



ORGANIZZAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE TRASPORTI A FUNE
INTERNATIONALE ORGANISATION FÜR DAS SEILBAHNWESEN
ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DES TRANSPORTS A CÂBLES
INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR TRANSPORTATION BY ROPE
ORGANISACION INTERNACIONAL DE TRANSPORTES POR CABLE

OITAF NEWS

2nd Half-year 1998

The same issue has been published:
in German
French and
Italian

O.I.T.A.F.-NEWS 2/1998

Dear Readers,

“We do exactly the right thing”, a member of our organization sad to me a short while ago. He meant our new way of information policy, the creation of the O.I.T.A.F.-NEWS.

The second edition provides you with more detailed information on our activities, our targets and terms of references, the way we try to recognize current problems and to handle them within the various committees of O.I.T.A.F.

Are we really heading in the right direction with our goals? I ask you this question!

I invite you to cooperate actively, your opinions and proposals are of the greatest importance for O.I.T.A.F.

Karl Trütsch,
President of the OITAF

Introduction

The second edition of OITAF-NEWS is now finished, after the first edition needed more time to be published than expected. The reasons were the translations into four languages and the later changes and additions. But at this point we would also like to emphasize that the translations are made by the secretary's office and the president of O.I.T.A.F. free of charge and therefore the fixation of a deadline does not make sense.

However, in future we try to keep the time shorter. But it is to be considered that the time needed depends also on the content of the respective edition.

Further information offers the O.I.T.A.F. web site respectively homepage on the Internet in five languages under the address <www.oitfaf.org>.

As already indicated in the first edition, we are always presenting one committee in our first five editions. In this edition we are going to present committee no. VI.

Additional, we intend to report on other items, which are not directly connected with O.I.T.A.F. but which might be of general interest, such as the current state of the ropeway guidelines or the CEN standards.

NEWS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF O.I.T.A.F.

The latest meeting of the board of directors took place on April 24, 1998 and the following points were discussed:

International Congress for Transportation by Rope in San Francisco, California USA on May 23-27, 1999.

Mr. Trütsch informs, that in March he himself and further members of the organizing committee, Messrs. Kühschelm and Brugger went to San Francisco and afterwards to Squaw Valley to inquire the state of organization of the congress on the occasion of the OI-TAF/NACS conference. Within three days of full schedule they had the chance to get a well over view of the job of the American friends. First, they had a meeting with the ones responsible of the Marriott Hotel, where the congress will take place, afterwards they met the interpreters, and the same day drove to Squaw Valley to have a meeting with the local organizing committee the day after. The day after the meeting they went back to San Francisco to take their flight back to Europe.

We got a very good impression of the organization during this trip. We can say that the local organizing committee works very well, so that we have no doubts about the success of this congress. Therefore, Mr. Trütsch thanks the local organizing committee for their good job done until now.

Reading committee:

However, it is still to be done a lot and good papers lead also to a successful congress and in this connection the reading committee has still to take some decisions. Therefore, the reading committee has fixed two meetings. The first one took place in Marco Island (Florida) on May 29 and the other one in Munich on July 10. During these meetings the papers were chosen, which will be presented personally on the occasion of the congress.

General Meeting of O.IT.A.F.:

During the meeting of the board of directors the following decision was taken concerning the general meeting which will take place on the occasion of the congress: the general meeting of O.I.T.A.F. takes place on May 24 at 04.00 p.m. During the general meeting the new members of the board of directors and

the supervisors will be nominated according to a list of candidates proposed by the withdrawing members of the board. The new members will be elected for the time of three years.

Further, the board of directors passed the following provisional program:

Program

Sunday, May 23, 1999

8:00 am - 6:00 pm Registration
9:30 am - 4:00 pm Committee Meetings
6:00 am - 9:00 pm Welcome Reception

Monday, May 24, 1999

8:30 am - 9:15 am Opening Remarks
9:15 am - 10:00 am Paper Presentation
10:30 am - 11:15 am Paper Presentation
11:15 am - 12:00 pm Paper Presentation
12:00 am - 2.00 pm Trade show and Lunch
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Trade Show
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm O.I.T.A.F. General Meeting
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Trade Show & Reception

6:30 pm - 22:00 pm Cable Car Reception

Tuesday, May 25, 1999

8:30 am - 12:00 pm Paper Presentations
10:30 am - 12:00 pm Paper Presentations
12:00 pm - 3:00 pm Trade Show
3:00 pm - 5:15 pm Paper Presentations
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm Reception
7:30 pm - 12:00 pm Gala Dinner and Dancing

Wednesday, May 26, 1999

08:30 am - 10:00 pm Paper Presentations
10:30 am - 12:00 pm Paper Presentations
1:45 pm - 3:15 pm Paper Presentations
3:45 pm - 5:15 pm Paper Presentations
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm Final Banquet

Thursday, May 27, 1999

8:30 am - 10:00 am General Session
10:15 am - 11:45 am General Session

Daytime Excursion (non included in the registration fees):

City and the Bay (\$35)
Alcatraz (\$35)
China Town (\$60)
Redwood Forest (\$85)

Post Conference Excursions (non included in the registration fees):

Exploring the Wine Country

- Thursday 1:00 p.m. to Friday 5:00 p.m. (\$425 room double; \$515 room single)

Lake Tahoe / Funitel / Casino Trip

- Thursday 1:00 p.m. to Saturday 4:00 p.m. (\$375 room double; \$540 room single)

Registration Fees:

Congress Members: \$595
(After January 15, 1999: \$675)

Non-Members: \$675
(After January 15, 1999: \$750)

Spouse: \$350
(After January 15, 1999: \$395)

To make a room reservation call 1-415-896-1600. Be sure to mention you are with the O.I.T.A.F./NSAA group. The room rates will be \$ 191 single or double occupancy.

The registration fee includes compendium of papers (translated in English). All O.I.T.A.F. presentations, breakfast, Welcome Reception, Trade Show admittance, *Trade Show Lunch and Reception*, Cable Car Reception and Dinner, Final Night Banquet.

More informations for the congress in the INTERNET: www.oitaf.org

CÁBLEWAYS DIRECTIVE

Austria, who holds the chairmanship of the EU during the second part of this year, stood up for submitting the ropeway guideline again to the work group of the council of ministers for economy for treatment.

During the meetings in the years of 1993 until 1997

no settlement could be reached on the guideline ratified by the EU commission in 1993, this especially because of the contrary opinions of countries with ropeways and those without. Therefore, the treatment of the guideline was interrupted in the first half-year of 1997.

At the beginning of 1998, the Austrian ministry for science and transports under the chairmanship of Dr. Horst Kühschelm, who is a member of the board of directors and chairman of the committee no. IV himself and, therefore, knows very well the various points of views of the countries with ropeways, held first informal discussions with France, Italy, Germany and Spain about the possibility of further treatment of the guideline. At the same time, the countries settled the basic demands of such a ropeway guideline and

line and after all the subsidiary principle for tests of the entire installation is more weighted than in earlier editions. Therefore, the organization of testing of entire installations remains on the demand of each country. But however, so called nominated offices shall be responsible for the EU proceedings of conformity of the various components and sub-systems.

On the basis of these discussions, Austria has submitted a modified version of the guideline to the council of ministers. This version emphasizes more the mentioned principle of subsidiary. This text is currently discussed in Brussels under the chairmanship of Dr. Hartwig of the Austrian ministry for science and transports.

There is cause for hope, that the ropeway guideline will be concluded under the Austrian presidency and so a legal basis will be created also for the application of the CEN standards which are in elaboration.

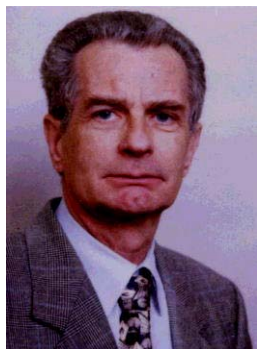
After the approval of the guideline by the council ministers the EU will give the mandate to pass the CEN standards to CEN. These must be checked concerning congruency with the safety requirements included in the guidelines.

Although, it still takes some time until the application of the final CEN standards takes place, we can assume that, after the passing of the guideline all conditions for the introduction of harmonized European standards are given.

PRESENTATION OF A COMMITTEE

Committee no VI: Optimization of operation of ropeways and surface lifts

Chairman: Eng. Francis Crouzet



Mr. Crouzet studied in Lyon at the National Institute of applied Science and graduated as Engineer in the field of Electrotechnical Engineering in 1963.

He has many years of experience with various companies; first division manager with APAVE, then technical director and later responsible for the infrastructure at the Société des Montagnes de l'Arc (SMA) in Les Arcs. In the year of 1985 he became general director of Société des Téléphériques de l'Aiguille rouge in Les Arcs and in 1991 director of Savoie and Haute Savoie again with APAVE. Since 1993 he is technical director at COMPAGNIE DES ALPES and leads the administration of various firms and, further, is consultant of the firm EXTEL and handles other corporate activities. Moreover, since 1996, he is president of the Italian ropeway business COURMAYEUR MONT-BLANC FUNIVIE in Courmayeur (Ao).

Mr. Crouzet is actively working with the following commissions and organizations:

- 1984 - 91 President of the technical commission of the ropeway association
- 1985 - 93 Member of the technical department of the commission for ropeways
- 1987 - 96 Auditor of the O.I.T.A.F.
- 1987 - 88 Member of the committee no. I of O.I.T.A.F. for the elaboration of technical recommendations for chairlifts with fixed grips
- since 1988 President of the committee no. VI: "Problems of public service, breakdowns and rescue" and since 1998 with the name "Optimization of operation of ropeway systems"
- since 1991 President of the working groups I and J of CEN/TC 242 for the elaboration of the CEN standards for the operation of ropeway (Standard 11) Evacuation and rescue and (Standard 12) Operation
- since 1996 Member of the board of directors of the O.I.T.A.F.

Scope of duties of the committee:

Elaboration of recommendations or regulations in connection with the operation of ropeway systems

- Analysis of operational problems with respect to the use of new materials and new applications. Studies about planned or already used solutions in the various countries. Set up of corresponding standardized regulations.
- Review of technological trends in rescue systems and elaboration of corresponding recommendations for using them.
- Analysis of interruptions, occurrences and accidents. Thorough investigation of the cause in connection with the surrounding and work force and methods. Elaboration of recommendations working against these causes or diminishing the effect of it.
- Analysis of possible difficulties in the application of CEN standards "evacuation and rescue" and "operation". Elaboration of suggestions for changes and completions.

Reactivation of the activities of the committee no. VI

Committee no. VI of O.I.T.A.F. exists since many years now, exactly since 1988, and had to deal with the scope "OPERATION" and in particular with the "Problems of public service, breakdowns and rescue".

From 1991 until 1997 its activities were focussed on the elaboration of the CEN standards and the members of the committee were active in the work groups I and J of CEN TC 242.

The work group I dealt with the project which led to the standard EN 1909 "evacuation and rescue".

Work group J did the same to elaborate standard EN 12397 "operation".

The TC decided to submit these two papers for approval. Thus, the activities of the work group I and J are completed.

Therefore, committee VI can continue its activities within O.I.T.A.F.

The involvement with CEN will affect the composition and the scope of duties of this committee.

Concerning the composition of the group it can be expected that the number of members will be higher than in 1991. Even if not all members of the groups I and J will become a member of the new committee, some of them will still be involved in its activities. However, the majority of the affected states as well as the various categories (authorities, operators, manufacturers, ...) will be represented. The

committee will have available a translator for those meetings held in German and French.

The committee will be focussed on questions in the field of "OPERATION OF ROPEWAYS".

This will be subject to rapid changes, as all human activities will be at the beginning of the next century and millennium, and which is a conclusion of the new application practices and continues technical innovation.

More than ever, the importance to draw from synergism of knowledge and experiences of experts will be necessary to find as fast as possible the best solutions to problems which arise from this evolution.

In this sense, the committee will work on optimizing the operation.

It will remain the job of specialized committees, which held meetings when ever necessary, to elaborate purely technical aspects.

The work of the committee no. VI will rather consist of the following subjects:

- Taking into consideration the expectations and demands of the users;
- Necessary knowledge and abilities of the personnel;
- Process and methods which have to be established.

For example, the first subjects could be the following:

- Getting on, transport and getting off with paragliders, hang-gliders etc. for which our installations are not always set up;
- Problems which arise on chairlifts with fixed or detachable grips equipped with conveyor belts;
- Operation of chairlifts with high capacity (8 passenger per chair);
- etc.

The analysis of each subject will consist of :

- Analyzing the problem;
- Listing of regulations which are probably used and specific examination of them;
- Discussion about new regulations which would apply to;
- Elaboration of corresponding regulations;
- Suggestions of possible technical innovations.

Another aspect of the activities of the committee will be the analysis of interruptions, occurrences and accidents. If such an incident occurs very often or becomes an im-

portant character, a particular analysis of the reasons and the circumstances will take place. This way, solutions are to be proposed to prevent from such incidents or to reduce their effects.

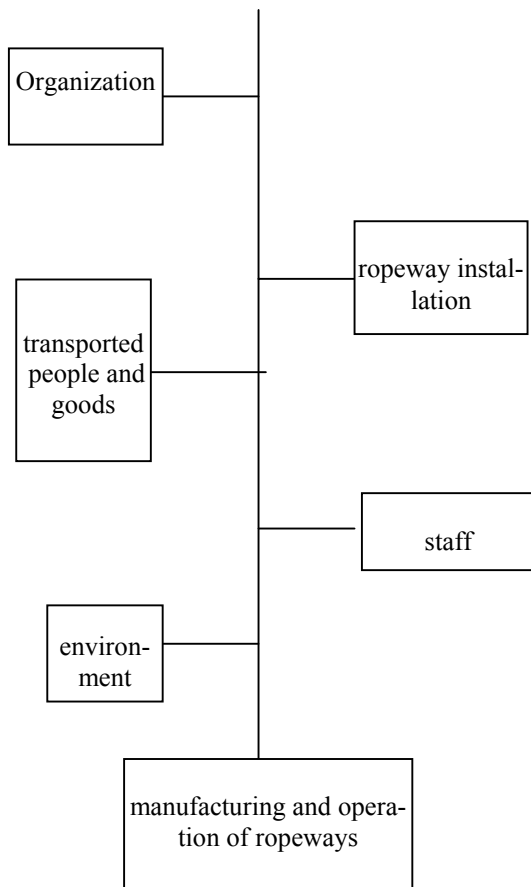
The committee will also deal with CEN standards, which originally come from the committee itself. The committee will analyze the problems which could occur by the application of the standards and propose necessary adjustments or additions.

Finally, between the meetings the members will inform themselves about market trends and the development of the consumption of our products. They will also be involved in technical supervision with respect to the innovations in our scope.

Some thoughts to the activities of the committee, presented by Mr. Crouzet.

Report of the Chairman:

The fields of activities of the various committees can have common points. Therefore, we need a certain coordination between the various committees. The following method can be used to make analyzing of the current situation easier:



The manufacturing and operation of a ropeway depends on:

- The ropeway itself, which can be divided into units, subunits and components.
- The necessary staff for:
 - its construction
 - its operation
 - its maintenance
- The organization and the chosen methods, which are based on regulations, technical recommendations, standards and agreements.
- The transported persons and goods (skiers, pedestrians, adults, children, luggage,)
- The environment where the ropeway is installed (mountain region, weather conditions, day and night,)

Each committee of O.I.T.A.F. will check specially and with priority one and/or the other point of this analysis.

Committee no. I, (Technique of ropeway and technical recommendations) which handles especially technical matters, will deal with the ropeway itself and technical aspects.

The same goes for committee no. II (characteristics and inspection of ropes) and no. III (electrical installations).

Committee no. IV (legal, administrative, economic and statistical matters) will deal especially with problems concerning the transported people and goods and the organization.

Committee no. VI will check the matter of relations to the organization, the staff, the environment and the transported people and goods.

The committee will take up its activities in fall 1998, this because the studies for elaborating the standards 12 "Operation" and 13 "Evacuation and Rescue" of the CEN working groups I and J chaired by Mr. Crouzet are about finished so that no further meetings will take place before long.

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEES.

Committee No. I: Technique of ropeway and technical recommendations

The committee has held a meeting under the chairmanship of Eng. Dr. Sedivy in Fügen/Tirol on June 25 and 26.

Short report of Mr. Sedivy

The meeting was attended by 13 members of the committee, which represent the following group of interested people: operators, manufacturers, university professors, supervisory offices and representatives of authorities from totally seven European countries.

Main point of this meeting was the elaboration of three technical recommendations for particular technical problems of ropeways. The recommendations are to offer technical solutions to all those involved in a ropeway project.

- 1 Recommendations for the consideration of technical features of double-cable aerial ropeways (FUNITEL).
- 2 Recommendations for the construction and the implementation of conveyor belts as loading support for chairlifts.
- 3 Recommendations for the constructive implementation of the installations for the forced separation of rope and grip in the stations of detachable chairlifts.

The publication of individual recommendations is planned for 1999.

On the afternoon of June 26 the visit of the double-cable aerial ropeway (Funitel) "Hinter-tuxer Gletscherbus" in the presence of the plant manager took place. During the visit many technical features of the ropeway and special solutions to the problems as well as the experiences made with the system were explained.

Work Group:

Non-public ropeways

The work group's latest meeting under the chairmanship of Eng. Wolfgang Allgeuer took place in Bregenz (A) on June 24, 1998. During this meeting various objections and remarks were treated. Thus the final text of the "Technical recommendations for the construction and operation of non-public ropeways for the transportation of goods, with a max. payload of 2000 kg" is finished.

The recommendations will be distributed to the members as soon as they are translated in French, English and Italian.

But already now, we would like to thank all the members of this work group and especially the chairman of the work group, Eng. Allgeuer for their work and, we would also like to thank the chairman of committee no. I for the support of the work.

Work Group:

Material transport ropeways and cable cranes

The first meeting of the work group took place in Bolzano on May 15 and Mr. Bonini was nominated chairman.

The work group decided to deal with the following subjects:

- Revision respectively re-elaboration of the technical recommendations for the construction and operation of material transport ropeways with the exception of ropeways (bicable aerial ropeways) for the transportation of goods with a max. payload of 2000 kg;
- Revision respectively re-elaboration of the technical recommendations for the construction and operation of cable cranes;
- Re-elaboration of technical recommendations for the construction and operation of temporary material ropeways (with the exception of those for wood transportation)

The next meeting will take place at the SUVA (Swiss Accident- and Insurance Institution) in Lucern on November 19 and 20.

Committee No. IV:

Legal, administrative, economic and statistical matters

The committee under the chairmanship of Dr. Horst Kühschelm held a meeting in Grenoble on April 22, just before the seminar "Ropeways and Europe".

Short report of Dr. Kühschelm

The O.I.T.A.F. committee for legal and economic questions under the chairmanship of Dr. Horst Kühschelm held its 42nd meeting in Grenoble on April 22, 1998.

The meeting focused on the last works of preparation for the O.I.T.A.F. seminar the day after, which took place on the occasion of SAM and, which was organized by committee no. IV and the president of SAM and the vice-president of O.I.T.A.F. Mr. Jean Charles Simiand. The theme of the seminar was "Ropeways and Europe". Among others,

members of the committee presented the following lectures pointing the way ahead "Skiing slopes and the European regulations" (Dr. Wolfgang Grosslercher, Bolzano) and "European regulations and governmental subventions in favor of mechanical installations" (Dr. Walter Thöny, Innsbruck). Great attention was paid to the seminar and the activities of the committee.

The meeting of the committee served to inform about the skiing season 1997/98 and finally to discuss the papers to be presented by members on the occasion of the congress for transportation by rope in San Francisco in 1999.

The next meeting of the committee will probably take place in late fall this year.

O.I.T.A.F. on the Internet

From now on the O.I.T.A.F. web site is available in the languages English, French, German, Italian and Spanish. These pages give you information about O.I.T.A.F. in general and about the following points in particular:

- What is O.I.T.A.F. all about?
 - Structure of O.I.T.A.F.
 - Statutory matters of O.I.T.A.F.
 - Activities of O.I.T.A.F.
 - NEWS and other information about O.I.T.A.F.
-
- Members' functions.
 - Committees of O.I.T.A.F.
 - Technical recommendations, studies and statistics of O.I.T.A.F.
 - Papers of O.I.T.A.F. seminars.
 - Seminars of O.I.T.A.F.
 - International Congress for Transportation by Rope 1999 in San Francisco.

Further information are available by E-mail: <info@oitaf.org>.

Further information about the international congress 99 in San Francisco are available by on the home page: <<http://www.oitaf.com>>.

Important dates 1999

Meetings:

Management Committee:

in Rome on February 11/12 Octobre 1999

International Congress for Transportation by

Rope 1999 in

San Francisco: 23.05 - 27.05.1999