

Social Programme and Technical Tours



Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen,
Mr. Stadler, Mr. Schögl, Mr. Gassner, Mr. ...
Thank you Mr. Walter for your warm welcome to Vienna
and especially the opportunity to spend an interesting
evening in this wonderful building, the city hall.

THE EXHIBITION PARTY IN THE CASTLE OF CHARLES VI

For tonight we are spending the evening in the
garden of the Castle of Charles VI. The garden
which belongs to the historical district of
Innere Stadt. The evening was organized by
the exhibition of the Congress. The exhibition
will be open from 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. The
exhibition is organized by the Congress
committee. The exhibition is organized by
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TECHNICAL TOURS Guided by Karl Kraus

After a first day's work on Tuesday 18 July, please have
been invited to the technical tours and - guided by
the Congress Director - a half day of technical
congress will be held on Wednesday 19 July. The
technical tours will be held in the morning and
afternoon. The technical tours will be held in
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THE SOCIAL PROGRAMME
Programme Co-ordinator: Michaela Schlögl

The social events during the time of the Vienna Congress have been and had to be elected according to the summer and holiday time. The famous Vienna Opera, the theatres and concert halls are closed in July.

The beginning was the **Opening Ceremony**, of course, where the Johann Strauß Orchestra presented Vienna Waltzes danced by the Members of the State Opera Ballet. Also the **Extraordinary General Assembly** celebrating Eduard Doležal and the return of the Congress to Vienna after 83 years was a social event of the solemn kind with Chamber Music and a fine buffet afterwards in the Festival Hall of the Vienna University of Technology. Both these events have been documented already earlier.

A special guided tour had been arranged for the participants to the **Museum of Fine Arts** on 11 July 1996 in the evening when no mass of tourists disturbed the participants while watching the world's largest collection of Flemish Masters (Breughel, Rubens, Rembrandt and others). A specialist guided the participants, and refreshments have been served afterwards.

The evening at the **Heurigen in a wine tavern** of Gumpoldskirchen was not as calm, rather loud, but everybody enjoyed the typical relaxing atmosphere with delicious food and young wine, the Heurigen. It was midnight when the last guests went to the busses.

**THE EXHIBITORS' PARTY
IN THE CASTLE OF GRAFENEKG**

For another culinary evening the participants met in the garden of the Castle Grafeneegg, 50 km west of Vienna, which belongs to the historically famous Duke of Metternich-Sándor family. This evening was sponsored by the exhibitors of the Congress. The participants found the most delicious meat, typical Austrian dumplings as well as sweet cakes and beer, soft drinks and vine, vine, vine – after the welcome address of the landlord, Franz Albrecht Metternich-Sándor. Active contributions by the congress participants highlighted the evening. Unforgettable were the Zeiss Musicians in the courtyard when it started to rain and the pianists Mojca Fras, Slovenia, and Wolfram Höflinger, Austria, and many other events.

BICYCLE TOUR, Guided by Karl Kraus

After a hard day's work on Tuesday 16 July bikes have been provided near the conference centre and – guided by the Congress Director – a long queue of sportive congressists went up stream on the many kilometres long River Danube Island. Somewhere along the way a break had been arranged for having a snack. The most distant point was near the big sluice where the river divides into two parallel beds, one of them is needed only in case of high water and normally used for recreation activities such as swimming, boating, sailing or water skiing. Prof. Kraus was well prepared for answering the questions on Vienna's problems with the river in earlier times and nowadays, when the water level will be 2-3 m higher after finishing of the new

power station. With back-winds the down stream way home was faster and became a funny racing towards the happy end.

**RECEPTION by the Mayor of Vienna
and Gala Buffet in the Town Hall**

The "Speaking Tube", that was the Congress Newspaper with its 9 issues, reported on 19 July 1996 about the last evening's reception by the Mayor of Vienna just shortly: "Invited by the Mayor of Vienna the hard working people of the Congress had a most pleasant evening. Participants from all over the world danced to Viennese music and enjoyed the last social gathering. Once more the ISPRS family of nations showed their unity."

Specially to be documented is the speech of the evening given by the newly elected ISPRS Secretary General, Prof. **John Trinder**:



Guten Abend, meine Damen und Herren,
good evening, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Mr. Stadtbaudirektor Dipl.-Ing. Gerhard Weber, representing the city of Vienna and the Mayor of Vienna, Dr. Michael Häupl,
Friends and Colleagues!
Thank you Mr. Weber for your warm welcome to Vienna and especially the opportunity to spend an enjoyable evening in this wonderful Rathaus, the city hall.

I am sure that since 1992, all of us have been looking forward with eager anticipation to this, the 1996 Vienna Congress. While here, we have been able to appreciate the greatness of Vienna as one of the centres of culture in Europe, with its rich and proud history. The opening ceremony was a cultural evening to remember, while the additional opportunities that we have had to enjoy the culture have certainly been rewarding.

The name of Austria, or Ostarrichi as it was originally called, has reached 1000 years of history, Austria is to be congratulated for such an achievement. For those of us from the new world such a length of continuous history of a country is hard to comprehend. Vienna also has a long history, going back to about 100 AD, when the Romans occupied it, but it obviously has come a long way since then.

It, of course, was more recently the centre of the former Austrian-Hungarian empire which dominated this part of the world until the World War I. The imposing imperial type of architecture of that period, I am told, is often affectionately referred to as K and K (Kaiserlich und Königlich), let us call it KK, after the rulers of the period. It is certainly one of the aspects of this city's architecture that makes it so attractive. The night lights on the buildings make this beautiful city even more impressive.

I would like to pay a special tribute to another KK of Vienna, Karl Kraus. Karl has been a tireless worker as Congress Director, and together with his colleagues from the Austrian Society, the Vienna Institute of Technology and the state survey department, has organised an outstanding Congress. KK's Institute especially has spent many months preparing for this Congress. Despite this KK and his team has continued to smile and apparently enjoy themselves. I would therefore especially like to express on behalf of all of us, our sincere appreciation to KK for the work that he and his team have done in preparing for such an efficient and high quality Congress. I also express thanks for Karl's wife, Frau Ursula Kraus, for her understanding over the last 4 years. Ursula is a charming woman who has played important supporting role in this Congress.

The primary purpose of an ISPRS Congress is to give us all an opportunity to learn about new developments in Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing and Geospatial Information, and to demonstrate our own contributions to the science. There are, of course, more aspects than the technical sessions, including meetings of the governing body, the General Assembly, and also the lighter side of the Congress, the social functions, such as the Heurigen, castle party and this gala dinner, that give us an opportunity to meet informally with our colleagues, and to develop productive working arrangements. These social functions also have demonstrated Viennese culture and life in Vienna itself. They are very important for a Congress since they give us the opportunity to network, but also enable us to wind down after the concentrated activities of the day.

However, apart from the emphasis on the technical and social side of the Society, there have been two underlying

important messages that we should take away from the Congress.

The first is the real purpose for which we are here. As our honorary member, Fred Doyle expressed so eloquently last week, we are not here for the science alone. The application of our science and technology has had, and should increasingly have a substantial impact on planet Earth. As the world experiences increasing pressures brought about by population growth, and the exploitation of its resources, we must work to provide all information possible that will guide us in preserving our environment and the quality of life on the planet. This is our primary responsibility which we must accept.

We have traced the history of ISPRS in this Congress in two important historical presentations. In the early days of the Society, the application of its science and technology to preserving the environment was at a much leisurely pace, being primarily applied to the development of the first GIS's in the form of maps. However, the pace of development of our Society has increased substantially over the past few decades. We are degrading the environment at a much faster rate now, we are using resources more rapidly, while population is increasing faster. Our responsibilities to use our expertise for the preservation of our planet are therefore even greater and becoming even more urgent. There are so many aspects in which our scientific activities and our technical expertise can assist in achieving this. Let us continue to pursue this challenge with vigour.

The other aspect that has been emphasised in the Congress is that ISPRS is a family, a family of nations, while we ourselves are members of that family. That means that ISPRS welcomes all participants as members of a family, with friendliness, fairness and equity. That principle is enshrined in the statutes and bylaws, but it is also an unwritten law of the Society that is passed on to the new generations. We have welcomed new members to the family, and we have admitted new Associate members which will expand the family even more. I will do my best to ensure that the family is paramount.

As we prepare to close the Congress tomorrow, I cannot close without saying my appreciation to the Council for the last 4 years. Sharing the management and decision making of ISPRS with these 5 eminent people has been a very enjoyable and rewarding experience. I believe that the Society has grown over the last 4 years, due to a large extent to the input from these people.

In closing, I would like once again to express our thanks to the Mayor of Vienna, represented by Stadtbaudirektor Weber at this Dinner for this event staged in the City Hall, and our special thanks to the residents of Vienna, KK and his team for such productive and enjoyable two weeks.

Thank you.

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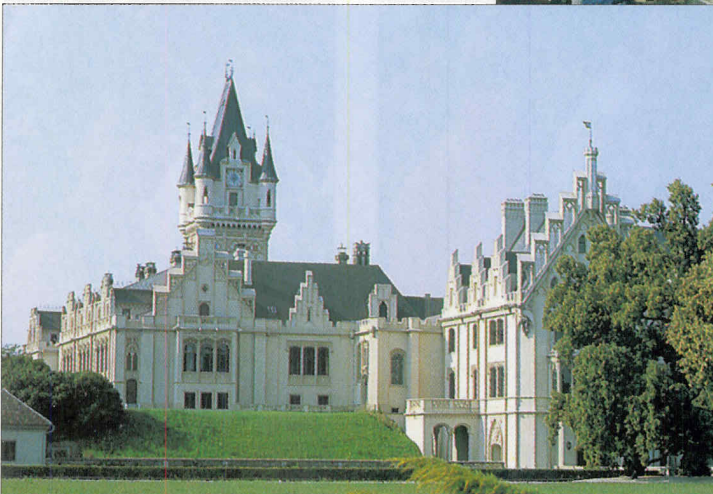
Reception by the Mayor of Vienna and Gala Buffet in the Vienna Townhall



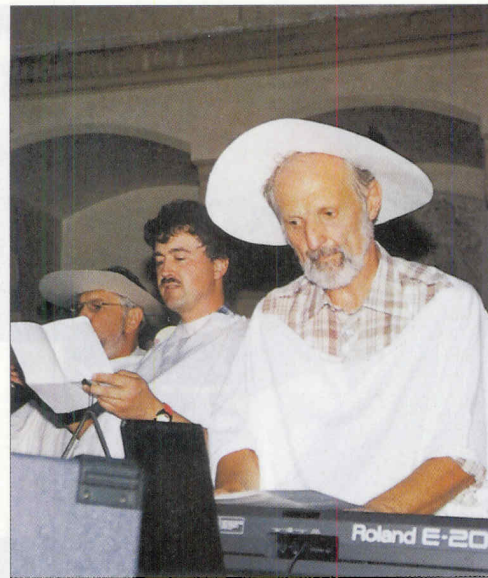
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An evening in a wine tavern („Beim Heurigen“) in Gumpoldskirchen near Vienna



The Exhibitors' Party at the Metternich Castle of Grafenegg



The Exhibitors' Party at the Metternich Castle of Grafenegg

SOCIAL PROGRAMME FOR ACCOMPANYING PERSONS

Visit to the Tower Restaurant Overlooking Vienna and the Danube

The participants took a walk to the Danube Tower where they had a cup of coffee and some cake while they enjoyed the magnificent view over Vienna. Then they took part in a guided tour of the Vienna UN Centre.

Historical Vienna

The participants were taken to see the "Ringstraße" with its magnificent buildings, the State Opera, the Museum of Fine Arts, the "Hofburg" Palace, the Parliament, the Town Hall, the "Burgtheater", the University, and the "Votivkirche". A guided tour of "Schönbrunn" Castle, the former summer residence of the Habsburg emperors, completed the afternoon.

Art Nouveau in Vienna

The participants were taken to see the most important and best-known art nouveau buildings in Vienna and they learned more about their architects, such as Josef Hoffmann, Adolf Loos and Otto Wagner. A visit to the newly renovated "Kirche am Steinhof" was the culminating point of this tour.

Visit to the Clock Museum

On the walk through the old city centre of Vienna, the participants came across a small, but well-known museum: the Vienna Clock Museum just behind the square "Am Hof" with its precious collections which surprises every visitor. After a short walk across "Petersplatz" and "Stephansplatz" the participants concluded the afternoon in a Viennese coffee-house.

A Walk through Old Vienna

On the walk through the city centre of Vienna the participants saw some of its most beautiful buildings and sights. After a visit to St. Stephen's Cathedral they were taken along "Kärntnerstraße" to the "Kapuzinergruft", the burial place for members of the Austrian Habsburg Dynasty ever since 1633. All Habsburg emperors, except for Emperor Charles I, have been laid to rest there in beautifully adorned sarcophagi.



The participants then walked on to the "Hofburg" Palace, the residence of the Habsburg emperors until the end of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and, to this very day, a symbol of the power and wealth of old Austria. There the participants admired the insignia of the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation as well as precious liturgical instruments and items of jewellery of the House of Habsburg.

The tour ended in the National Library with a visit to the "Stateroom", Europe's largest baroque library with its magnificent frescoed ceiling.

Day Tour to the Waldviertel

The "Waldviertel" is a region remarkable for its beautiful landscape and its important contributions to European civilisation. A bus took the participants to the Cistercian Monastery of Zwettl with its beautiful cloister. There specialities of the region have been served for lunch. Afterwards the participants were taken to Rosenau, where they visited the Museum of Freemasonry. The next stop was at the "Rosenburg" Castle where they had the opportunity to watch a falconry show before they returned to Vienna through the Kamp Valley.

Eastern Lower Austria – Carnuntum

Carnuntum, the ancient Roman town at the Limes fortifications, capital under Emperor Marcus Aurelius, is situated 50 km to the east of Vienna. The participants were taken through its ruins near the Renaissance Castle of Petronell and visited the Museum Carnuntinum at Bad Deutsch-Altenburg. After a typically Austrian lunch, they went on to Rohrau to visit the birthplace of composer Joseph Haydn and the Harrach Castle with its outstanding collection of excellently restored baroque paintings. On the way back, the participants stopped by a Heurigen wine cellar for a glass of wine.

Vienna Woods – Mayerling

After a quick glance at the Giant Ferris wheel in the Vienna Prater, the participants were taken past the "Hundertwasser" House to "KunstHausWien", an excellent example of unconventional architecture. The building has become one of the most famous sights of Vienna. They visited the museum and saw the world's only exhibition of paintings by Hundertwasser, a contemporary Austrian artist.

Day Tour to the Wachau

This tour took the participants to one of the most beautiful regions of Lower Austria, the Wachau, famous for its wine, its ruins and castles, its monasteries and lovely valleys. The first stop was at the impressive Monastery of Melk. An outstanding example of baroque architecture around 1700, the magnificent building is the masterpiece of Jakob Prandtauer.

Lunch was served in a small restaurant in a neighbouring village. Then the participants went on through the Wachau, classified as a World Heritage Culture Park, to Dürnstein, where Richard Lion-Heart was kept prisoner for sixteen months. There they discovered the picturesque village of Dürnstein and learned more about the legendary singer Blondel.

Art and Science in “fin de siècle” Vienna

The tour began with a visit to “Belvedere” Castle, which houses the Gallery of the Austrian Museum with its famous paintings by Klimt, Schiele and Kokoschka – outstanding representatives of “fin de siècle” art in Vienna, whose work was shaped by their quest for freedom in art. Then the participants visited the Secession building and the Loos House at “Michaelerplatz” in the centre of Vienna. Lunch was served at Café Central, a place where poets, writers, painters and art lovers of that time used to meet. In the afternoon, they went to the Sigmund Freud Museum at “Berggasse 19”, where the founder of psychoanalysis lived until 1939.

Excursion to the Schneeberg (Snow Mountain)

A trip to the mountains with a nostalgic touch was presented to the participants. After a walk through the small village of “Puchberg am Schneeberg”, they took a narrow gauge rack-and-pinion railway up to “Hochschneeberg” at an altitude of 1795m, the starting point of their walking tour. Lunch was served at a mountain hut, where they met also the small and ambitious group of “alpinists” from Croatia, France and Austria, who came by foot all the rocky way up and down, over-crossing the top of the Schneeberg (= snow mountain, 2076 m) via the so-called Fadensteig (fathom path) and who left the excursion group after the joint luxurious tasting Vienna Schnitzel meal again for their lonely and relaxing way down. The bigger excursion group had a lot of fun together and returned safely by the jerky driving old rack-and-pinion railway down to the waiting bus.

The Vienna Coffee-House

Starting with “Café Central”, the famous meeting place for turn-of-the-century writers in Vienna, the participants visited the most traditional Viennese coffee-houses. To end the tour, they enjoyed a piece of “Sachertorte” and a cup of coffee or tea.

Tombs of Honour of the City of Vienna

A bus took the participants to the Vienna Central Cemetery for a visit to the tombs of honour of musicians and many other famous citizens of Vienna.



The Biedermeier Period and its Musicians

Between 1815 and 1848, the state reacted to growing political pressure by exercising a strict censorship. The famous salons of the town, popular among the upper classes, turned into the cultural centres of Vienna. Love of music became a characteristic feature of the town. That walk took the participants past “Freyung”, “Schottenstift” and “Mölkerbastei” – places closely associated with music and famous musicians. The “Dreimäderlhaus” (Three Girl’s Home) inspired many of Schubert’s songs. During a visit to the Ethnological Museum they had the chance to see and hear the musical instruments of that time. To conclude the tour, coffee and cake was served in a typical Viennese coffee-house.

Augarten Porcelain Manufacture

Augarten Porcelain from Vienna is famous all over the world for its refined and yet simple style. That tour of the Augarten Porcelain Manufacture gave an unforgettable insight into the way porcelain is made and the amount of loving care that goes into each of the items manufactured. Coffee and cake was served at the end of the visit.

“How to Make Apple-Strudel”

At the Vienna Hilton Hotel the participants learned how to make genuine Viennese apple-strudel. They used the opportunity to learn everything about this world-famous dessert. Afterwards they had a cup of coffee or tea with their own strudel.

Klosterneuburg Monastery

Klosterneuburg is situated at the edges of the Vienna Woods, at a distance of 12 km from Vienna. The bus took the participants first to Kahlenberg to enjoy the magnificent view of Vienna. Then they went on to Klosterneuburg, a monastery of the Augustinian Canons founded as a Babenberg residence in 1136. Then they split up into small groups and were guided through the monastery and the baroque imperial residence. The “Verdun Altar”, made of enamelled and gold-plated panels in 1181, is one of the world’s most famous works of art.



TECHNICAL TOURS

Coordinator Dipl.-Ing. Walter Höllhuber

TT 1 Federal Office of Metrology and Surveying, Mapping Division (BEV)

Organiser: Manfred Leidenfrost
Reporter: Manfred Leidenfrost
Participants: 75 on 11 July 1996
25 on 15 July 1996

The stations visited were:

- 1) Remotes Sensing, Aerial triangulation and restitution for the digital terrain model of Austria
- 2) Aerial photogrammetry for the Austrian cadastre, restitution and data collection for the digital cadastral map.
- 3) Digital height model and digital orthophoto
- 4) Digital topographic model (vector data)
- 5) Digital cartographic model (raster data)
- 6) Aerial film development and sensitometry
- 7) Digital reproduction system



TT 2 Vienna University of Technology

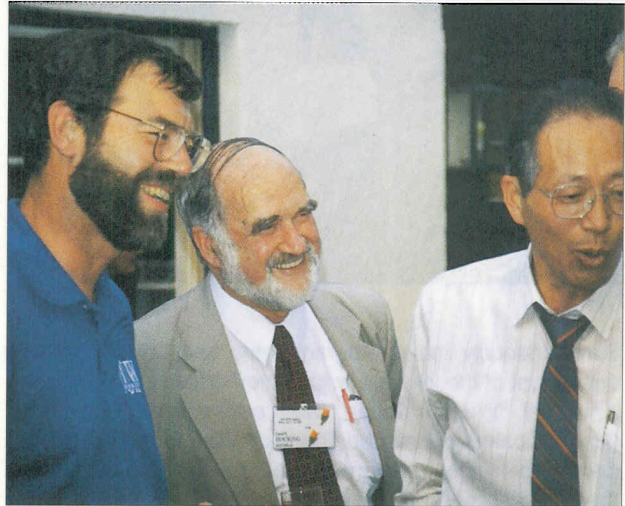
Organiser: Adele Sindhuber
Reporter: Adele Sindhuber
Participants: approximately 50

At the beginning Congress Director Prof. Kraus gave an overview over the history of the University of Technology, then Prof. Waldhäusl spoke about study-plans for surveying-students in Austria.

After this introduction every participant could have a look on three of the following 6 departments:

- Theoretical Geodesy
- Engineering Geodesy
- Geophysics
- Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing
- Landsurvey and Geoinformatics
- Cartography and Reproduction

On this tour you could take photographs with the digital camera Kodak DCS-460 and you saw the Behaim-globe rotating on the screen. You could see the new ways of remote sensing tasks in Austria, actualising the topographic maps with remote sensing. For photogrammetry in medical tasks we say 4 synchronic video cameras, making pictures from the patient. The new



programs SCOP and ORIENT were presented by the Department of Photogrammetry and Remote sensing. Prof. Kraus invited all participants to tea and coffee with „Wiener Gebäck“, where the people asked and discussed about all presented topics. It was a nice tour, where you could get an overview over the programs running on the departments for surveying on the University of Technology in Vienna.

TT 3 University of Agricultural Sciences, Vienna Institute of Surveying, Remote Sensing and Land Information

Organiser: Wolfgang Rieger
Reporter: Reinfried Mansberger
Participants: approximately 25

This Technical Tour was dedicated to photogrammetric and remote sensing applications required for the ecologically and economically sustainable use of natural resources in a harmonic cultural landscape. At the beginning, the participants got a short overview of the tasks of the university and, in particular, of the main research and teaching activities of the institute. As the main part of the programme, the following research topics were presented:

- Analysis of colour-infrared aerial photographs and satellite imagery with regard to agriculture, forestry and landscape planning, such as land use mapping, forest monitoring, protection forest mapping, landscape ecological interpretation.
- Automatic knowledge-based satellite image analysis.
- Geographical information systems as a tool for decision making in the field of forestry planning and of water risk management.



Simultaneously the photogrammetric and remote sensing equipment of the institute was demonstrated. A typical "Wiener Jause" with coffee and "Gugelhupf" (kind of cake) concluded the technical tour and gave a good opportunity for lively conversations, discussions and the establishment of new co-operations.

TT 4 Visit to the Surveying Department of the City of Vienna

Organiser: Erwin Hynst
Reporter: Erwin Hynst
Participants: 87

The Surveying Department's duties are field surveying and the production of plans and maps for the city administration mainly for town planning and constructions. The visitors were shown the different sub-departments and their different tasks. The most interesting presentation was the digital town map of Vienna, a combination of aerial survey and precise ground survey of the street areas. The whole production procedure was explained in detail, the division of work between enterprises and office personnel, the time and cost frame for the permanent updating of the town map database. Finally the graphic workstations was visited with the new softcopy plotters which are going to replace the analytic hardcopy plotters.

TT 5 Institute for Prehistory and Early History of the University of Vienna - Aerial Archive

Organiser: Michael Doneus
Reporter: Klaus Hanke
Participants: 18

First, there was a brief introduction into archaeological prospecting, including aims, methods (especially aerial archaeology and geophysics), applications and results. After that, the Tour divided into three groups, which were each lead through four different sections of the institute: archiving procedure, photogrammetrical applications of

aerial archaeology, geophysical prospecting and photo-laboratory plus archaeological exhibitions.

The main interest was concentrated on the archaeological applications of photogrammetry as well as their combination with the geomagnetic data as a source for archaeological planning of excavations.

In the final discussion, questions about the organisation of archaeology in Austria and the cooperation with the Austrian Air Force regarding the acquisition of aerial photographs were posed. Consequently, the discussion turned on CIPA and the participants agreed to the necessity of interdisciplinary cooperation and exchange of information.

TT 6 Austrian Federal Environment Agency

Organiser: Erwin Knappitsch
Reporter: Erwin Knappitsch
Participants: approximately 20

The presentations included public access to the up-to-date state of environment data in Austria via Internet (<http://www.ubavie.gv.at/>): Interested citizens can retrieve on-line information from several databases (e.g. continuously updated air quality information from all on-line Austrian monitoring sites, data from about 2000 groundwater sampling points as well as maps for different ecological themes.

Concerning the use of Geographic Information Systems for environmental information a prototype for an Austrian Soil Information System, the Austrian Register for Contaminated Sites and the Austrian part of the European Corine Landcover Database, were presented. The use of the Geographic Information System in combination with photogrammetry for the investigation of contaminated sites and the use of Remote Sensing in the Corine Landcover Project of the European Community were of special interest for the participants of the excursion.

TT 7 Excursion to the Austrian Railway Department Planning and Engineering

Organiser: Arnold Eder
Reporter: Arnold Eder
Participants: 4 on 11 July 1996
14 on 12 July 1996

Dr. Potucek explained the planning of the traffic system concerning the main connections in Europe, wherefore the Austrian Railways play an important role. The head of planning for the West-Railway showed graphs about the planning of railway lines. He mentioned that it might be a long and complicated story from the political idea to the project and to its final realisation. The chief surveyor, Dipl.-Ing. Eder, discusses the relation between planning and surveying and mentioned the basic rules for the "Make or Buy" questions. It has been demonstrated that orthophotos are more intensively used now for planning and real estate management. Photogrammetry is unavoidable for studies of noise avoidance along the existing lines as well as for the planning of new lines. He demonstrated the use of AutoCAD and of special tracing programs, the real estate data base and the combination with orthophotos and finally the GIS for the noise

cadastre. He explained the great difficulties he had prior to the installation of the GIS and mentioned that perhaps only small information systems are realistic for well defined projects.

TT 8 Peter Schmid Surveying Services

Organiser: Peter Schmid

Reporter: Heinz Stanek

Participants: 65

The presentation was divided into four parts:

During the first part the history of the company has been described. It was founded in 1951 by Prof. Dr. Hans Schmid, the father of Peter Schmid, a Chartered Surveyor, who occupies today a staff of more than 50 in his firm, mainly surveyors, geodetic and informatic engineers.

The second station of the guided tour brought an overview about the different production lines and the business-like and technical equipment. The most relevant working fields were introduced by different experts, who gave a demonstration at their working place under production circumstances:

- Digital photogrammetry, demonstrated at the first equipment of its kind in private hands in Austria: Image processing and production of digital orthophotos
- Geographic Information System for environmental investigations
- Digital documentation of utility lines (water, gas, electricity, heating, sewage)
- Photorealistic visualisation of planned projects

At a third station a short video presentation showed functionality and usage of a remotely controlled flying camera platform, a small helicopter, which has also been shown at the exhibition of the Congress.

The fourth part was a final discussion, where questions have been answered and additional explanations given according to individual interests of the participants.

Peter Schmid and his representatives were delighted about the friendly atmosphere and about the renewal of contacts with so many interested colleagues from all over the world.

TT 9 Hydropower Plant Vienna-Freudenau

Organiser: Gerhard Köhler

Reporter: Gerhard Köhler

Participants: 25

The last railway bridge had to be lifted for 4.3 m and the highway-Prater-bridge for 1.8 m. The participants learned about the technical data of the power plant, videos and posters were shown. Thereafter everybody went to the south sluices, to the big water inlets, to the turbines, and its montage systems and to the new river bed, where 2100 m³ ran down per second that day, giving an idea of the enormous energy of water. On the way home an impression was given about the work to repair the environment after the building process.

TT 10 Excursion to Graz

Organiser: Mathias Schardt

Reporter: Rainer Kalliany

Participants: approximately 45

After a convenient ride of mere two hours on the motorway, the first venue at Graz was the section of Image Processing, Remote Sensing and Cartography of the Institute of Applied Geodesy and Photogrammetry at Graz University of Technology (TU Graz). Head Prof. G. Brandstätter guided a tour through the laboratories equipped for digital and analogous photogrammetry, image processing and cartographic work. Antennas and a workplace for receiving and processing data from Meteosat and NOAA-AVHRR are also part of the equipment. The research areas are various, such as projective photogrammetry, morphometry, (thermal) remote sensing and alpine cartography.

The second stop was also at TU Graz, at the Institute of Computer Graphics and Vision, headed by Prof. F. Leberl. Demonstrations focussed on imaging devices and processing techniques for 3D acquisition of indoor

and urban scenes, various aspects of radar data processing and internet-based services to provide remote sensing information. A specific task is maintaining the European Magellan Data Node EMDN, with online access to radar images and data catalogues of planet Venus.

The third institution visited by the participants was the Institute of Digital Image Processing of Joanneum Research. Head Dr. M. Schardt and his collaborators showed various applications of geometric image processing, including a robotic setup for developing and testing software for autonomous navigation of a spacecraft landing on a planet. Other key issues were radar interferometry techniques and applications of remote sensing data in alpine and mediterranean regions. After lunch in a downtown restaurant, it was time for the leisure part of the programme. At Piber - 30 kilometers west of Graz - the group attended a guided tour round the stud-farm where the famous "Lipizzan" white horses are growing up. Walking in the sunshine across a green mountain meadow between the white mares and their still dark foals was a lovely experience and pleasant closure of the excursion, before entering the bus heading back to Vienna.

