Edito

Good bye

As I am about to leave the chairmanship, I would like to:

- First of all thank all those who, trusting us, have joined the Federation since our Annual General meeting in Luxembourg in 2005. There are many of them, and from different backgrounds. I also thank the members of the Board who have been helping me during these three years: together, we have travelled along a good road.

- Then emphasise how much I believe in what we have launched: our cultures, our approaches, our methods are often different, but all of us are united around a shared belief, there cannot be any safety of users of electricity, without ensuring the application of the Standards. Verified, by one way or another, but verified!

FISUEL is a family united around this axiom, a family in which one exchanges, one gives, and receives. A family in which the most experienced progress, but, more importantly, help the younger ones; a family which will continue to welcome, and to grow around the world. 

Now I leave its leadership, but I remain confident, absolutely assured that my successor will maintain the same course. As far as I am concerned, I will help him, as much as he may wish, as Philippe André kindly helped me when I had the heavy responsibility of replacing him, it seems only yesterday in 2005.

Good bye, and thanks.

José Tomaz GOMES
President of CERTIEL

NEWS

New member to join FISUEL

During its meeting on 29th February 2008, the Board of Directors pronounced the admission of a new member:

- ACTIVE MEMBER
  - ELECTROSUISSE
    Luppmenstrasse 1
    CH-8320 Fehraltorf
    Tel: +41 44 956 11 11
    Fax: +41 44 956 11 22
    info@electrosuisse.ch
    www.electrosuisse.ch
    contact: adrian.moetteli@electrosuisse.ch

Electrosuisse is the official specialist organization in the field of electrical engineering, power generation and information technology. The Association has around 4300 private and 1750 sector and institutional members. It offers services for the entire electrical engineering industry such as advice, testing, certification and further training. It is committed to promoting the safe, reliable, economical and ecological generation and utilization of electricity. To achieve this aim, Electrosuisse represents Swiss industry in the field of electrical engineering in international standardization and certification bodies and manages the Federal Inspectorate for Heavy Current Installations (ESTI) on behalf of the Swiss Federation.

At its head offices in Fehraltorf and its site in Lausanne, Electrosuisse has a work force of 210 employees and achieves a turnover of CHF 40 M.

1st March 2008: FISUEL and ETMD in Istanbul

On the 1st of March, during Electrotech’08 WIN Fair, FISUEL and ETMD (Elektrik Tesisat Mühendisleri Derneği) organised a major information meeting on the verification of electrical installations.

The two Presidents, José Tomaz Gomes (FISUEL) and Adnan Öksen (ETMD) each invited contributions from speakers who were able to give a complete picture of the different systems of verifying installations before the connection with the network in various countries.
ETMD emphasised the importance of this issue for buildings owned by Public authorities, as well as the significant work achieved by TSE (Turkish Standards Institution). And FISUEL, after having reminded participants of the five minimum requirements of electrical safety, presented the desirability of there being a national Electrical Safety Data Collection Centre, an informal organisation allowing public Authorities to become aware of the situation and to adapt its legislation accordingly.

Summing up, the two Presidents expressed their pleasure at the success of this initiative, resulting in a very successful meeting, rich in information and likely to facilitate the coming together industry participants, who up to now did not know each other, though they shared exactly the same concerns.

Ivan Hammond's – member of the Board of RECI – testimony

"RECI which is short for The Registration of Electrical Contractors of Ireland is a body formed by the Electrical Contractors Associations and the Electrical Technical Council of Ireland for the purpose of:
- ensuring that electrical work carried by contractors is to ECTI Rules and Regulations for electrical installations,
- and the granting of self certification to its Members subject to periodic checking by RECI.

RECI joined FISUEL after the Lisbon Conference some five years ago which was then under the Chairmanship of its founder Philippe André assisted by Denis Hannotin. It was a very interesting time for us as we had something to learn and something to give.

On the learning side there was all the information on the implementation of electrical Standards, the minimum basic requirements for safe electrical installations and the survey of house installations with sub standard wiring. Finally, there was the opportunity to see the Portuguese system of certification which was and still is the most advanced system of all.

On the other hand, like some other countries we also have advanced electrical standards in operation which are compulsory and all new installations have to be certified in order to get an electrical supply from the electricity authority (ESB). As stated above, RECI's members can do their own certification but non-members have to employ RECI to carry out their tests. (Under no circumstances can another electrical contractor certify a non-member's installation).

The above is an example of how FISUEL has helped other countries to introduce their own standards and procedures. The influence of Fisuel in this respect has been great and very successful not only in European Countries but also in Africa, Asia, the Far East, Latin America and hopefully now Turkey.

All countries have some advice to give but more importantly to be given and in this respect FISUEL has proved to be a great and very important success. In Ireland the Electrical Rules & Regulations are now the law of the Country and in a short time every installation will have to be certified even if it is just one single socket.

Finally, I again would like to congratulate President José Tomaz Gomes, Philippe André, Denis Hannotin and all the supporting staff of CONSUEL for their contribution to the success of FISUEL and from personal experience I have no hesitation in recommending Turkey to join Fisuel and receive all the benefits which RECI has had and continues to have."

Ivan Hammond
BE, C.Eng, FIEI (Mech. & Elec)

The CONSUEL

Created in 1964, the Comité National pour la Sécurité des Usagers de l'Electricité (CONSUEL) has reached maturity. Its setting up was certainly gradual
from 1964 to 1970, and its official agreement was obtained only in October 1973. CONSUEL began as a result of the united efforts of electrical contractors and electricity distributors.

Its mission is to carry out any studies and take any action required to ensure people’s safety and to protect property.

It is a not-for-profit organization, under the administrative supervision of the Ministry of Ecology and Sustainable Development, accredited by COFRAC (French Committee for Accreditation) and was granted public utility status in September 2004.

Chaired by Philippe André, founder of FISUEL, the Board is made up of 3 colleges each with 7 members, representing electricity users, energy distributors and electrical contractors.

The administrative centre is based in Puteaux, in the inner suburbs of Paris. The Director general supported by administrative and financial, quality and technical, and data processing departments, leads a team of about 350 employees (including 200 inspectors) based all over the home and overseas departments.

Inspections take the form of directed sampling using a method original both in terms of the choice of the work carried out and its type and frequency. They are made by inspectors grouped in 4 regional offices: North-East, South-West, North-West, South-East and in addition in the regional offices of the French West Indies and Réunion Island.

The management of the inspection process and the stamping of the attestations of compliance is the responsibility of the regional offices.

**Operation and Methods**

A ministerial order of October 1969 lays down that the electrical contractor is responsible for ensuring that the wiring complies with Standard NF C 15-100 (which is based on IEC Standard 60364).

A decree made in December 1972, modified in 2001 underlines that the connection with the network of an electrical installation by the electricity supplier is subject to the presentation of an attestation of compliance by the installation with the safety rules in force. This attestation, set up and

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**VERIFICATION OF THE CONFORMITY IN DWELLINGS**

- **CONTRACTOR**
  - BUYS THE CERTIFICATE, FILLS IN IT, SIGNS IT AND SUBMITS IT TO THE INSPECTION BODY

- **INSPECTION BODY**
  - NECESSITY OF INSPECTION
    - YES
      - INSPECTION SCHEDULED AND PERFORMED
      - INSPECTION CONFORMING?
        - YES
          - STAMPS THE CERTIFICATE
        - NO
          - CONNECTS THE INSTALLATION TO THE NETWORK

- **POWER SUPPLIER**
  - CONNECTS THE INSTALLATION TO THE NETWORK
signed by the person who has carried out the work, on an official form (called Cerfa – Center for the Registration and Revision of Administrative Forms) must be stamped by an accredited body.

This decree initially applied to all new buildings. In 2001 it was extended to also cover completely renovated buildings and partial renovations or additions.

There are two models of attestations of conformity: one for housing, the second for the other buildings so-called “premises subject to specific regulations”.

The person who has carried out the work must buy blank CONSUEL attestations, complete and sign them, confirming the successful completion of the work and accepting his responsibility, and sends it back to CONSUEL with a view of a possible inspection.

Then, by sampling, CONSUEL, either stamps the attestation or inaugurates an inspection on site to verify the conformity of the work. When non-compliances are found, the person who has carried the work is invited to rectify them, and a second inspection follows before the attestation is stamped.

The stamped attestation is then sent back to the person who has carried out the installation who after presenting it to the energy supplier is allowed to make the connection to the network.

**Development and Evolution**

Over the years, other activities have been added to the original mission of verifying electrical installations.

At the request of many group housing managers and of individual customers concerned with the quality of their former installation, CONSUEL has developed and market an “electrical safety diagnosis check”.

CONSUEL also carries out the inspection of specific facilities such as:

- Heat pumps,
- Photovoltaic cells,
- and, as a subcontractor of COSAEL (Committee for the control of the quality of reception of audio-visual signals), of:
  - Multi-outlet aerial systems
  - VDI networks (Voice, Data, Image).

It also carries out inspections for clients such as PROMOTELEC (Association for the Advancement of safety and comfort in the Electric Building): “labels”, “customized” diagnoses.

CONSUEL normally takes part in events in regions initiated by trade associations or by energy suppliers, including meetings for the technical information of contractors.

Concerned with its efficiency, CONSUEL continuously improves services it brings to users and electrical contractors through the use of information technologies.

The development of the website www.consuel.com allows:

- Easier access to administrative and technical information,
- The ordering of and the secure payment for attestation of conformity forms,
- In a near future: the introduction of online files.

By the end of the year, each inspector will be equipped with a computer for the preparation of inspection reports, which will allow a paperless handling of such reports with more accuracy and speed.

CONSUEL has been working for more than 40 years for the development of Electrical Safety.

It has been visited by many foreign visitors, and with a willingness to share its original experience with other countries it has been actively involved in setting up FISUEL, in February 2002.

Today CONSUEL is a technical reference point, recognized by the industry and by the Government. In 2004 this skill has resulted in the “Recognition of Public Utility” by the French Authorities.

Contact : michel.faure@consuel.com
www.consuel.com

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**Dates for your diary**

- **21 May 2008, Cracow (Poland)**
- **From 24 to 26 June 2008, Nairobi (Kenya)**
  - 16th congress of UPDEA: [www.updea-africa.org](http://www.updea-africa.org)
- **4 and 5 July 2008, Yaoundé (Cameroon)**
  - Information Exhibition on Standardisation, Safety of Electrical Installations
- **8 and 9 September 2008, London (England)**
  - Electrical Safety Council, conference on counterfeiting: [www.esconference.org.uk](http://www.esconference.org.uk)
- **November 2008, Seoul (Korea)**
  - International Forum of Electrical Safety

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**Fisuel Info is available on request by e-mail.**

21, rue Ampère 75017 PARIS
Tel. 33 (0) 1 56 79 50 10
Fax. 33 (0) 1 56 79 50 15
e-mail : fisuel@fisuel.com