



local and International partners in electrical safety, users, the press and various persons interested in matters related to electrical safety.

By way of preamble to the work of the General Meeting, a round table was organized on May the 8th, 2012, which drew together the African States being members of Fisuel, to prepare a report on electrical safety in Africa, and to exchange experiences. The following conclusions were reached at the said assembly:

- In the majority of African countries there is real awareness on the part of the highest authorities of the importance of matters related to electrical safety within the global framework of Civil Protection.
- However, many are the countries lacking a specific legal and regulatory framework, nor are there institutions/bodies responsible for guaranteeing awareness of problems related to electric safety.
- In those countries where such provisions already exist, considerable work is being carried out, even though entire fields remain untouched; specially, standardization issues, qualifications for the industry's professionals, realization by the general public that electrical safety is not something alien to them, etc.

In May 9, 2012, a meeting was held of FISUEL's Board of Directors for the purpose of preparing the ground for the General Meeting. Preliminary work came to an end with a visit to a thermal electricity generation plant, CIPREL, which is turning to be both a technological and a financial success.

On the occasion of the opening ceremony, on May 10, 2012, three speeches were respectively delivered by, Dr. Amédé Kuaku, General Manager of LBTP; Señora Patricia Yerfino, Chairwoman of Fisuel; and Mr. Patrik Achi, Minister of Economic Infrastructures of the Republic of Ivory Coast. After the addresses, the LBTP partners made a tour of the stands of FISUEL, of the manufacturers of equipment, of the building industry and electrical installations professionals, as well as those of the operators involved in all parts of the electricity value chain.



Picture of the visit to Sicable

Policy and the results of 10 years of activity by Fisuel.

- Regulation, certification of electrical installations,



Visit to the stands of collaborating companies by Mr. Patrick Achi, Minister of Economic Infrastructures.

compliance control, diagnosis of electrical safety and the management of disputes.

- Standardization, energy efficiency, forgery, problems related to the extension and widening of distribution networks, etc.

These presentations gave rise to highly enlightening debates, from which the following issues can be drawn:

■ The users as well as the professionals, need to be sufficiently informed and made sensitive to the challenges of electrical safety, and aware of the need to implement good practice in matters related to electrical installations.

■ Fisuel has carried out in this regard a whole range of activities such as:

- The organization of visits.
- The definition of 5 minimum requirements concerning electrical safety.
- The publication of 3 manuals.
- The carrying out of surveys about accidents of an electrical nature and the creation of a website.
- A worldwide good practice guide.

■ Fisuel is planning, for a future date, the creation of a worldwide database of experts on electrical safety.

■ Standardization, already in place though it is, requires ample divulgement; implementation, on the other hand, demands a greater effort.

■ The forgery, the uncontrolled urban development and the insufficient qualification of professional installers, mainly in Africa, aggravate the risks of electrical accidents. In case of accident, some mechanisms for the management of disputes have been devised, although they need to be improved.

■ In the majority of countries different solutions are either being implemented or under consideration; however, such efforts need to be strengthened by means of a new, appropriate legal and institutional framework, mainly in Africa.

The Board's efforts were countenanced by several decisions and Mr. Noël Guetat, Chief of Staff, representing the Minister of Mines, Petroleum and Energy of the Republic of Ivory Coast, delivered the closing speech.

Dates for your diary

- **Monday the eleventh and Tuesday the twelfth, respectively, of March 2013, Paris, (France)**
 - Office and Board of Directors
- **Wednesday the twenty ninth to Friday the thirty first of May 2013, New Delhi (India)**
 - General Meeting



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FISUEL NEWSLETTER

International Federation for the Safety of Electricity Users

Editorial



FISUEL's New Strategic Orientations

Abidjan, in May 2012, and Sao Paulo, in November 2012, are two events, namely the General Meeting and the International Forum, respectively, that have made it possible for us to support and explain our new strategic plan. These 10 years of activity (2002/2012) have gradually forged and woven bonds of trust and pooling of efforts among all of us.

Foundations are quite secure, as regards experience, feedback and abilities, with a view to building a new phase of electric safety.

The strategic plan can be summed up in 3 main focal points:

- Our corporate purpose is being widened, with a view to reaffirming and guaranteeing the complete and lasting safety of electric installations (the installation and its evolution, the products and the agents).*
- Our organization as well as our operation must make it possible for all, on the one hand, to get involved in an increasingly easy way, with a view to strengthening our database and to making it more trustworthy (in terms of technique, good practice, experts, statistics...); and, on the other hand, to furthering our action in all the new countries still outside the FISUEL roll of members.*
- It is our ambition to confirm our standing as world leaders in the field of electrical safety. We have set ourselves a highly ambitious budget, with the goal of doubling it in 5 years, and increasing the number of members to 60, crowning it with a better geographical representation.*

Such is, in a few words, the fresh impetus we have given to FISUEL. The Board of Directors and I personally wish all of you good health and prosperity for this coming year, 2013.

Patricia YERFINO
Chairwoman

Current Affairs: Message from Adiouma Dione



Dear Fisuel friends: As I announced at the meeting of the Board of Directors of our Federation, my right to retire as of the Thirty-first of December, 2012, has been acknowledged. Accordingly, I'm leaving the position of General Manager of PROQUELEC and, implicitly, that of Vice-president of FISUEL.

It is with the greatest sadness that I leave the great family that makes up FISUEL, where I have nothing but friends, all of whom are wholeheartedly devoted to the development and the expansion of our organization. With all of you I have been through excellent moments, of great cordiality and intense work, in almost every corner of the World in which FISUEL has made itself known.

We have achieved great and excellent things, courteously and effectively, being, in this manner, instrumental in providing our young Federation with the necessary impetus. My most sincere gratitude to everyone; specially to my fellow managers, with whom I have spent unforgettable moments.

Thanks for everything and Long Live FISUEL!

Adiouma DIONE

■ Active member



NICEIC, represented in the Board of Directors by Mr. Jim Speirs, submitted its resignation as a member of FISUEL in March 2012, which was accepted by the Chairwoman. NICEIC specifies that it will be represented within FISUEL by the head office, ESC (Electrical Safety Council). NICEIC wishes FISUEL to keep on successfully promoting electrical safety and the development of good practice. We wish to convey to Jim Speirs our gratitude for his involvement at the very heart of the Board of Directors.



He will be replaced by Fesia's chairman, Dr. Akio Nakamura, at the beginning of 2013. Chosen within Fesia itself, Mr. Nakamura will only hold his position for the appropriate period until Mr. Jim Speirs' stint comes to an end; that is, until 2014. His appointment will be subject to the ratification of the 2013 General Meeting, to be held in New Delhi.



The 2012 Strategic Plan



FISUEL, which has already reached the age of ten, was set up in 2002, having as the foundations of its activity, the supervision of electrical installations, with a view to guaranteeing their safety as regards electricity users. Since its creation and, in a gradual manner, Fisuel has been providing itself with an increasingly effective organization.

Over these 10 years, Fisuel has issued lengthy communiqués, using as a starting point a wealth of information included in its database. Numerous instruments of communication have been brought into being, such as Fisuel infos, newsletters, leaflets, handbooks, questionnaires and sets of arguments. And, finally, the Web site, <http://www.fisuel.org>, to make all this extensive information available to all of you.

Fisuel has also established itself and grown throughout the World. In 2012, it has a presence in 21 countries through 34 bodies. These 10 years have enabled Fisuel to acquire a thoroughly tested working method with 3 incentives. The first one consists in sharing values, such as exchange, mutual aid and friendly coexistence. Next comes the implementation of practical knowledge. And thirdly, our organization, which works to perfection, with its various manifestations: Forums, General Meetings, Working Groups.

But over these 10 years, we have realized that the world has changed:

- Day in, day out, electricity plays an increasingly predominant role in a world inhabited by close to seven billion people, many of whom have no access to electricity. According to calculations, 20% of the world population find themselves in that situation.
- Our needs are significantly growing, while electrical installations are not always evolving accordingly. In Europe, 70% of homes, in other words 160 million, are over 40 years old, which means that they have an electrical installation that may involve risks, which is why we must develop policies that improve the condition of existing installations.



- Products being the result of unfair competition (forgeries, fraudulent imitations, non-compliant products and dangerous products) are proliferating alarmingly. They amount to between 10 and 15% of world trade, and in certain regions can reach extremely high percentages. Consequences of their

utilization are quite serious, and they may even become grave for electricity users. This, and no other, is the reason why we must fight against this type of products.

- Likewise, the ageing of electrical installations and products is causing numerous fires, whose consequences, both human and material, are of the utmost importance. In France, approximately 30% of house fires can be traced to the electrical system, which result in 80,000 fires, 4,000 electrocutions and 100 deaths. Because of that, we must guarantee and promote, for our own sake, lasting electrical safety.

All the preceding has led us to consider a new strategic plan, which, at a later stage, was put to the vote in the General Meeting held in Abidjan in May, 2012. With this new strategic plan, Fisuel is broadening its corporate purpose. Our goal is, first and foremost, the safety of electricity users, both in new installations and in those already existing, and a lasting safety at that. Our aspirations have led us to having become an international point of reference in terms of electrical safety. Our aim is the implementation of all 3 indissociable components in order to guarantee safety: reference, compliance and vigilance for professionals, electrical installations and products.

5 work modules stem from this strategic plan:

1. The structuring and organization of Fisuel into 6 geographical areas, providing a better worldwide coverage, and revitalizing exchanges.
2. Strengthening and centralizing information and making it visible through good communication media.
3. Organizing and developing Fisuel's works, so that good practice be collected and shared, from the newest to that already in existence; from standardization to compliance assessment; from the supervision of installations to the fight against fraudulent products; and from rural and suburban electrification to innovations (electrical or photo-voltaic vehicle).
4. Enhancing relationship with the stakeholders: developing the lobbying and the influence on institutions and end users.
5. Providing Fisuel with a permanent team: manager, assistant, webmaster...

The first stages of this new strategic plan consist in:

- Revising our regulations, for electrical safety is everybody's responsibility. The new regulations will be submitted for approval to the coming General Meeting due to be held in New Delhi in May 2013;
- Enhancing Fisuel's credibility, by improving the database;
- Strengthening our communication, by means of a gradual change in our institutional image, and through the dynamics of our Website <http://www.fisuel.org>;
- Availing ourselves of a very ambitious budget, by doubling that for 2012 within 5 years;
- Putting a dynamic and structured organization into action. The "exchange and convergence" working groups will be strengthened in all areas, with local animation and corporate coordination.

This plan offers the chance of strengthening our links, reinforcing our database for all components of electrical safety, and helping to stop the progress of unsafety. Finally, Fisuel will be one of the agents making it possible to provide everyone with electricity in total safety.

"Make the most of your safety"

The Sao Paulo, Brazil, International Forum held on the Twelfth and the Thirteenth of November, 2012



The FISUEL annual International Forum took place on November 12 and 13, 2012 in Sao Paulo, Brazil, with the sponsorship of CERTIEL BRASIL.

The Forum's subject was "the current situation and the main challenges concerning safety of electrical installations in Latin America, as well as the voluntary model launched in Brazil". It made it possible to understand the electrical situation in Brazil; the innovative experience aimed at the shanty towns, launched in Argentina; the Portuguese process for the control of electrical installations; and the periodic control implemented in Japan. Likewise, it provided a propitious opportunity to put forward and share FISUEL's new strategic orientations, stemming from highly positive results over the last 10 years since its establishment in 2002.

Eleven countries sent their representatives: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Korea, Ivory Coast, France, Japan, Mexico, Portugal and Senegal. With your attendance and, above all, your presentations, you all have contributed to the success of our Forum.

We can only regret the poor representation in the said forum of South American countries, when the fact is that we could have had an excellent opportunity to promote electrical safety in the said countries, besides exchanging experiences, such as the Argentinian proposal.

It was, in spite of everything, a real success due to the quality of the organization and the warm welcome, the excellence of your presentations, and to all the experience we were able to share. Without CERTIEL BRASIL, and without each and everyone of you, this Forum would have been an unmitigated failure. FISUEL sincerely thanks CERTIEL BRASIL for the support and the help provided.

Organizations having a presence in Brazil and throughout the World:

ABB, Abilux, Abinee, Abnt, Abracopel, Abradee, Abrinstal, Abroc, Aes Eletropaulo, Ance, APSE, Barreto Engenharia, Beghim, Certiel, Certiel Brasil, Cobei, Condumax, Corner Engenharia, Cyprium Consultoria, ECI, Engeteste, Fesia, Gbc



Brasil, IEC, Iee-Usp, Iexcert, Inmetro, International Copper Association, Kesco, LBTP, Legrand, Lumière, Mdj Asses Engenharia, Miomega Engenharia, Oceba, Phelps Dodge, Procobre, Promotelec, Proquelec, Qualifio, Target Engenharia, Technologie Zentrum, Schneider Electric, Shitsuke, Siemens, Sindicel, Sindinstalação, Spdm, Voltimum.

Presentations by the persons who took part in the forum:

- FISUEL – Institutional presentation.
- FESIA/Japan – Control system of newly-built and existing electrical installations; summary of a control model and its results.
- APSE/Argentina – Safety through the regulation of electrical installations in substandard housing.
- CERTIEL/Portugal – Origin and actions.
- INMETRO/Brazil – The Brazilian situation as regards the certification of products and installations.
- CERTIEL BRASIL/Brazil – Results from 3 years of experience in the certification of electrical installations in Brazil.



General Meeting held in Abidjan, in May, 2012



Summary by Amédé Kouakou, LBTP Ivory Coast



The team thanks to whom LBTP is a member of Fisuel

Within the framework of its activities, FISUEL organizes two statutory meetings, namely, the General Meeting and the Forum. The said international meetings are held in the member countries, and Ivory Coast was honoured to be chosen to provide the venue in 2012 for the works of the General Meeting, whereas the Forum was to be held in Brazil.

However, with a view to achieving much more widespread coverage of the challenges posed by electrical safety, LBTP, from Ivory Coast, a structure being a member of FISUEL, in cooperation with its partners, organized on the occasion of the said General Meeting, a mini-forum dealing with "safety in electrical installations and the extension of networks to fringe areas and shanty towns".

Representatives of various member states took part in the said sessions, France, Japan, Belgium, Argentina, Senegal, Cameroon, Congo, Switzerland, Benin and Portugal being worthy of mention, as well as members of the management of FISUEL. Locally, the highest political authorities of Ivory Coast (Minister) were in attendance, and we had the benefit of the participation of agents from the electrical sector, of