



COUNTDOWN TO THE NEXT UITIC CONGRESS

UITIC is in the middle of organisational preparations for the UITIC CONGRESS 2002 in Budapest (Hungary). This follows the success of the 1999 Congress, which gathered together more than 500 participants in Fermo (Italy).

At a recent UITIC Executive Committee meeting in Toledo (Spain), the final dates for the next International Technical Congress of the Footwear Industry were agreed: 10th to 12th October 2002. The meeting place, the Hungarian capital Budapest, had been decided at a previous meeting.

The UITIC Congress is without a doubt the most prestigious meeting of experts on a world-wide level. The objective is to develop technical knowledge in the footwear industry, dealing with the latest technological problems, with the option of visiting footwear factories and auxiliary industries in the organising country.

On behalf of the UITIC, the Testing and Research Centre in Leather and Leather Processing Industries (BIMEO) in close co-operation with BCBTE (Scientific Society of the Leather, Footwear and Allied Industries) from Hungary will be in charge of the actual organisation of the Congress. In order to co-ordinate the sessions those appointed to be responsible for each session have been chosen from the Executive Committee of the UITIC. As a common factor for the conferences there will be an

analysis of different aspects of transnational production of footwear and its components as a result of the growing globalisation of the economy.

Differing from the structure followed in previous editions, the former session and visits scheme has been adopted for the next UITIC Congress.

The total number of sessions will be as follows:

Design CAD techniques, rapid prototyping, sample collection preparation.

Production technology Upper preparation, lasting and assembly.

Product performance: Concepts for the definition of the product, performance, and footwear for special purposes.

Sourcing and distribution: Global sourcing of finished products, managing the supply chain, technologies for promotion and distribution.

These sessions will take place throughout the Congress as follows: a full-time Friday and a Saturday morning. The day before the conferences (Thursday), optional visits to



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footwear and auxiliary companies will be organised and the participants will also have the opportunity to attend the XII International Conference for the Leather and Allied industries, organised by BCBTE on the same date. On Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, tourist activities in the area will be offered as well as the ones included in the programme for accompanying persons.

For further information concerning the Congress preparations, visit the web site www.uitic.org or write to us at the e-mail address uitic@uitic.org.

NEW MEMBERS

Certainly, UITIC activities keep appealing to the technicians of our profession from all over the world and there are more and more members joining our organisation. During the last months, the International Union of Shoe Industry Technicians has extended its borders welcoming new members. Two technological institutes from India have recently joined our organisation, FDDI (Footwear Design and Development Institute) and CLRI (Central Leather Research Institute). Other new members include an institute from Romania, ICPI (National Research and Development Institute for Textile and Leather), LEFASOVN (the Vietnam Leather and Footwear Association) and the company CSM3D International Ltd. from the UK.

UITIC HAS ITS WEB SITE

www.uitic.org www.uitic.org www.uitic.org

UITIC has entered the world of new Information Technologies and already has its own web page linked to the page specially created for the Congress 2002 (<http://uitic2002.bimeo.hu>). Visitors to the site www.uitic.org will be able to familiarise themselves with UITIC's structure, members and functioning, as well as being kept up to date with the latest events and news related to this Association. Both sites will continue offering updated information concerning preparations for Congress and activities, giving the opportunity to access this information to those interested in participating in the said activities or becoming UITIC members.

CIATEC XXV anniversary

This section is aimed at getting to know better the people and institutions that make up our profession. UITIC members are usually associations, but can also be companies, individuals and technical centres, as is the case of our member in Mexico.

This year CIATEC will reach its 25th year in business, during which they have provided nearly 600 thousand technological services to 18.500 companies in the leather-footwear and supply and production chain by means of the following products: Technological Consultancy, Process and Product Certification, Physical, Chemical and Metrology Tests, Research and Development Projects, Training and Fashion Research, and Product Development.

The "Centro de Investigación y Asesoría Tecnológica A.C." (CIATEC) is part of the most important Research Centres system in Mexico (SEP-CONACYT System) which is co-ordinated by the National Council of Science and Technology.

The town of Leon, Guanajuato, is nationally known as the capital of Leather and Footwear, the reason for which CIATEC was founded in 1976. Its aim is to develop regional industries in the Leather, Footwear and Auxiliary sector by providing them with the technological support necessary to increase technological competitiveness in the production chain.

As a key element to sector development, CIATEC aims to participate in the National Footwear and Tanning Industry by being the promoter of research and technological development projects which contribute to the globalisation of its markets and their sustainable growth.

The success of CIATEC is based on the close contact of the institution staff with businessmen and industrialists, where opportunity areas for each client can be detected and a service in accordance with their needs can thus be offered which allows results to be obtained which satisfy their development.

CIATEC has supported the growth of its highly skilled human infrastructure as well as its first-class machinery and systems,

thus making it one of the most important research centres on a world-wide scale. CIATEC has technological units in Mexico City and Guadalajara, and abroad there are subsidiary offices in Lima, Peru, Quito and Ecuador.

For further information or your comments concerning this Research Centre, you can contact CIATEC at:

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UITIC News

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