic, excess availability has resulted in a large drop in prices and there are reports of tanners walking away from contracts. With overpriced inventories sitting on the floor there are rumours of pending bankruptcies, layoffs and short time. This is affecting all leather segments. It is hard to be optimistic about the industry at this time. You may also be asking why I am commenting on economic conditions as this is not part of a technical organization's mandate.

We are all ultimately affected by the economic success or failure of our industry. The stresses of economic cycles work to weed out the weak and the survivors come out the other side stronger and better positioned to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the marketplace. The leather industry will survive this cycle. As economic cycles do not impact the physical and technical processes required to make good leathers, there is every reason for the IULTCS to continue promoting its agenda that seeks to raise technical standards, improve process technology from a cost, quality and environmental viewpoint, and improve technical communication through the supply chain. Although there may be some cutbacks in budgets, there is no reason to cut back on the scope of our work, our plans, and our organization's objectives.

Let me report briefly on some global activities.

I must comment again on the excellent organization, participation and execution of the XVII Latin American Congress which was held in Rio under the auspices of the IULTCS last year. A number of our IU executive members were present and participated in this enjoyable event. I can also report on:

1. A global EC teleconference meeting was held in December to assist development of our newer commissions. Commission chairs discussed their goals and needs and called for greater participation. The individual attention of all EC members to continue this support is critical. Separate minutes were issued on this call.
2. The IUR list of research institutes is now active on the web
3. The IUL has issued a number of news releases which have been covered by the global leather media – copies are on our web site.
4. All the IU commissions are active and our regional associations are functioning well. We recognize the 40th anniversary celebrations of the Tunisian CNCC this past January.
5. A promotional brochure for the IULTCS has now been developed and awaits your input and comment.

Other comments will be made as we cover items in the agenda. I must however express my gratitude to the 30th IULTCS organizing committee for their excellent communication and hard work on preparations for the main event this year which will be the Global Congress in Beijing in October.

A sincere note of appreciation to those who are attending this EC meeting, thanks to Dr. Germann and his staff for allowing us to use the LGR facilities, and I look forward to a solid “working session” in which I hope we get much accomplished.

5. Secretary/Treasurers Report

a) Membership & Subscriptions

The Secretary reported to the meeting that he had just today received the good news that Mexico have paid their 2008 and 2009 subscription. This means for 2008 that all active members have paid their subscriptions. The invoices for 2009 have recently been sent out and the first payments have arrived.

In answer to a question from Dr Germann, the Secretary reported the Membership subscriptions for 2009 are unchanged at the USD \$230 per Membership level. However, for those paying in Euro this could mean a small increase due to the change in USD to EUR exchange rate from 2008 to 2009. The IULTCS sets its subscriptions based on US dollars.

b) Financial accounts for 2008 and Budget for 2009

As is usual at the March Executive meeting, the Secretary reviewed in detail the previous financial year (2008) and presented the Budget for this year (2009).

In 2008, due to lower than budgeted costs, the IULTCS had a good surplus of 3988 EUR. See the 2008 financial accounts and 2009 Budget table below for a summary of the results. The Secretary noted that the matter of the FLAQTIC Congress fees is still open. So that the 2008 accounts can be compared with the Budget for 2008, the summary for 2008 includes 2 items which occurred in 2009, namely the Mexico payment and the Secretary Honoraria expense.

The Budget for 2009 foresees the income and costs balancing each other. Compared with 2008 there is planned an increase in costs of approx. 3500 EUR. The largest part is a provision for the 2 yearly audit of the IULTCS accounts, as required by our Statutes. In addition the IULTCS Merit Award and provision for some promotion material are extra costs planned for 2009.

The Executive Committee unanimously approved the 2008 accounts summary and also unanimously approved the proposed Budget for 2009.

Detailed summary of the 2008 financial accounts and 2009 Budget

The proposed Budget for 2009 is presented in Euros, since our current bank account operates in Euros. However, as the IULTCS uses USD as it's reference currency, key items are also listed in US dollars (in brackets) and the corresponding USD:EUR exchange rates at the year end 2007 and 2008 are given in the table.

US\$	2008		Proposed Budget 2009
	BUDGET EUR (USD)	ACTUAL EUR (USD)	BUDGET EUR (USD)
INCOME			
Subscriptions	5850 (8800)	5995*	5800
Advertising & Others	2500 (3750)	3240	2500
Congress Fees	1300 (2000)	- **	2100
Bank Interest	0 (0)	107	100
TOTAL	9650 (14550)	9342	10500 (14790)
EXPENSES			
Secretary Honoraria	2560 (3850)	3020 (3850) ***	2800 (3850)
Secretary Expenses	465 (700)	16	200
Secretary Travel	2330 (3500)	1560	2000
Exec. Committee Travel	330 (500)	-	350
Accountant Fees (Audit)	-	-	2500
Bank Charges + Tax	235 (350)	58	150
IULTCS Awards	-	-	570 (800)
Website Maintenance	1000 (1500)	700	1200
Gifts	-	-	200
Publicity / promotion	-	-	500
TOTAL	6920 (10400)	5354	10470 (14750)
RESULT	2730 (4150)	3988	30 (42)
<i>Exchange rate(USD to EUR)</i>	<i>31.12.2007 0.665</i>		<i>31.12.2008 0.710</i>

* includes 186 EUR received in Mar. 2009

** FLAQTIC Congress fees still open

*** paid Feb. 2009

Current subscriptions are \$230 USD per membership level. To date all members are nominally in 4 membership levels, namely: 0 – 200; 200 – 300; 300 – 400 and 400 – 500 members. Our Internal Regulations has higher membership levels, but it has been the practice over the last years to only use these 4 levels.

Several Member Societies have reported in the last year that they have fewer members and have now dropped to lower Membership levels. As long as the banner advertising brings in a reasonable sum per

year, the current subscription levels along with Congress fees are enough for the IULTCS to balance its accounts.

The Secretary proposed that in future we simplify our Internal Regulations to having just 4 membership levels, the highest being re-named to “400 and above members”. The Executive Committee discussed this briefly, noting that the case of multi-country Member Societies may need to be re-considered if Members grew.

The Secretary proposed that we actively encourage more interested groups to use the option to become Associate Members. We have been approached in 2008 by a Test Institute in Hong Kong to join IULTCS as an Associate Member. In countries or regions where there is no direct Membership of a Member Society possible, the IULTCS can offer the Associate Membership for leather interest groups (but not individuals). The Secretary asked that he could follow up such requests directly, offering Associate Membership. The option of Associate Members could help to give a wider range of leather interest groups access to the IULTCS. The Executive Committee approved encouraging more Associate Members from non-Member countries.

Advertising

The income from advertising Banners on the IULTCS website is a very important income source for IULTCS. Even though we asked EC Members for help with finding more sponsors there has disappointingly been no response. Luckily in 2008 we could retain the 6 sponsors we already had from 2007, but with the difficult financial situation globally we will struggle to keep web sponsors in 2009.

We again ask each Region to try and help with obtaining web banner Sponsoring Members for IULTCS. At 500 EUR per year the banner advertising on the IULTCS website is very attractively priced. It would be great if we could add 1 or 2 advertisers!

Assets

As of the 31st December 2008 the financial assets of IULTCS were as follows:

- UBS Investment Fund & Saving Account:	87611 CHF	(US \$82792)
- Bank of Ireland Investment Fund:	15050 GBP	(US \$21792)
- Current Account:	22079 EUR	(US \$31131)

At the end of 2008 the global financial crisis problems were also evident in the Investment Funds that IULTCS has. The UBS Fund decreased by 13% in CHF value during 2008. The Bank of Ireland investment remained constant in GBP value, but decreased during 2008 by approx. 30% in US\$ value due to the large change in GBP to USD exchange rate. By keeping the current bank account in EUR at a reasonably high level we could reduce some of the finance market currency fluctuations.

6. Activity reports from the Regions

The President asked that each Regional Representative add an “Executive Summary” at the start of the reports so these can be added directly into the minutes and the full report can then be included as an Annex.

a) Eastern Europe

Michael Meyer reported that he has made personal contact with several people in the Eastern Europe region. None of the countries have associations of leather technologists and it is difficult to see how to bring them into the IULTCS network. In some countries like Poland and Russia there is a problem to have people speaking other languages. In the Czech Republic there is no longer a leather institute. In Ukraine and the Baltic countries there are individual people working on leather but usually within textile or engineering departments of institutes and universities.

In Rumania, the ICPI held their successful Congress in October 2008, with approx. 100 people attending. Interesting papers on leather, collagen and textiles were presented. Michael reported this Congress is growing and attendances are increasing each time.

b) Central Europe

Heinz-Peter Germann reported that the German Society, VGCT, had its 2008 meeting in conjunction with the Annual Industry Seminar at Reutlingen and approx. 120 people attended.

For 2009 the VGCT meeting will be held in Eisenach on the 7th – 8th May and they expect approx. 80 people.

The 2009 Annual Industry Seminar at Reutlingen will take place in the 3 days following this EC meeting. Some 15 nationalities and 100 people have registered to attend. Also in Reutlingen the VGCT technical committees for leather auxiliaries and leather testing methods will hold their meetings.

Heinz-Peter reported that in 2008 he had attended a VÖLT meeting in Austria. It was held at a tannery close to Linz. Currently VÖLT is not an IULTCS member.

c) Northern Europe (see Annex C for the full report)

Jeffrey Guthrie-Strachan commented as follows:

The SLTC has been upgrading their website and is now offering the JSLTC in an E-journal format.

The 2008 SLTC Conference was successful, with Christine Powley-Williams to be the next President of the SLTC.

The SLTC (South African Section) had a successful 2008 Conference and are looking to see how they can work closer with the SLTC parent body.

The NLFK (Norway, Sweden, Denmark) decided to terminate at their last meeting. The Nordic Leather Research Council (NLRC) had a meeting in Luleå, Sweden in May 2008. It is being investigated how the individuals in the NLFK can have memberships through the SLTC or direct memberships to the IULTCS.

d) Latin Europe

Dr Domenico Castiello reported as follows:

AICC - Italy

In the first two months of year 2009, AICC is working for the organization of the annual meeting of the associated members, that this year will re-elect the board of directors. This meeting will be held in March 2009 in concomitance with a National Congress of leather experts.

Each district (Tuscany, Campania and Veneto) will organize their own Congress as every year.

AICC is also working for publicize itself beyond the associated to try to collect more associated members.

AQEIC – Spain (see Annex C for the full report of AQEIC)

AQEIC have been busy with their local conference and preparations for the Valencia IULTCS Congress. Environmental issues and REACH are key topics of interest. The Chair of the IUC Commission, Joan Carles Castell, now comes from AIICA in Spain.

DETEK - Turkey

Ergun Utku from DETEK (Turkish Leather Technologist and Chemist Society) reported that during the period of October 2008 – December 2008 they realized the following activities:

- In October they organized a panel discussion with Ekoteks Laboratory on “Importance of sectoral requirement and leather standard methods to define: Solutions from producer to user”.
- The Executive Committee participated in a workshop (full weekend), namely “Search for new knowledgeable approaches on Leather Technology within Education and the Sector” in October 2008.
- Preparation of 2013 IULTCS Turkey Leather Congress.
- DETEK have participated the Istanbul Leather Fair in December 2008

e) China, Korea & Japan

Dr Bi Shi reported it is difficult to get contacts with leather technologists in South Korea. He asked anyone who had contacts to let him know.

In China much of the university R&D work is focussed on green technology. Some 200 people attended a “green” conference on leather chemistry.

In the current economic climate the Government is supporting investment in natural industries, especially those industries that offer jobs for the people. This means they are encouraging use of leather as a finished product (e.g., shoes and hand bags), but not necessarily the tanning of leather as it can create environmental problems. It is difficult to convince authorities that the tanning of leather can be non-polluting.

f) North America

Elton Hurlow reported the sad news that 2 important people in the USA leather industry, Bill Boyko and Dr Dennis Shelley have recently died. Both have been active in ALCA.

The ALCA will be holding its annual Conference in Wheeling, West Virginia on the 18th - 21st June. Further details are on the ALCA website, www.leatherchemists.org.

7. Progress reports for IULTCS Congresses (see Annex A for a full report)

XXX IULTCS Congress – Beijing, China, 11th – 14th Oct. 2009

Su Chaoying reported that the organisation for the 30th IULTCS Congress is well in hand. The full details of the Congress information can be seen on the Congress website, (www.chinaleather.org/iultcs).

A summarised report of the preparations for the Beijing Congress is given here. In **Annex A** is a detailed report of the preparations.

1. Registration

The registration form with registration fee and payment method including credit card payment has been confirmed and put on the website.

Many people attending will need to obtain an entry visa for China. People from some countries will need a letter of invitation and the CLIA can provide this.

2. Hotels

Beijing International Hotel was chosen as main venue of the Congress. The attendees are recommended to stay in this hotel. Room rates are from 850 CNY (approx. 95 EUR) and all related information including the Reservation Form is available on the web site.

Two additional 3 star hotels with 10-15 minutes walking distance to the Beijing International Hotel are also recommended to attendees for their choice. Information on these two hotels is available on the web site.

3. Social events

5 tours representing Beijing’s history and traditional culture have been confirmed.

4. Press release

A press release on preparations for the IULTCS Beijing Congress was circulated to all relative media to promote this event.

5. City tour for all participants

At the last day of the Congress, CLIA is organizing a half day city tour including the main venue of Beijing Olympic Games such as Bird’s Nest. All participants are invited to join the tour, it will be followed in the evening by a farewell banquet. This half day tour activity will have no extra cost to pay.

6. Promotional activities at the Asia Pacific Leather Fair(APLF) to be held on 31 March - 2nd April.
APLF Co., Ltd, has decided to sponsor the IULTCS Beijing Congress and will provide a stand at the APLF Fair, advertisements in the Exhibitors Directory, as well as the banner on APLF's web site for 6 months. All preparation works for this are in work at present.

The CLIA plans to visit some important countries' stands and meet with their representatives to promote Beijing Congress, those countries will include Pakistan, India, South Korea, Japan and Vietnam, etc.

The updated brochure and press release materials will be put at the Press Office.

A press conference on this year's All China Leather Exhibition will take place on the second day of the fair and this opportunity will be taken to further introduce Beijing Congress.

7. Tanning cluster visit

Xinji City, 400 kilometers away from Beijing, is one of the most important tanning clusters in China. A one day visit to Xinji City is being arranged. This visit, which will be free of charge, is scheduled on the 15 October - the day after the Congress closes.

(Please remember when planning your travel to stay the extra day after the Congress and attend this free visit to the tannery cluster in Xinji City. It will include a visit to a tannery, a shoe factory and the tannery cluster waste water treatment plant – IULTCS Secretary).

8. Brochure

The updated brochure including all above mentioned information was printed already and will be sent to all members of IULTCS soonest.

9. Tentative scheduled events

The tentative scheduled events were slightly revised. According to the schedule, the IUC/IUF/IUP commission meetings are combined as Joint Meeting. The IUE will hold it meeting separately at the start of the Congress. If the IUT/IUR/IUL commission want to hold meetings, they will need to inform the organizing committee no later than the end of May.

Mr Su Chaoying informed that the Congress website is operating (www.chinaleather.org/iultcs) and for all the latest Congress information he urged EC Members to access the website. The Congress website is also linked to the advertisement on the IULTCS website (www.iultcs.org).

Dr Bi Shi is organising the technical papers and has prepared a list of topics for technical presentations. Details of how to prepare abstracts and papers is on the Congress website. Submission of abstracts closed on the 31st March and authors of accepted papers will be notified shortly towards the end of April.

(Note added after the meeting: 294 abstracts were received, 42 oral papers have been chosen and 252 visual displays)

An overview of the schedule for the IULTCS Congress is as follows:

Sunday, Oct. 11	Registration
Monday, Oct. 12	Opening Ceremony Memorial Lecture, technical sessions and visual displays Welcome banquet
Tuesday, Oct. 13	Technical sessions & Visual displays
Wednesday, Oct. 14	Technical sessions & Visual displays Closing ceremony Tour of Beijing Farewell Banquet
Thursday, Oct 15	Tour to Xinji City tannery cluster

XXXI IULTCS Congress – Valencia, Spain – 28th – 30th Sept. 2011 (see Annex B for a detailed report)

Daniel Sánchez, chairman of the Congress organizing committee, reported all the committees have now been decided. A proposed timetable for abstracts and papers has been prepared, as well an overview of the Congress schedule is presented in Annex B.

An agreement with a professional conference organiser has been arranged and the hotel for the Congress venue has been selected.

The Congress organisers are applying to the EU to have some assistance in running the Congress.

Other Regional Conferences

Marc Folachier reported that he had attended the 40th anniversary celebrations of CNCC in Tunisia.

Elton Hurlow reported he had made inquiries about the next Asia Leather Congress, which is understood to be scheduled for India in 2010. However, to date he had been unable to find out any details. Dr Rajamani commented that he thought the Congress was being delayed because of the IULTCS Congress in Beijing in October 2009. It is possible it will now take place in January 2011. If anyone has any information or names of contact persons for the next Asia Leather Congress then Elton Hurlow would appreciate to have this information.

8. IULTCS Commission Reports

IUT Commission

Dr. Jeffry Guthrie-Strachan sent the following report:

Achieved

Findings of training needs questionnaire presented at ILF in Paris

List of training facilities presented at ILF in Paris

New Chair appointed June 2008

Current

Proposed members of the IUT Commission established after call to IULTCS Executive (attached).

Modifications to PGP proposed by President are ongoing

Planned

Target new members for commission from Americas and Far East

Establish global Education/Training facilities framework (ongoing)

Identify global Education/Training facilities (ongoing)

Identify and “validate” continuing education courses

Members of IUT

The following are Members of the IUT:

Dr Jeffry Guthrie-Strachan (Chairman), Elton Hurlow (USA), Dr Heinz-Peter Germann (Germany), Mauro Magnaguagno (Italy), Louis Olle (Spain), Rita Puig (Spain), J P Gallet (France), Dr Volkan Candar (Turkey), Prof Dr Asit Baran Mandal (India), Dr B Chandrasekaran (India), Dr Clive Jackson-Moss (South Africa), Dr Biyu Peng (China) and Dr & Miss Yan Bao (China).

IUR Commission

Volkan Candar reported that the list of leather related R&D organisations is now on the IULTCS website. Any up-dates and corrections should be reported to him and the IULTCS Secretary.

The list of chemical and machinery suppliers with leather R&D facilities needs to be updated and also added to the website.

Elton Hurlow pointed out the critical issue in R&D was the competition between leather and non-leather substrates. The critical topics for leather industry R&D priority need to be selected.

IUC, IUF and IUP Commissions

Joan Carles Castell and Campbell Page reported that since the last EC meeting there has been no meeting of the combined IUC / IUF / IUP and CEN/TC 289 technical working groups for leather test methods. The next meeting is to be held in one week after the EC meeting on the 17th March in Milan.

Elton Hurlow asked about VOC methods, especially a method to duplicate the conditions in a living area. There needs to be a chamber type of test to measure the emission of volatile substances at normal conditions and not just extreme automotive-type conditions.

[Next IUC / IUF / IUP Commission meeting: 16-17th September 2009 at SATRA in Kettering, UK.]

IUE Commission

The International Union of Environment (IUE) Commission is one of the vibrant Commissions of International Union of Leather Technologists and Chemists Societies (IULTCS) with technical member representation from more than 30 countries from the entire world Leather Sector. The Commission meets every year in one of the member countries and interacts on the environmental issues and technological solutions to tackle the pollution problems in the leather sector. The technical guidelines prepared for environmental protection aspects for the leather industry based on the field requirements and experiences in different countries is being regularly updated and disseminate through IULTCS website. The 2008 meeting of IUE Commission was held on 8th October 2008 at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil along with XVII FLAQTIC Congress. World Environmental update was presented on 10th October 2008 in the FLAQTIC Congress. The updated IUE document consists of 11 chapters starting from “IUE Recommendations on Cleaner Technologies for Leather Production” and ending with “IUE Recommendations for Occupational Health and Safety in the use of Chemicals in Tanneries”. The IUE 10: IUE document for Restricted Products in Leather” is close to being released.

Action has been initiated to draft new chapters such as sludge and unutilized solid waste management. The IUE documents are widely disseminated through IULTCS website and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) document, translation in other languages and publication through country associations, etc., on the invitation of United Nation Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). We have enrolled the IUE Commission / IULTCS with UNIDO. Dr. Campbell Page has coordinated this activity. It is proposed to make a brief presentation on the IUE Commission activities in the XXXVI Seminar Meeting “Informations –und Diskussionstagung” at the Lederinstitut Gerberschule Reutlingen, Germany during 10th to 12th March 2009.

The IUE Chairman interacts closely with China Leather Industry Association in connection with the 2009 IULTCS Congress at Beijing. The 2009 IUE Commission meeting is scheduled on 11th October 2009 at Beijing linking with XXX IULTCS Congress.

Elton Hurlow asked that the IUE 10 that is in preparation clearly identifies those substances that are forbidden by regulations and separates these from the substances that are restricted by brands and eco-labels.

IUL Commission

The new IUL Commission, with Marc Folachier as Chairman, has been busy in the last months with several information releases relating to the leather industry. This has had a very positive feed-back and the statements have been widely published in the leather journals. All of the Information releases are placed on the IULTCS homepage directly after their circulation.

The quick intervention of the IUL resulted in the withdrawal of an incorrect internet news release claiming dimethyl fumarate was used in leather manufacture and an apology for the mistake.

Following up the IUL information release on REACH, World Leather contacted IULTCS and has since published a 2 page article on REACH after a question and answer interview with the IULTCS President.

The IUL aim is to issue positive communications for the leather industry based on sound technical information.

Elton Hurlow asked on behalf of Marc Folachier that all EC Members and IULTCS Members review the list of contact people and addresses for the leather trade press and journals so that the IUL can circulate any information releases on leather as widely as possible.

10. Election of the next Vice-President

The Secretary announced the result of the vote for Vice-President; Dr Volkan Candar is elected.

Elton Hurlow congratulated Volkan and welcomed him to his new position. A news release will be issued at the time of circulating the minutes.

11. Changes to the Regional Representative structure

Elton Hurlow asked the EC Members to review his proposed changes in the draft of revised IULTCS Statutes and Internal Regulations. He wanted all to have a chance to discuss the issues.

These changes provide for a direct representative from each Members on the Executive Committee, but also allows for voluntary Regional representation with proxy voting rights if Regions so desire. The big difference is that the initiative to keep Regions will come from the Regions and is not dictated by the IULTCS.

Associate Members will be encouraged to attend EC meetings but will not have voting rights.

The plan is to present the changed EC structure for approval at the Council of Delegates meeting at the Beijing Congress.

12. IULTCS Merit Award

The Secretary had previously circulated the CVs of the 4 candidates for the IULTCS Merit Award. This time there were 4 outstanding nominations, but only one can be selected by The EC Members. Those present at the EC meeting submitted their votes for the Merit Award. A further few days was allowed for e-mail voting by those unable to attend the meeting.

[Since the EC Meeting it has been announced that **Prof. Tony Covington** has been awarded the IULTCS Merit Award. Elton Hurlow has informed him and Prof. Covington has indicated he will attend the Congress in Beijing. The IUL has made an information release and it is on the IULTCS website.]

The Merit Award will be presented at the Banquet Dinner at the end of the Congress. Elton will announce it in his speech at the opening ceremony.

13. Other business

IULTCS promotion brochure

The draft version of a “hand-out” type promotion brochure about IULTCS has been prepared by Elton Hurlow and Campbell Page. Copies were tabled for EC Members to make comments. The reaction was overall positive and it was decided to proceed with a more complete version. A good leather related photo image was needed for the front cover. Heinz-Peter Germann said LGR had had some leather industry photos professionally made and it may be possible to use one of them. Campbell commented anyone who could provide one or more good quality photos on topics relating to the leather industry would be appreciated.

Elton commented it was important that IULTCS continued to take opportunities to promote itself and make people aware of all the activities it is involved in. He welcomes IULTCS Members and Commissions submitting reports to leather trade journals to show that IULTCS was an active industry organisation.

Next ILF meeting

The proposal to hold a future ILF meeting focusing on leather in the automotive industry was still a good idea but probably not the correct time this year. Elton suggested that guidance from 2 experts in this area, Dr Schulz of FILK and Mr Lutz from BMW, could be useful.

14. Date and Location of next Executive Committee Meeting

The next IULTCS Executive Committee will be held at the next IULTCS Congress in Beijing.

Next meeting: Sunday, 11th October 2009, 13.00h, at Beijing International Hotel, Beijing, China (Please note this date in your agenda now!)

Full details will be circulated nearer the time.

At 18.30h the President thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the IULTCS Executive meeting closed.

Campbell Page
Secretary/Treasurer IULTCS
4th May 2009



Annex A

Detailed report on Preparation of 30th IULTCS Congress in Beijing

The preparation works carried out by the CLIA is as follows:

1. Registration

The registration Form with registration fee and payment method has been confirmed and put on the website. Referring to the payment by credit card, as we mentioned previously, according to the Chinese banking system, the China Leather Industry Association has not yet been authorized by the Bank Administration to receive credit card payment. To solve this problem, CLIA signed an agreement with a third party who has right to receive credit card payment and can, on behalf of CLIA, to carry out this work.

The information on credit card payment has been announced on the website.

2. Hotels

The necessary information including Reservation Form of Beijing Hotel where we recommend the participants to stay has been announced on the website. The room rates are from RMB850 per room per night (USD125.00 approx.) to RMB1750 per room per night (USD 257.00 approx.).

Besides the Beijing International Hotel, two additional 3 star hotels have been confirmed and recommended for attendees choice .The room rate are from RMB280 per room per night (USD41 approx) to RMB380 per room per night (USD56 approx.).

The time from those hotels to the Beijing Hotel is about 10-15 minutes by walking. The detailed information about the hotels has been announced on the website.

3. Social events

5 tours representing Beijing's history and traditional culture were confirmed, the information with price, brief introduction of each tour and photos has been put on the web site already.

11 Oct.,	Forbidden City – Lunch – Temple of Heaven	RMB420 (approx. USD 61.50) per person
11 – 13 Oct.	Beijing Night Show & dinner	RMB300 (approx. USD 44.00) per person
11-14 Oct.	Hutong (Traditional Alleys) Tour on Rickshaw	RMB240 (approx. USD 35.00) per person
12 Oct.	Summer Palace – Lunch – Lama Temple	RMB450 (approx. USD 66.00) per person
13 Oct.	The Great Wall – Lunch – Ming Tombs	RMB420 (approx. USD 61.50) per person
15 Oct.	Tanning cluster visit on Oct. 15 th , 2009	Free Charge

4. Press release

Thanks to the help of IUL Commission, a press release on preparation of IULTCS Beijing Congress was circulated to all relative media to promote this important event.

5.City tour for all participants

At the last day of the Congress, we are planning to organize a half day city tour, the main venue of Beijing Olympic games such as Bird's Nest would be included. All participants are invited to join the tour, a farewell banquet will be then follow. This activity will be included in the formal programme and no extra cost to pay.

6. Promotional activities at the Asia Pacific Leather Fair(APLF), 31 March - 2nd April

- We've reached an agreement with APLF Co.,Ltd, the company will sponsor the IULTCS Beijing Congress and provide a stand at the APLF Fair, advertisements in the Exhibitors Directory and as well the banner on APLF's web site for 6 month. All preparation works related are being made now.
- Further more, we are planning to visit some important countries' stands and meet with their representatives to promote Beijing Congress, those countries will include Pakistan, India, South Korea, Japan and Vietnam etc.
- The updated brochure and press release materials will be available at the Press Office.
- A press conference on this year's All China Leather Exhibition will take place on the second day of the fair, we'll take this opportunity to further introduce Beijing Congress.

7. Tanning cluster visit

Xinji City, 400 kilometers away from Beijing, is one of the most important tanning clusters in China. We are planning to arrange a one day visit to Xinji on the 15 Oct after the formal congress is completed. An initial schedule for the visit is as follows:

- 7:30am: Departure from the Hotel
7:30-11:30am: Go to Xinji by bus (approximately 4 hours)
12:00am-1:00pm: Buffet lunch in Xinji
1:30-4:30pm: Factory visit
- Dong Ming Tannery (one of the largest tanneries in China processing cow hide finished leather)
- Shoe factory invested by Taiwan
- Effluent treatment plant designed for all tanneries located in the cluster
4:40pm: Travel back to Beijing by bus

The visit will be hosted by the Administrative Committee of Xinji Tanning Cluster with free charge. It has been included in the Social Events for participants' choice. The promotional plan for this activity will be made after this meeting.

8. Brochure

The updated brochure including all above mentioned information was printed already and will be sent to all members of IULTCS soonest.

9. Sponsorship

Up to now 16 sponsorships have been confirmed. Among them, 8 are media sponsoring in exchange of advertisements.

The Italian Association of Tanning Machinery (ASSOMAC) is intending to support the Beijing Congress as a sponsorship. The discussion with ASSOMAC Beijing Office is ongoing.

10. Tentative schedule of events

The revised tentative scheduled events are mostly as same as the previous one, the major changes are as below:

- a time slot is made for Zhang Quan Memorial Lecture on the first day.
- IUL Commission meeting is involved in the Joint Meeting of several commissions to be held on the last day of the Congress.

If each commission wants to have separated meetings, it is requested to inform us no later than the end of May so that we can make arrangements accordingly and ensure meeting rooms available.

Tentative Schedule of Events

Sunday, Oct. 11

Registration	9:00 a.m. - 21:00 p.m.
IUE Commission Meeting	9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
IULTCS Executive Meeting	1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
IULTCS pre-convention meeting (organizer, executive committees, lecturers, and moderators)	3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Exhibitors set up	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 12

Opening Ceremony	8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
Heidemann Lecture	9:00 a.m. – 9:35 a.m.
Zhang Quan Memorial Lecture	9:35 a.m. - 10:10 a.m.
Intro to Visual Visual Display/Break	10:10 a.m. – 10:50 a.m.
Technical Papers	10:50 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.
Buffet Lunch	12:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Technical Papers	1:10 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.
Intro to Visual Displays/Visual Display/Break	3:10 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.
Technical Papers	3:50 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.
IULTCS Executive Committee Meeting	5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Welcome Banquet	6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct. 13

Technical Papers	8:00 a.m. – 9:40 a.m.
Intro Visual Displays/Visual Display/Break	9:40 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.
Technical Papers	10:20 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.
Buffet Lunch	12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Technical Papers	1:10 p.m. – 3:10 p.m.
Intro Visual Displays/Visual Display/Break	3:10 p.m. – 3:50 p.m.
Technical Papers	3:50 p.m. – 5:50 p.m.
Joint Meeting of IUC/IUF/IUP	6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, Oct. 14

Technical Papers	8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Intro Visual Displays/Visual Display/Break	10:00 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.
Meeting of IULTCS Council of Delegates	10:40 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.
Closing Ceremony	11:40 a.m. – 12:00 a.m.
Lunch	12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Tour of Beijing	1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.
Joint Meeting of CLIA Organizing Committee and IULTCS	6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Farewell Banquet	7:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 15

Tour to Xinji City tannery Cluster	-all day trip
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Annex B

XXXI IULTCS Congress – Valencia, Spain – 28th – 30th Sept. 2011

1- New member of the Congress Organizing Committee

Mr. Luis Labastida Azemar.

2 – Dates of Congress:

Congress: 28-30 September 2011

Final articles: May 1, 2011

Acceptance articles: March 1, 2011

Abstracts: November 1, 2010

With these dates we propose:

Abstracts: November 1, 2010. Shipment to the reviewers: November 10, 2010. Reviewers sent his opinion:

February 15, 2011. It sends decision to the authors: March 1, 2011. It received final articles: May 1, 2011.

It sends a printing program: June 15, 2011. Date to pay registration discount: June 1, 2011. Date to pay inscription "full cost": September 15, 2011.

Comments:

- It is supposed to be accepted by all the articles that have been accepted by the abstract.
- When the author sends the abstract should read if he prefers conference oral or poster.
- The reviewers recommend whether the conference abstract must be oral or poster.

The final distribution of conference oral or poster is decided by the scientific committee, to bring the program to the final number of articles. When sent acceptance of the article we will inform the author if the conference presentation will be oral or poster.

Other

- There will be entries on the spot.
- It incorporates an extended abstract (see example).
- Only bring into the agenda items accepted where an inscription paid on June 1, 2011.
- There will be a book and a CD extended abstracts of articles finals. Both will ISBN.
- We need to decide that the publisher will print.

Proposed programme:

1st day	8:30	Initiation ceremony	
	9:30	Heidemann Reading	
	10:30-11:00	Coffee Break	
	11:00 to 13:00	Oral Conferences (6 oral, 20 min)	
	13:00-14:30	Lunch work	
	14:30 to 16:30	Visual Presentations	
	16:30-17:00	Coffee Break	
	17:00 to 19:00	Oral Conferences (6 oral, 20 min)	
	2nd day	9:00	Promotion of technology transfer
		13:00-14:30	Lunch work
14:30 to 16:30		Visual Presentations	
16:30-17:00		Coffee Break	
3rd day	17:00 to 19:00	Oral Conferences (6 oral, 20 min)	
	9:00	Analysis of strategies for development cooperation	
	11:00-11:30	Coffee Break	
	11:30 to 13:30	Oral Conferences (6 oral, 20 min)	
	13:30-15:00	Lunch work	
	15:00 to 16:00	Visual Presentations	
	16:00 to 18:00	Oral Conferences (6 oral, 20 min)	
	18:00	Closing Ceremony	

Proposal posters:

The authors of the posters have 5 minutes to present his works with 2 slides The authors sent to the organization its 2 transparencies about 10 days before the congress to be loaded into the computer of the congress and the presentation can be done with sufficient fluidity

3 - Scientific Committee Final

The Scientific Committee has been finally formed by the following persons :

Chair: Prof. Dr. Luisa F. Cabeza (Spain)

Co-chair: Dr. Agustí Marsal (Spain)

Members: Dr. William Marmer (USA)

Dr. Patricia Casey (Argentina) – ExCo member

Dr. Jeffry Guthrie-Stredan (England) – ExCo member

Dr. Domenico Castiello (Italy) – ExCo member

Dr.-Ing. Heinz-Peter Germann (Germany) – ExCo member

Dr. Michael Meyer (Germany) – ExCo member

Dr. Bi Shi (China) – ExCo member

Mr. Abdessatar Toumi (Tunissia) – ExCo member

M.Sc Katia Fernanda Streit (Brasil) – ExCo member

Dr. Volkan Çandar (Turkey) – ExCo member

Dr. S. Rajamani (India) ExCo member

Dr. J. M. Morera (Spain)

Dr. Joaquim Font (Spain)

4 - Logistics Organization of Congress

Has been appointed to the company "Pacific Group" for the logistics organization of the Congress Valencia 2011.

www.pacifico-meetings.com

5 – Application to the European Union to the Organization of Congress

Has been submitted to the European Union an application for support for the Organization of Congress based on "Coordination and support action (supporting) FP7-SSH-2009-C"

6- Venue Valencia 2011

After assessing various options regarding the venue of the Congress 2011 Organizing Committee has decided to celebrate at the Barceló Hotel in the city of Valencia.

www.barcelovalencia.com

Avda Francia 11

46023 Valencia

Phone: 00 34 963 306 344

This hotel is located in the new area of Valencia, next to the City of Arts and Sciences. In its vicinity there are several hotels of different categories (3, 4 and 5 star), restaurants, cafes, shopping and entertainment that will allow those attending the Congress have different housing options.

Annex C

Northern Europe Region

SLTC Council (UK) - Chris Powley-Williams

- Update and upgrade website (ongoing)
- E-journal (operational)
- Searchable Abstracts
- SLTC Conference to be held in Bristol, 26th September 2009
- SLTC to support British School of Leather Technology Centenary Celebrations
- SLTC group established on Facebook

SLTC (South African Section) - Athol Pratt

- Decision taken to cancel conference for 2009
- Investigating a biannual conference
- Investigating closer relationships with parent body (ongoing)

SLTC (Australia Section) - Edrich Chaffer

- No activities to report

Norway, Sweden, Denmark - Johannes Borge

- No activities to report

AQEIC - Spain

- Assistance to the expert and plenary meeting of CEN TC 289 combined with the IUC, IUF and IUP commissions in Milan and Freiberg.
- Appointments to the new commissions: IUR (Dr. Agusti Marsal and Mr. Castell), IUL (Mr. Castell) and IUT (Dra. Rita Puig)
- Attendance to the IULTCS EC meeting in Rio
- Attendance to the IULTCS teleconferences in June and December.
- Information sent to IUL commission: list of Spanish leather specialized magazines.
- Information sent to IUR commission: list of Spanish leather R&D centers and leather schools.

SEMINAR 2008

- Seminar on “Maintenance of the leather garments” held in Barcelona on November 6 with 50 attendants, including tanners, members of Research Institutes, chemical producers, dry cleaners and leather clothes manufacturers. The following communications were presented:
 - “Factor to bring about the drop of the leather garment”
 - “The quality of the leather garment”
 - “Care and maintenance of leather garment”
 - “Specification of leather for garment”
 - “Review of the international technical advices about leathers for garment”

57th CONGRESS OF AQEIC

- Congress held in Igualada during April 25-27, 2008. The attendance was around 100 people.
- The Congress coincided with the 50th Anniversary of the foundation of the *Escuela Universitaria de Telería* (Tannery University College) of Igualada. For this reason, the two events, Congress and Anniversary, shared some events, like the laying of the foundation stone in the new school. In the Congress 9 technical communications were presented. The opening ceremony was chaired by the mayor of Igualada and two master conferences were held:
 - “Research and innovation – the only possible strategy to provide a real change in our sector”, by Mr. Jaume Alvira, chairman of CEC-FECUR.

“50 years of *Escuela Universitaria de Tenería* of Igualada and its close collaboration with AQEIC”, by Mr. Magí Puig, historian of the city of Igualada.

The technical presentations focussed on the following subjects:

“*Bio-engineering of leather: structure, design, biosynthesis towards zero emission*”

“*Application of synthetic retanning agents. Part IV. Pickled skin*”

“*Re-use of water produced during leather manufacturing*”

“*Influence of leather stretching on its thermal stability and viscoelastic behaviour measured by TMA*”

“*Customizing of fashion and respect for the environment in shoe finishing*”

“*New polymers for light seasoning of low reflection to light, colour, brightness and soft handle*”

“*Corium: Quo Vadis?. Lasat innovations in the production of garment leather articles*”

There was as well a round table discussion chaired by Mr. Labastida, chairman of AQEIC, called “*Tanners/Designers: the opportunities of a continuous relationship*” and with the participation of the following companies:

Fontanellas y Martí from Igualada, Serpelsa Furs from Vic, Loewe, Fluchos, Kurt Salmon Associates and Louis Vuitton.

AQEIC attended the 17th Latin-American Congress of Río de Janeiro.-

Several AQEIC members took part with different presentations: Dr. José M^a Adzet, director of AIICA, who held the speech “Research, development and innovation in the future of the hide value chain”; Dr. Jaume Cot, Research Professor of CSIC, who spoke about “What is IULTCS and what is it good for?”; Dr. Lluïsa Cabeza, Research Professor at *Universitat de Lleida*, who spoke about “Economic feasibility of the use of biogas (originated of tanned leather residues) in melted carbonates fuel cells”; Dr. Agustí Marsal, Researcher at CSIC, and Dr. Joaquim Font, Professor at EUETII presented the first part of their work “Recovery of organic Nitrogen present in beamhouse residual floats. Characterization”, and Mr. Miguel A. Martínez, deputy manager at INESCOP, who disserted about “Preparation of tanned leather wastes to generate energy.”

The Congress was also attended by Mr. Daniel Sánchez, Chairman of the Organization Committee at IULTCS, to be hold in Valencia in 2011, who informed the members of the Board of FLAQTIC about the future organization of this Congress, and Mr. Joan C. Castell, Manager of AIICA.

Meeting between CLIA (China Leather Industry Association) and AQEIC.-

The meeting took place in Beijing between the Secretary of CLIA, Mr. Su Chaoying, Chairman of AQEIC Mr. Luís M^a Labastida and Chairman of the Organization Committee of the Congress IULTCS 2011, Mr. Daniel Sánchez.

During the meeting, the flag of IULTCS that will chair the 30th IULTCS Congress in Beijing on October 11-14, 2009, was given to Mr. Su Chaoying. Different aspects of the organization of this congress were also discussed.

Subjects of common interest were discussed, like the economic situation worldwide and its effect on the tannery sector in both countries, the regulations that affect Chinese tanners, and regulated chemical products. It was considered very interesting to establish fluent relationships that help the mutual knowledge of the two members of both Associations, both at a technical and scientific level.

Dr. Juan Manuel Salazar’s visit.-

Dr. Juan Manuel Salazar, Chairman of ACOLCUR (Colombia) and former chairman of IULTCS visited AQEIC, who also went to Valencia with some members of the Organization Committee of the IULTCS Congress 2011 and some members of the Board of Directors of AQEIC.