

International Conference “Environmentally Friendly Roads” ENVIROAD 2009

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Protection of environment has become one of the leading topics for road infrastructure. Therefore, the importance of application of innovative materials and technologies aiming at the equilibrium between the need of extension and modernization of road infrastructure, and protection of the natural environment cannot be overemphasized. This harmonious coexistence of the road infrastructure and the natural environment is one of the priorities of the transportation communities around the world.

The Conference “Environmentally Friendly Roads” ENVIROAD was organised with the goal of promoting innovative solutions in road materials, construction technology and pavement design in the context of environment protection and natural resource conservation. The primary objectives of the Conference were to demonstrate how the infrastructure communities around the world is doing to reduce the influence construction on the natural resources and environment; to promote to the road-workers the sensibility and understanding of the problem of environment protection; and to exchange ideas and innovations of technologies. The connection between roads and surrounding environment is obvious. Construction materials used (bitumen, cement, lime, subgrade, aggregates, etc.) are obtained from natural recourses. Road infrastructure is an intimate part of natural environment from the beginning of human being; it always was and still is. Therefore, the name “Environmentally Friendly Roads” is appropriate considering the objectives of the conference and the natural environment we are trying to preserve.

The 2nd International Conference “Environmentally Friendly Roads” ENVIROAD 2009 was held from October 15 to 16, 2009 in Warsaw, Poland, in conjunction with the International Fair “Infrastructure” organized by MT Poland in the newly opened Fair-Congress Centre. The scientific patrons of the conference were RILEM (International Union of Laboratories and Experts in Construction Materials, Systems and Structures), FEHRL (Forum of European National Highway Research Laboratories), ISAP (International Society of Asphalt Pavements) and co-organizer IBDiM (Road and Bridge Research Institute).

Scientific Committee of 75 members from Europe, USA, and Australia, presided by D. Sybilski, was responsible for the review and acceptance of the papers delivered. More than 100 papers were submitted from European countries, Israel, USA, Canada, Australia, and China. It was required the papers to be prepared in English or Polish; however the conference presentation languages (and simultaneous translations) were English, Polish and Russian. More than 300 delegates attended the conferences, from Poland, Belgium, the Netherlands, Great Britain, France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, Sweden, Lithuania, Belorussia, Russia, Ukraine, Serbia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Austria, Czech Republic, Israel, USA, Canada, Australia, China, and Mexico.

The Conference sessions had three topics:

- Innovative materials and technologies
- Pavement Design and Construction
- Protection of road environment

Additionally, two key-note speeches were presented by invited Speakers:

- Prof Peter Sebaaly, University Reno, Nevada, USA: Environmentally Friendly Pavements through Materials and Design
- Prof André Molenaar, University Delft, the Netherlands: Durable and Sustainable Road Construction.

Papers with high quality were selected by the members of the Scientific Committee and were submitted to the International Journal of Pavement Research and Technology for consideration for publication. Some of them are presented in this IJPRT issue.