since 1930–2008
78 years of cigr

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1. CIGR NEWS
Letter from the president

The high inflation rate that spreads in developed and developing countries due to an increase in food and feed prices, as a consequence of the unpredictable, high oil prices, increase the need to optimize food production. An increase in both crop and animal stocking densities may cause in the emission of effluents and gases to drive sustainability to its limit. The increase in crop yields currently achieved was only possible through the use of technological innovations. It seems logical to conclude that in the future, an increase in the optimization of both animal and crop production can also be achieved in the same way, and this is a challenge to be overcome by the agricultural and biological engineers of the world.

The scenario of agricultural land use for worldwide bioenergy production witnesses a cyclical process of problems and solutions, in the same pace as we read the newspapers, leaving the political actions of some nations as rather weak and which do not result in appropriate responses to the ongoing demands. On the other hand, the development of most nations, nowadays, is highly dependent on fossil fuel technology for several purposes such as agricultural production and processing, household and personal needs, health, and transportation. It is thought that the Stone Age did not come to an end because of the lack of stones; thus, one can assume that today’s energy dependent society is going to find a solution to the current growing energy crisis, probably by adopting sustainable energy use policies.

These are the subjects that we plan to discuss during the CIGR 2008 in Foz de Iguacu, Brazil, in coming August/September, in the several events related to agricultural and biological engineering. It will be a great opportunity for you to share your knowledge and opinion with colleagues from all over the world and contribute in the search for updated answers. You can also take some time to visit Brazil’s natural scenery and see its agricultural potential, where crops and bioenergy are harmoniously produced.

Irenilza de Alencar Nääs
CIGR President, 2007–2008

Letter from the incoming president

Thoughts on CIGR 2009-2010

In a few months, we will witness the next presidential rotation. As the incoming president for 2008–2009 and 2009–2010, I would like to take the opportunity to give a short presentation on my background and experience with the CIGR for over thirty years, collaborating with working groups, the section board, symposiums, and congresses. I would also to express my views on the present status of the CIGR as well as on what I perceive as the challenges to be faced by the CIGR in the coming years.

Working Groups
Let me begin by recounting my experience as a member of the working group on ‘Climatization of Animal Houses’, established in 1977 with Prof. Dr. Michael Rist (Switzerland) as the chairman. In the late seventies, it was very difficult to engage in fruitful discussions at the international level on the climatization of animal houses, because each country had its own norms for animal heat production and its own regulations for estimating indoor climate. Therefore, the working group was appointed. The state-of-the-art can be illustrated by the first sentence noted in the minutes of the first meeting held in Zürich on April 1977:
We spoke about the optimal climate for animals in animal housing systems, about the external climate in winter and summer, and the calculation methods and ventilation systems.
It was very interesting for all participants to hear from their colleagues about their methods in the climatization of animal houses. We reviewed many papers, but the time was too short to get a general view about all the different members of all the countries.

At that time, we were unaware that it would be the starting point of a close cooperation among the participants for over three decades. We spent the first seven years trying to obtain the first general agreement at the international level on animal heat and moisture production. The first report was published in 1984 by the Scottish Farm Buildings Investigation Unit, Aberdeen, and is today available on the CIGR homepage, together with the working group reports of 1989/92, 1994, 2002, and 2006. In the initial period, the working group consisted of around 11 members representing 11 countries in Europe (AU, BE, DK, FR, GB, GE, HU, IT, NL, NO, SE). The first introductory paper presentation was in German, indicating that the language problem had not yet been resolved internationally. Since the majority of the working group members preferred English as the language of business, the draft from the second meeting in 1978 onwards was converted to English. Today, it is mandatory to use English as the language of business. In the mid-eighties, with Prof. Krister Sällvik (Sweden) as the chairman, we began on the second round of the working group with new sub-themes such as energy recuperation and aerial environment including odour, dust, and gases in animal houses. The working group composition was gradually expanded to include more countries in Europe and corresponding members from North America. I think the composition of members mainly from Europe demonstrates very well the worldwide position of the CIGR in the seventies. In spite of the fact that from the very
beginning in the thirties, the CIGR was a global organization, it was, in reality, dominated by European countries. Over the last ten years, the nature of the meetings have gradually changed towards more open working group meetings with members from all parts of the world, and with Prof. Vasco Fitas Cruz (Portugal) as the chairman, the theme has also changed from ‘climatization of animal houses in tempered climate zones’ to ‘animal houses in hot climate zones’. Over the last decade, the activities of the CIGR have been carried out in close cooperation with the European Society of Agricultural Engineers (EurAgEng).

Personally, it has been my privilege to participate in the working group’s annual meetings, and I am still thankful for the opportunity of being a part of an international working group when I was a young scientist. The various activities— including performing efficient work combined with social activities, where we were often invited privately to visit the local members of the working group—served as an eye-opener. Many personal contacts were established between members, and even after thirty years, I continue to maintain good professional and personal contacts with former colleagues. The outcome of a working group depends, of course, to a large extent, on the member enrolment and the possibility of spending time and money in the work. Today, it can often be difficult for scientists to find the necessary resources for conducting such work, because research work, these days, is usually strongly linked to projects. However, I am positive that in the future, it will be possible to convince leaders that the investment of time and money in efficient international working groups can be substantially rewarding. To support the working groups in their efforts, the post of a working group coordinator was established two years ago, with professor Da-Wen Sun (Ireland) assuming this post. A working group coordinator works in close cooperation with the related CIGR section chairs.

CIGR sections and symposiums
Similar to the wonderful experiences I had by participating in the CIGR working groups, I have had the same positive experience as a member of the CIGR Section II on ‘Farm Building, Equipment Structures, and Environment’, where I have served as a board member during three periods: as ordinary member in 1995–1998, secretary in 1999–2002, and chairman in 2003–2006. During these periods, we usually had one board meeting annually. Occasionally, two split meetings with a common agenda would be held in different parts of the world. By holding one international symposium annually, involving themes pertaining to Section II, the CIGR has established excellent contacts between scientists over the world.

Worldwide congresses
In 1930–1994, all CIGR congresses— except the World Congress in East Lansing, Michigan, US (1979)—were held in Europe; however, over the last ten years, the following four international CIGR conferences and congresses have been held outside Europe: the CIGR World Congress in Rabat, Morocco (1998); the Memorial Congress in Tsukuba, Japan (2000); the CIGR International Conference in Chicago, USA (2002); and the CIGR Congress in Beijing, China (2004). Only the CIGR World Congress (2006) in Bonn was held in Europe in this period. Moreover, three upcoming arrangements are planned to be held outside Europe, namely, the CIGR International Conference in Iguassu Falls City, Brazil (September 2008); the CIGR World Congress in Québec, Canada (2010); and the CIGR World Congress in Beijing, China (2014). This is indeed a clear indication of a trend towards worldwide CIGR activities.

My first experience at a CIGR congress was in Budapest in 1984, and I have participated at all CIGR congresses ever since. Today, it is mandatory to carry out the business of the congresses in English, but in the eighties, employing different languages was still a complication and a cause of a rise in the costs of organizing congresses. I still recall the large number of interpreters at my first congress who simultaneously translated from and to different languages. Today, English is the language of business in conferences, and it is the local organizers’ prerogative to translate the speeches into the local languages—a solution I personally find very convenient.

CIGR themes for the next two years
Many different themes are under consideration and will be discussed over the coming years. In my opinion, the following are the key themes for CIGR; these themes are not listed in order of priority.

* The CIGR is a global organization, and over the last two decades, it has had an active presence in almost all parts of the world. Therefore, it is a big challenge for the CIGR to efficiently handle the contacts in all new countries; hence, we will have to discuss if there are special areas that can be prioritized. These areas could be in relation to membership, CIGR newspapers published in local languages, and others.

* As a worldwide umbrella for the agro-engineering world, the CIGR has the important mission of encouraging international organizations to cooperate with regard to holding common international symposiums and congresses and avoiding too many international arrangements. In this respect, I greatly appreciate the international arrangements combining the regional and CIGR activities. We have seen many good examples of such arrangements over the last decade.

* Over the last two years, the CIGR has been working on its new homepage: http://www.cigr.org/. It has been revised and greatly improved thanks to Prof. Jianrong Xin and Prof. Pedro Zazueta Ranahan (USA). The CIGR aims to develop an attractive and user-friendly homepage that contains useful information on the CIGR activities. Thus far, the result looks promising, and I hope that we will manage to keep it up-to-date in all aspects, and thus, encourage members to use it. If, for example, the list of upcoming activities is uploaded onto the homepage, we will have many readers.

* Another big challenge is the CIGR E-journal with Prof. Bill Stout as the editor, which is in its tenth year of publishing with 437 reviewed papers as of July 2008. The change from manually handling the review procedure to the Open Journal System (OJS) is in progress. The OJS will make reviews easier; however, it will not replace the time-consuming, manual reviewing work, and therefore, there is a continuous need for an efficient reviewing staff.

* In my view, the seven CIGR sections, together with the working groups, form the core of the CIGR. Therefore, it is very important that the section chairs perform efficiently.
One of the major tasks for the section chairs, besides organizing the working groups, symposiums, and other activities, will be to effectively participate in the review procedure of the E-journal papers. A decision to this effect was taken in Bonn (2006), but has still not been fully implemented in all sections. It is important for the section boards to resolve this issue. To maintain contacts between the presidium and the section boards, I intend to visit all seven sections over the next two years, starting with my participation in the CIGR Section V conference in Ragusa, Italy, in September 2008.

* The revision of the CIGR statutes has been considered over the last few years; the revision is in progress and is expected to be finalized in 2008 (See CIGR Newsletter 80).

Thank you for your attention.

Prof. Soren Pedersen
CIGR Incoming President

CIGR World Congresses and Conferences, 2008–2014

The 2nd CIGR International Conference of Agricultural Engineering 2008
XXXVII Congresso Brasileiro de Engenharia Agrícola
31 August–4 September 2008, Iguassu Falls City, PR, Brazil

The CIGR International Conference 2008 will soon be held at the Bourbon Cataratas Resort & Convention Center, Iguassu Falls City, Brazil, on 31 August–4 September 2008. The CIGR 2008 was designed as a large umbrella event for several simultaneous thematic conferences with the goal of promoting interaction between all the CIGR sections and simultaneously avoiding overlapping activities, thus optimizing the agenda of international meetings. The local organizing task force has made all efforts to prepare the best and most appropriate infrastructure in order to assure that both international and national participants have a safe and pleasant stay in Brazil. I am pleased to announce that 1,328 papers were submitted to the CIGR in 2008. From these contributions, 958 were from Brazil and the remaining 370 were from various other countries of the world. Iguassu Falls City, with its diverse attractions, is one of the world’s most beautiful tourist destinations, and the state of Paraná is one of the most important Brazilian states in terms of grain and poultry production. The CIGR 2008 participants are likely to visit these sites of agricultural development.

Local Organizing Committee of Brazil

EVENTS:

(Date: 1–3 Sept.; Room: Iguazu I, II, III)
Chair: Jose. M. Tarjuelo (jose.tarjuelo@uclm.es)
Co-chair: Marcos Vinicius Folegatti (ESALQ/USP) (mvfolega@esalq.usp.br)

A2-1: ASABE’s ILES VIII–ASABE’s International Livestock Environment Symposium

A2-2: The VIth International Symposium on Cement Based Materials for a Sustainable Agriculture- CSA’ 2008
(Date: 2 Sept.; Room: Sala Alecrim)
Chair: H. Savastano Jr. (USP) (holmersj@usp.br)
Co-chair: N. de Belie (nele.debelie@ugent.be)
The XVII CIGR World Congress 2010
Québec, Canada, 13–17 June 2010
http://www.bioeng.ca/Events/CIGR/index.htm

The XVII World Congress of the CIGR will be held in Québec, Canada, from 13–17 June 2010. The event will be hosted by the Canadian Society for Bioengineering/La Société Canadienne de Génie Agroalimentaire et de Bioingénierie (CSBE/SCGAB), in conjunction with its 52nd Annual Conference.

At present, discussions are in progress with other groups who are expected to join the congress.

The American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers recently agreed to hold its IX International Drainage Symposium during the congress. The two previous ASABE International Drainage Symposia were Drainage VIII held in Sacramento, California (2004) and Drainage in the 21st Century held in Orlando, Florida (1998). The local organizers in Québec are pleased that this ASABE activity will be accessible by all participants of the CIGR 2010. Thus, the entire conference will gain from valuable interactions between representatives of diverse countries and continents. Two other groups who have expressed their interest to participate in the CIGR 2010 are the World Congress on Computers in Agriculture and the American Ecological Engineering Society.

A Web site for the CIGR 2010 is already available for those
who are planning to be part of the International Conference on Agricultural and Food Engineering (www.cigr2010.ca). This Web site will be continuously updated in the coming months; an announcement for the submission of papers will be made in spring 2009, abstracts by October 2009, and full papers in February 2010.

We hope to see several of you at this event.

Dr. Philippe Savoie;
Chair of the Scientific Program Committee of the CIGR 2010, philippe.savoie@fsaa.ulaval.ca

Dr. Stéphane Godbout;
Chair of the Local Organizing Committee of the CIGR 2010, stephane.godbout@irda.qc.ca

The 3rd CIGR International Conference 2012

Several societies have submitted applications to host the 3rd CIGR International Conference 2012, and these applications were discussed at the CIGR meeting in Glasgow. The host will be determined at the CIGR 2008 at Iguassu Falls City, Brazil.

XVIII CIGR World Congress 2014

September 2014, Beijing, China

- **Sponsors**
  - The sponsors of the CIGR World Congress 2014 will include many national and international organizations engaged in agricultural and biosystems engineering. The proposed sponsors are as follows:
    - CIGR
    - Chinese Society for Agricultural Machinery (CSAM)
    - Chinese Society of Agricultural Engineering (CSAE)
  - **Co-sponsors**
    - China Association of Agricultural Machinery Manufacturers
    - China Food and Packaging Machinery Industry Association
    - Local government offices and local, regional, and international associations, societies, and institutions engaged in agricultural engineering, which will be included as co-sponsors later.

- **Organizers forming the local organizing committee of the CIGR**
  - Chinese Academy of Agricultural Mechanization Sciences (CAAMS)
  - Chinese Academy of Agricultural Engineering (CAAE)
  - China Agricultural University

- **Topics**
  - Land and water engineering
  - Farm buildings, equipment, structures, and environment
  - Equipment engineering for plant production
  - Rural electricity and other energy resources
  - Management, ergonomics, and systems engineering
  - Post-harvest technology and processing engineering
  - Information systems

The detailed programme will be finalised later by the concerned CIGR sections.

Time and venue

September 2014, Beijing

Since the 2008 Olympics will be held in Beijing, there will be a large availability of convention centres and hotels with excellent facilities for holding large-scale meetings. Many more options will become available as per the scale and activities of the CIGR Congress.

New Management System for the CIGR

International Journal of Agricultural Engineering.

The CIGR presidium appointed a small committee in Section VII to improve the International Journal of Agricultural Engineering. Anticipating the rapid growth in the number of submitted publications, the committee was required to propose a suitable system to streamline management and facilitate readers to access the publications.

The committee proposed an approach based on the journal management system, and this approach was approved by the presidium. The new journal management system will assist with every stage of the refereed publishing process, from submissions to online publication and indexing. Through the management system, meticulous indexing of research, and the context provided for research, the presidium seeks to improve both the scholarly and public quality of refereed research in agricultural engineering.

The specific objectives of the project were as follows;
1) To relocate the CIJR Journal from a Web page to a hosted journal management system
2) To define the structure of the editorial board and clearly define the roles of its members
3) To train stakeholders in the use of the system

The expected outcomes of the above objectives are as follows; (1) improvements in the effectiveness of the editorial board, (2) a management system that facilitates submission, review, and publication of articles, and (3) an online resource that has a high level of usability.

A contract was drawn up for outsourcing the journal, and the content was transferred to the new site at www.cigrjournal.org. Readers of the journal will be able to view articles by issue, author, and title, and will have access to the full text search facility. Published papers can be downloaded in a format suitable for printing.

Researchers wishing to submit papers or serve as reviewers can create an account using the system’s interface. All transactions related to the review, including communications, are conducted online.

The new journal is scheduled to be officially launched at the International Meeting in Foz de Iguacu, Brazil. A demonstration/training session will also be conducted at this location, and all are invited to attend.

Prof. Fedro Zazueta
Chair of the Section VII
CIGR Web site report for 1-31 July 2008

Following the CIGR Congress 2006 in Bonn, the CIGR Web site Committee was established. This committee reconstructed the CIGR Web page to improve both CIGR’s services to members and its internal communications. The new CIGR Web site was launched on 12 November 2007. Access data pertaining to the CIGR Web page for 1–31 July 2008 is given below.

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<th>Country</th>
<th>Visits</th>
<th>Pages/Visit</th>
<th>New Visits</th>
<th>Bounce Rate</th>
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<td>58.15%</td>
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We are very shocked to hear about the sad demise of Mrs. Mme. O. Manchon, who passed away last summer. Mrs. Manchon translated the CIGR Newsletter to French for a long period. We sincerely appreciate her kind help to the CIGR. We pray that her soul may rest in peace.

Letter from Mr. Robert Manchon

I appreciate your consideration, and I agree with your idea of publishing an obituary of my wife. I would be honoured if all the readers are given the opportunity to know about her. Odette Manchon, 61 years old, passed away on 13 August 2007 after a long illness.

Mrs. Manchon was an English professor who also spoke Russian and Spanish and provided translation services for the same.

For more than 15 years, she served as the chargée de mission (special envoy) of international relations and later was in charge of environmental issues, particularly in agroforestry at the Ministry of Agriculture in France.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Manchon,
Honorary General Agronomy Engineer,
Paris

Letter from Mr. Jean-Claude Souty

It is with sadness that we learned of the passing of Mrs. Odette Manchon last summer. Mrs. Manchon served the CIGR for more than ten years by translating the CIGR Newsletter into French. The translations, which she did so conscientiously and with pride, were highly appreciated and contributed in developing an audience for the CIGR both in France and in several French-speaking countries in Africa such as Morocco and Cameroon.

Mrs. Manchon was very well known to the members of the French Association of Agricultural Engineering (now known as ITMAFGR) and was highly esteemed by the Ministry of Agriculture for her professional competences, especially in the area of the relations between the urban and rural society. Those who had the privilege of working with her will remember her as a lady with a great character and unfailing kindness.

We offer our sincere sympathy and our condolences to her husband and her family.

Jean-Claude Souty,
Honorary Member of the CIGR

Letter from Mr. Jan Daelemans

I shall now send you in annex the requested obituary of Mme. Manchon as kindly edited by Mr. Jean-Claude Souty who initiated the edition of the CIGR Newsletter in French and which was translated by Mrs. Manchon. I suppose that this obituary will be published in the upcoming newsletter.

I wish to thank Mr. Frank Lunn who was always so kind to review the English version of the CIGR Newsletter as long as I served as its editor when the Secretary General was in Belgium (1989–1998), and who was this time again so kind to put the obituary in correct English.

Kind regards,

Jan Daelemans
Honorary Secretary General of the CIGR
2. NEWS FROM REGIONAL AND NATIONAL SOCIETIES


The AgEng2008 International Conference on Agricultural Engineering & Industry Exhibition Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering for a Sustainable World was held on 23–25 June 2008, in Hersonissos, Crete, Greece. Over 500 delegates from 41 different countries enjoyed an interesting, productive, and exciting conference in the sunny location of Crete in Greece. In total, 624 scientific papers were presented (425 oral and 199 posters) in 87 sessions. There were wide-ranging presentations on 50 different topics. The topics were as diverse as classic tractor and equipment development and performance to more recent aspects of agricultural and biosystems engineering, such as the use of acoustic sensors to determine the location of a pig with an infectious cough or techniques to examine the resistance of trees in urban streets to the pollutants from traffic exhaust.

The conference was organised by the Hellenic Society of Agricultural Engineers and the European Society of Agricultural Engineers (EurAgEng), and was held on 23–25 June 2008.

The highlight of the conference was the gala dinner held on a Tuesday evening in a spectacular spot around a large pool, where EurAgEng was able to honour its prize winners for 2008.

The prestigious Award of Merit went to Dipl.-Ing. Michael Teich—who recently retired from John Deere Works Mannheim, Germany—for his life’s work on tractor development. Once again, this award has been presented to an engineer who is incredibly enthusiastic about his work and is an inspiration to all agricultural engineers.

The winners of the Innovation and Development Award—for a presentation on an innovative development, which must include commercial partners—were Prof. J. Hahn, Dr. H. Risius, and H. Korte of the Humboldt University of Berlin and the Claas Group of Germany for their paper on ‘Segregating Different Qualities of Grain during Harvesting’.

Daniel Berckmans, on behalf of his team from Leuven University, Belgium, collected an Outstanding Paper Award from the editors of the EurAgEng Official Scientific Journal, Biosystems Engineering. In addition, the paper by V. T. Thanh, A. Van Brecht, E. Vranken, and D. Berckmans, entitled ‘Modelling of Three-dimensional Air Temperature Distributions in Porous Media’, was one of the four winners of the Outstanding Paper Awards.

Prof. Zoltan Lang (Hungary), Dr. Ludger Frerichs (Germany), Prof. Josse De Baerdemaeker (Belgium), and Prof. Bill Day (UK) were all honoured with the Society’s Recognition Award for their efforts in leading and promoting the Society.

The EurAgEng members and all those who attended the conference would sincerely like to thank the Hellenic Society of Agricultural Engineers Council, which has worked together for the last two years to organise the AgEng2008 Conference under the presidency of Prof. Dr. George Papadakis. We also appreciate the efforts of John Alexakis and his team from Vougas Associates for arranging an enjoyable event.

Future conferences:
LandTechnikAgEng2009, 6–7 November, Hannover, Germany
AgEng2010, 6–8 September, Clermont-Ferrand, France

David Tinker
BSc MSc CEng MIMechE FIAgrE
Secretary General of EurAgEng

3. NEWS FROM SECTIONS AND WORKING GROUPS

Report of the CIGR Cattle Housing Working Group

The CIGR Working Group 14 (Cattle Housing) met in the UK at Harper Adams University College on 12–14 June 2008. The meeting was attended by 9 of the 10 members. The participants were J. Flaba, President (Belgium); H. Georg (Germany); R. Graves (USA); J. Lensink (France); J. Loynes (UK); T. Ryan (Ireland); L. Van Caenegem (Switzerland); M. Ventorp (Sweden); and P. Zappavigna (Italy). The group spent two days discussing the chapters of a new report entitled ‘The Design of Dairy Cows Housing and of Replacement Heifers Housing’. Technical visits took place on the third day. The group worked extremely hard and in a very friendly atmosphere to progress in the redaction of the report.

Technical visits proved to be quite interesting as the members got to see practical examples of new housing facilities for dairy cows and replacement heifers.
The group has decided to present the report during the next CIGR World Congress at Québec in 2010. Prof. Joseph Flaba
Chair of the Cattle Housing Working Group

The members of the Cattle Housing Working Group

Report of the CIGR Working Group
Earth Observation for Land and Water Engineering Working Group
Expert Workshop
“Surface Energy Balance Models of Agricultural Areas from Earth Observation Data”

The Earth Observation for Land and Water Engineering Working Group workshop was held on 13 March 2008 at La Universidad Nacional Agraria La Molina (Peru).

Final Programme
Opening address: Carlos A. Llerena Pinto and Anna Osann

Prof. Guido D’Urso
Chair of the CIGR Working Group

4. CIGR SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

XXXIII CIOSTA
CIGR V Conference 2009
Technology and management to ensure sustainable agriculture, agrosystems, forestry and safety
17-19 June 2009, Reggio Calabria, Italy
http://www.ciosta.unirc.it

CIOSTA, CIGR, EurAgEng and the University of Reggio Calabria (Italy) take great privilege in inviting you to the XXXIII CIOSTA & CIGR Section V Conference. Following the spirit and objectives of the previous conferences to develop the agroforestry economy with a view to augmenting production, yield, and quality, while maintaining work safety, the objectives of the conference are to highlight the latest developments in technology and management to ensure sustainable agriculture, agrosystems, forestry, and safety, and to promote the exchange of knowledge and experience among scientists, technicians, producers, and students. The conference will feature presentations and discussions in informal gatherings and in plenary, scientific, and poster sessions. The conference will be held at the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences of the University of Reggio Calabria (Italy), which runs degree courses in agricultural and forestry sciences. The conservation of the environment, the primary production, the new frontiers of agricultural engineering, and the rural development are at the centre of the study curricula of this faculty.

Reggio Calabria is situated on the southern tip of the Calabrian region, on the eastern side of the Straits of Messina. It is a very ancient settlement, and distinct traces of the Roman and Greek period are visible. Rebuilt many times after numerous earthquakes, which devastated its urban structure, today, Reggio Calabria has a modern layout. The city is the site of the National Museum, very famous for its vast and significant collection of Magna Graecian remains, including the ‘Bronze Warriors’ and the ‘Philosopher’s head’. The seaside esplanade, described by the Italian poet Gabriele D’Annunzio as the ‘finest mile in Italy’, faces the island of...
Sicily and is the site of one of the most important botanical gardens. The city has good transport networks to the rest of the world.

Topics:
1) Processing and Post-harvest Technology and Logistics
2) Protected Cultivation and Greenhouse Technology
3) Systems Engineering and Management and Traceability
4) Harvest and Road Network Planning in Mountainous Terrain
5) Protection, Harvesting, and Automation Technology
6) Information Systems and Precision Farming
7) Power and Machinery, Tractors, Tillage, Fertilising, and Plants
8) Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
9) Fruit and Vegetable Cultivation Systems
10) Emerging Industrial Products and Marketing Service Systems
11) Safety and Health in Agroforestry and Agro-food Systems;
12) Forestry Mechanization and Wood Technology
13) Land and Water Use
14) Environment Protection
15) Open topics

Participants should contribute through oral presentations and posters. The authors will be notified by the Scientific Committee about the acceptance of their papers. The Scientific Committee will decide whether the papers have been accepted as oral presentations or posters.

5. CIGR CO-SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

Frutic Chile 2009
5–9 January 2009, Conception, Chile
http://www.frutic09.org

The deadline has been extended to 30 August 2008

Welcome to the 8th International Symposium of Information and Technology for the Sustainable Production of Fruit and Vegetables, Nut, Wines, and Olives.

Important dates for this event are as follows:
• November 2007–August 2008: Submission of abstracts
• March 2008–August 2008: Notification of acceptance
• July 2008–September 2008: Submission of completed papers for review
• September 2008–November 2008: Reception of reviewed papers
• November 2008: Submission of corrected papers

History of the Symposium
The first symposium was held in Israel in 1983, sponsored by the Agricultural Research Organization (ARO) at the Volcani Center, Bet Dagan, Israel. Since then, it has become an important platform for the development and application of technology in the wine, fruit, and horticultural production sectors. At this symposium, high-quality works are presented on the means to meet the demands of consumers to obtain safe, affordable produce provided by a sustainable agricultural sector that also satisfies the needs of producers to improve profitability without reducing quality.

Chile, Host of Frutic 2009.
Over the last two decades, Chile has developed its export capacity, establishing itself as a leading food producer in the Southern Hemisphere with a great potential at the global level, thanks to its off-season production, stable democracy, favourable business-friendly environment, and important resource of human capital. Chile offers a great variety of produce to the world, favoured by its long and narrow territory, diverse climate, and geographical conditions, such as the Andes Mountains to the east, the Atacama Desert to the north, and the Pacific Ocean to the west and south, each of which provide Chile with important agricultural resources that enhance its role as an exporter.

Wine, Fresh Fruits, and Other Produce
Chile has mainly developed in export agriculture, based on fruit and wine production. In fact, Chile annually exports about four billion dollars in fruits and wines, and hence, it has earned international prestige for its quality wines, table grapes, and berry fruits (such as blueberries and red raspberries), in the important production of fruits such as apples, cherries, and almonds. Furthermore, with the rise in the number of Chilean olive plantations, olive oil production is increasing annually, occupying an important place in the international market of high quality olive oil.

Chile has thus understood the importance of technological development and applications to agriculture to achieve the goal of satisfying the international market in order to maintain the quality of its products.
Scientific Issues of the Symposium

1) Precision Agriculture: Remote Sensing; Site-specific Management and Monitoring Systems
2) Robotics and Nanotechnology Applied to Agriculture
3) Sensing on Site: Harvesting, Parking, Conservation, and Transportation of Agriculture Products
4) Geographical Information System (GIS) and Georeferencing
5) Data processing and Decision Support; Data Mining
6) Data Technologies and Communication for Agriculture
7) Geotractability and Global Markets
8) Post-harvest Technologies: Technology/Quality Relationship
9) Precision Agriculture and its Impact on the Environment

Stanley Best
Agricultural and Bioresources Eng, MSc, PhD
Organizing Committee Director
FRUTIC CHILE 2009
E-mail: sbest@inia.cl

CIGR Section Board IV
The 31st International Symposium
Rural Electricity and Other Energy Sources
30 August–2 September 2009, Gödöllö, Hungary

The symposium deals with the ‘Rational Use of Energy in Agriculture and the Economical Use of the Renewable Sources in Connection with Environmental Protection’. The symposium will be organized by the Hungarian Electrotechnical Association and the Szent István University in Gödöllö, near Budapest.

Topics:
Solar energy, geothermal energy, wind energy, biomass energy, heat pumps, feasibility of agricultural farms, means of being energy producers instead of energy consumers by using renewable energy sources

Important Dates:
Deadline of abstract submission: 28 February 2009
Final registration: 30 April 2009
Deadline for full text submission: 30 June 2009
The first announcement will be made on the Internet on 1 September 2008.
For more information, contact Prof. Dr. Zoltán Sibalszky, Organizing Committee
E-mail: synergy2009@gek.szie.hu
Telephone: +36 28 522050

Report on the 36th International Symposium
Actual Tasks on Agricultural Engineering
11–15 February 2008, Opatija, Croatia

The 36th International Symposium, ‘Actual Tasks on Agricultural Engineering’, was held on 11–15 February 2008 in Grand Hotel Adriatic in Opatija, Croatia. The main organizer, Agricultural Engineering Department, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zagreb, was supported by the following: Department of Agricultural Engineering, Faculty of Agriculture, University of J. J. Strossmayer, Osijek; Department of Biosystems Engineering, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Maribor (Slovenia); Agricultural Institute of Slovenia; Hungarian Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Gödöllö; and Croatian Agricultural Engineering Society. Co-sponsors of the symposium were the CIGR, EurAgEng, AAAE, and Association of Agricultural Engineers of South Eastern Europe (AAESEE).

This year, 103 participants from 16 countries attended the symposium. It consisted of an opening session and six topic sessions covering all the broad subject areas that fall under the scope of agricultural engineering. The importance of the event was underlined by the presence of Prof. Rameshwar Kanwar, Chairman of the Agricultural and Biosystems Engineering of Iowa State University, USA, as a keynote speaker; the former president of EurAgEng, Prof. Daniele De Wrachien; and the representatives of the National Societies of Agricultural Engineers, Prof. S. Skaljic (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Prof. M. Martinov (Serbia), and Dr. Viktor Jejčić and MSc Tomaz Poje (Slovenia). At the Opening Session, Prof. Davor Romic, Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zagreb, delivered his speech emphasising the importance of the event and its long tradition. The Convenor, Prof. Silvio Kosutic, brought the greetings of the Croatian Society of Agricultural Engineering. Prof. Daniele De Wrachien stressed the long tradition of the symposia and their future role as one of the main events for the assembly of agricultural engineers in South-Eastern Europe, and pointed out the dimension of the tasks and challenges that agricultural engineering education in European universities will have to face and cope with in the third millennium. The representative of the Croatian Society of Agronomists concluded the session by bringing the greetings of the Society to the symposium’s audience. Prof. Rameshwar Kanwar delivered a keynote lecture titled ‘Emerging Opportunities and Future Challenges for Agricultural and Biological Engineering Profession’, which was immensely appreciated by the audience. Next, a number of lectures were held, the most noteworthy being the following: ‘Possibilities of running tractors by plant oil’ by Dr. Viktor Jejčić, ‘Top soil properties acquisition by novel fusion sensors’ by Dr. Cornelius Jantschke, ‘Path planning for sludge processing robot by means of trajectory simulations’ by Dr. Nikica Starcevic, and ‘Mapping weed occurrence—an important part of precision farming’ by Jaroslav Čep. In the topic sessions, 50 papers—each beginning with a review report—were discussed as oral presentations. At the closing session, the Convenor emphasised the role of EurAgEng and the CIGR in ecologically sustainable development and rural development and preservation of agricultural heritage within the East-European countries. World-renowned agricultural machinery producers, such as AGCO, Bogballe, Claas, Hardi, and Same-Deutz-Fahr, participated in this event. INA, Croatia’s national petrol company, presented their new range of bio-degradable oils, showing its progress and keeping pace with well-known worldwide competitors. Other companies presented their current programmes by means of video and oral presentations during the afternoon sessions. Information regarding the 37th Symposium 2009 will soon be
made available on the Web site: http://atae.agr.gr

Prof. Silvio Kosutic, Convenor of the Symposium
Prof. Daniele De Wrachien, Former President of EurAgEng

The 37th International Symposium
Actual Tasks on Agricultural Engineering
10–13 February 2009, Opatija, Croatia
http://atae.agr.hr/

About the Symposium
The symposium on ‘Actual Tasks on Agricultural Engineering’ has been organised for 36 years, thus indicating its tradition and importance. During the previous years, the symposium achieved more international credibility thanks to the co-sponsoring of EurAgEng, CIGR, AAAE, and AAESEE. Papers from the symposium’s proceedings are indexed into world-famous databases such as ISI Proceedings (part of the ISI’s Web of Knowledge), the ISI Index to Scientific & Technical Proceedings, CABI Agricultural Engineering Abstracts, InterDok, and Cambridge Scientific Abstracts Conference Papers Index.

Aim of the Symposium
The aim of the symposium is to present the latest scientific results on all aspects of research, design, and development work in the various disciplines of agricultural engineering.

Organisers
Agricultural Engineering Department, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Zagreb
Faculty of Agriculture, University of J. J. Strossmayer, Osijek, Croatia
Faculty of Agriculture, University of Maribor, Slovenia
Agricultural Institute of Slovenia
Hungarian Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Gödöllő

Topics
The main topics to be covered by the symposium are as follows:
1) Land & Water Use and Environment
2) Power and Machinery
3) Information Systems and Precision Farming
4) Livestock Technology
5) Processing & Post-harvest Technology and Logistics
6) Energy and Non-food Production Technology
7) Systems Engineering and Management
8) Fruit & Vegetable Cultivation Systems
9) Global Issues

Key Dates
Submission of abstracts: 15 September 2008
Notification of abstract acceptance: 25 September 2008
Submission of full paper: 10 November 2008
Deadline for payment of registration fees: 10 December 2008

6. OTHER ACTIVITIES

The Annual Meeting 2008 of
Club of Bologna
16 November 2008

Strategies for the development of agricultural mechanisation

The Annual Meeting 2008 of the Club of Bologna will be held in Bologna on 15 November (Saturday) and on the morning of 16 November (Sunday) 2008, during the EIMA International (www.eima.it, 12–16 November).
The two topics of the presentations will be as follows:
- Analysis and in-depth examination of the thesis of the conference ‘Agrievolution 2008–First World Summit on Agricultural Machinery’ (www.agrievolution.com), that Unacoma had organised in Rome on 30 and 31 May 2008. The examination and analysis will be conducted with the following speakers:
  - Prof. Kamil Sindir, on the China and India presentation, with an integration on the Turkey situation
  - Prof. Oleg Marchenko, on Russia
  - Prof. John Schueller, on the USA
  - Prof. Luis Márquez and Ettore Gasparetto on Brazil, European CEMA countries, and comments on the world situation
- Establishment of a world database on agricultural machinery and agricultural engineering institutions, research and testing centres, etc., with the following speakers:
  - Prof. Hermann Auernhammer, on the German database;
  - Prof. Ettore Gasparetto, on the proposal for a global database

Unacoma and I hope to see a wide participation of the Club of Bologna members to the Club of Bologna Meeting. Unacoma will host the Club Management Committee Members for the three nights of 13, 14, and 15 November (a Management Committee meeting is foreseen for the afternoon of 14 November (Friday)) and the Full Members for the two nights of 14 and 15 November. The reservation form is enclosed herewith.

Prof. Dr. Ing. Ettore Gasparetto
President, Club of Bologna
Institute of Agricultural Engineering
University of Milan
Via Celoria 2, I-20133, Milano, Italy
ettore.gasparetto@clubofbologna.org

The Sixth International Scientific and Practical Conference
Ecology And Agricultural Machinery
13–14 May 2009

First Announcement and Call for Papers

The 1st Scientific and Practical Conference on ‘Ecology and Agricultural Machinery’ (May 1998) witnessed an assembly of 87 participants. In the 5th conference (May 2007), over 140 researchers and experts from 13 countries actively
participated, proving the ever-increasing urgency of the problems in agricultural machinery, application of techniques, and the environment.

The Russian Academy of Agricultural Sciences (RAAS), Agriculture Ministry of the Russian Federation, North-West Research and Methodology Center of RAAS, Euro-Asian Association of Agricultural Engineers, and North-West Research Institute of Agricultural Engineering and Electrification (SZNIIMESH) are privileged to invite you to the 6th Conference on ‘Ecology and Agricultural Machinery’.

Aims and Objectives

- To present and discuss the latest and most efficient developments in agricultural engineering and production, aimed at reducing the adverse effects of agricultural techniques and machinery on the environment
- To stimulate the wide dissemination of the most advanced concepts, experiences, and investigation results as well as to promote international cooperation and transfer of know-how
- To give the researchers, agricultural machinery manufacturers, and farmers from Russia, the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), and Western countries an opportunity to establish personal contacts and exchange opinions and ideas

The scientific program will include plenary sessions, parallel oral sessions, and poster sessions on the following topics:

- Plant production
- New environmentally friendly cropping technologies and devices
- Engineering aspects of organic farming
- Designing methods and environmental assessment of site-specific technologies, machinery, and equipment
- Precision farming
- Livestock production
- New environmentally friendly technologies and devices in livestock management
- Designing and reconstruction of farm buildings for animal keeping
- Animal waste management
- Livestock environment
- Energy in farming
- Optimization of energy use in agriculture
- Renewable energy sources and their agriculture application
- Automation in farming

Venue

The North-West Research Institute of Agricultural Engineering and Electrification (SZNIIMESH), Saint-Petersburg/Pushkin, Russia

Accommodation booked in advance will be provided in the hotels in Saint-Petersburg and Pushkin.

The International Advisory Committee, under the leadership of Acad. Yury Lachuga, Vice-president of RAAS, will include the representatives of the organizers and the leading Russian and foreign research centres.

Deadlines

Submission of registration form and abstract of around 500 words: 1 October 2008
Notification of acceptance, terms of participation and hotel booking, and guidelines for authors: 1 November 2008
Submission of full papers: 31 December 2008

Registration: www.sznii.ru
Contacts: Larisa Levchenko, Guenrikh Agapov
Tel: (812) 466 78 04; Fax (812) 466 56 66; E-mail: nii@sp.ru

ENVIROWATER 2009
International Conference and Exhibition on Water in the Environment
2-4 March 2009 – Stellenbosch, South Africa
First Announcement & Call for Papers
http://www.envirowater.de/

Water Resources Management is a challenge to many countries, particularly those with limited resources. Many aspects must be considered while supplying people with sufficient quantities of water that is also fit for their purpose, i.e. the supplied water should be of the minimum quality required for its intended use.

Treatment technologies to regularly improve water (drinking water as well as waste water) and the results of the related R&D must be converted into real applications.

This conference will be an effective tool for organising the exchange of know-how regionally. Additionally, it will present an opportunity to secure both contributions from and the cooperation of international water experts.

Important Dates

Submission of abstracts: 31 August 2008
Notification of the authors: 31 October 2008
Publication and distribution of the second circular detailing the conference program: 31 December 2008

Prof. Da-Wen Sun tops the world ranking in Agriculture Sciences

Prof. Da-Wen Sun, UCD School of Agriculture, Food Science and Veterinary Medicine, has been ranked amongst the top one percent of agricultural scientists from around the world, according to the Essential Science Indicators (ESI) database.

The ESI database from Thomson Scientific provides data for the ranking of individual scientists, institutions, countries, and journals. On the basis of a regularly updated compilation of the ISI Web of Science, the world’s most authoritative citation database, ESI, provides citation counts as a form of peer recognition, which generally reflects on the dependence of the scientific community on the work of individual scientists.

According to the data compiled over a period of ten years, a total of 2,127 scientists are among the top one percent of the most cited scientists in the category of Agriculture Sciences, and Prof. Sun is at the top of the list with his ranking of 51.

Prof. Da-Wen Sun commented, ‘I am very pleased with the ranking, as the ESI ranking is based on research output in high-standard international scholarly journals and is globally considered as evidence of their academic excellence. The ranking system provides an authoritative way of comparing
performance of researchers not only within the same discipline, but also among different disciplines. Such a high ranking is a strong indication of the exceptionally high quality research conducted by UCD researchers as recognised by international peers and can also significantly uplift the international reputation of UCD as a research intensive university'.

Prof. Sun has also received numerous prestigious awards in UCD, including the UCD President’s Research Fellowship in 2005. He is the editor-in-chief of the international journal, Food and Bioprocess Technology, and is the series editor of the Contemporary Food Engineering book series.

From UCD website

7. PUBLICATIONS

CIGR E-JOURNAL
Status Report
July 2008

The CIGR E-journal was first published in 1999 and is now in its tenth year of publication. It is developing very well and is now attracting many high quality manuscripts.

A total of 437 peer reviewed original research papers and 113 peer reviewed invited overviews by authors from 55 countries have been published. The E-journal can be accessed free of charge by both authors and readers. The E-journal depends on the volunteer work of authors, reviewers, the editor-in-chief, associate editors, and the coordinator.

The published papers come from a broad international base of 55 countries: 97 manuscripts are currently in various stages of review after 10 were sent to inactive journals and 7 CIOSTA papers (total 114)

Vol. X(2007)---91 in addition to 16 ATOE papers plus and 7 CIOSTA papers (total 114)

Peer reviewed invited overview papers (total-113):

Peer reviewed invited overview papers:

The goal of the CIGR e-journal is to publish papers from both industrialized countries and developing countries that are on par with the best journals in the field of agricultural and food engineering. We are well along in achieving this goal.

Manuscript submissions are welcome from anyone. The manuscripts are to be submitted as Word files to stout@tamu.edu. See the Web site for complete instructions for authors, including style and formatting requirements that must be followed strictly.

Dr. Bill A. Stout, P. E. Coordinator, CIGR E-journal and Honorary President CIGR

Agricultural Engineering
International-The CIGR E-journal

Dr. Lingjuan Wang, Editor-in-Chief
http://cigr-ejournal.tamu.edu

ISSN 1682-1130

Submit manuscripts for peer review to stout@tamu.edu

The CIGR electronic journal:

Here is a summary of the number of papers published to date:

Peer reviewed original research papers (total-437):

Peer reviewed invited overview papers (total-113):

The published papers come from a broad international base of 55 countries: 97 manuscripts are currently in various stages of review after 10 were sent to inactive journals and 17 were published in May/June.

Peer reviewed original research papers
Australia-3, Austria-1, Bangladesh-3, Belgium-4, Botswana-3, Brazil-8, Canada-14, Cameroon-4, China-9, Czech Republic-3, Denmark-15, Egypt-3, Estonia-5, Ethiopia-4, Finland-2, France-2, Germany-25, Greece-10, India-31, Indonesia-5, Ireland-2, Iran-8, Israel-3, Italy-21, Japan-39, Kenya-5, Lebanon-2, Lithuania-3, Mexico-4, Netherlands-5, Nigeria-62, Pakistan-2, Poland-8, Portugal-6, Serbia-1, Slovak Republic-1, Spain-7, Sweden-5, Tanzania-2, Thailand-12, Turkey-4, United Arab Emirates-2, United Kingdom-3, USA-33 (221 from industrialized countries and 216 from developing countries)

Peer reviewed invited overview papers
Australia-1, Bangladesh-3, Brazil-3, Canada-3, China-5, Denmark-2, Egypt-1, FAO-3, France-1, Germany-12, Greece-1, India-7, Indonesia-1, Israel-1, Italy-17, Japan-4, Kenya-1, Mexico-1, Morocco-1, Netherlands-3, Nigeria-14,
I invite all of you to submit manuscripts for peer review and publication. There is no cost involved in publishing or accessing and printing papers. The Web site has all the details regarding the manuscript format, submission instructions, etc. If you have any queries, please contact me at stout@tamu.edu.

Dr. Bill A. Stout, PE
Coordinator, CIGR E-journal

Open Journal System will be available soon

The Open Journal System will soon be available for management and technical support for editing the CIGR E-journal. The review procedure will be changed from manual handling to Open Journal System. This will involve a rationalization of the review procedure. The CIGR governing organs decided that the selection of reviewers is the responsibility of the sections. This task will not become easier in the coming years. The present list of associate editors is as follows (draft):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Section name</th>
<th>Associate Editor(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Land and Water Engineering</td>
<td>Antonio Brasa and Guanhua Huang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>Farm Buildings, Equipment, Structures and Environment</td>
<td>Soeren Pedersen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td>Equipment Engineering for Plants</td>
<td>Bill Pedersen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td>Rural Electricity and other Energy Sources</td>
<td>Milan Martinov</td>
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<td>V</td>
<td>Management, Ergonomics and Systems Engineering</td>
<td>Pietro Piccarolo</td>
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<td>VI</td>
<td>Postharvest Technology and Process Engineering</td>
<td>Laszlo Baranyai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>Information Systems</td>
<td>Fedro Zazueta</td>
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The procedure for reviewing in brief:
- Authors submit their manuscript to the E-journal editor (Bill Stout) on the E-journal Web site.
- The E-journal editor sends the manuscript to the appropriate associate editor(s), who then forwards it to three reviewers.
- The associate editor(s) informs the E-journal editor about the names and e-mail addresses of the three selected reviewers.
- The reviewers send their evaluation back to the e-journal editor through the E-journal Web site.

CIGR Section Boards (Elected in September 2006)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Section</th>
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<th>(Chair)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Land and Water Engineering</td>
<td>Jose M. Tarjuelo (Spain)</td>
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<td>II</td>
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<td>Daniel Berckmans (Belgium)</td>
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<td>III</td>
<td>Equipment Engineering for Plants</td>
<td>Arturo Lara-Lopez (Mexico)</td>
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<td>IV</td>
<td>Rural Electricity and Other Energy Sources</td>
<td>Mikio Umeda (Japan)</td>
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<td>Post-harvest Technology and Process Engineering</td>
<td>Jozef Grochowicz (Poland)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII</td>
<td>Information Systems</td>
<td>Fedro Zuzueta (USA)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All correspondence and information on forthcoming activities should be sent to
The CIGR General Secretariat
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Building foundations.

The Earth... a small blue planet.
Blessed with water, soil and air - people’s faces are etched with smiles.
In this same spirit, Kubota wishes to serve people through its business endeavours related to water, foods and the environment, linked directly to enhancing people’s lives.
Kubota fulfills a fundamental role in building foundations that render essential services to support comfortable, rewarding lives on earth.
This is the core wish Kubota aspires to fulfill.

KUBOTA Corporation