
Agenda 1: Activity Report 2016

Fiscal Year 2016 (1 Apr 2016 – 31 Mar 2017)

1. Introduction

The chairmanship of the IPA was transferred from Prof. Malcolm Bolton to Prof. Osamu Kusakabe, April, 2016. According to the Activity Plan 2016, Item VI (A mid to long term plan), the new chairman reviewed and re-evaluated IPA activities based on 10 years experiences since the inauguration in 2007, including Research Activities (Activity Plan Item I), International Conference Activities (Activity Plan Item II), Committee Activities (Activity Plan Item III), Public Relations Activities (Activity Plan Item IV) and Member Services (Activity Plan Item V).

The Chairman proposed five pillars of basic operations of IPA:

- (1) Systematic and effective operation as a mature international organization,
- (2) Enhance research activities,
- (3) Disseminate technical information,
- (4) Information sharing IPA activities among IPA members,
- (5) Financially sound organization,

Accordingly, the original Activity Plan has been partly modified.

2. Systematic and effective operation

The chairman set up three working groups which were approved at the gathering of the members of Directors in Kochi, July 2016:

WG-1: Review of Constitution

WG-2: Case history volume

WG-3: Website updating

The chairman also set up the steering committee for smooth and effective operation.

The Constitution had not been reviewed since the inauguration of IPA. WG-1 prepared the initial draft of the amendment of the Constitution. After some clarifications and modifications by the steering committee, the modified draft was circulated to all the members of Board of Directors on November, 21, 2016 for review and comments. The proposed amendment was approved by the Board of Directors and it will be included on the agenda of the General Assembly 2017.

Further to the amendment to the Constitution, the steering committee has drafted the proposed By-laws and Regulations in conjunction with the Constitution for effective operation avoiding ambiguities. The proposed By-laws and Regulations will be presented to the next Board of Directors meeting scheduled in July 2017 for review and approval.

Along with the amendment of the Constitution, it may be appropriate to revamp the members of Board of Directors and the steering committee prepared the candidate

shortlist for the members of Board of Directors and Auditors (for two years term), which is also subjected to the approval by the General Assembly,

Reflecting the importance of gathering case history in press-in engineering, WG-2 was formed. Some case histories were presented in Newsletter. WG-3 considered to updating of IPA website, which will be renewed in the fiscal year of 2017.

3. Enhance research activities

In relation to Item I (Research Activities), IPA established three technical committees under the Research Committee as follows: *(as of 31st May 2017)*

TC-1: Technical Committee on Application of Self Retaining Tubular Pile Wall to Hard Ground (*tentative)

Chair: Dr. Jiro Takemura, *Associate Professor at Tokyo Institute of Technology*

No. of members: 14 (fourteen)

No. of meetings: 2

TC-2: Technical Committee on Estimation of Subsurface Information from Data Obtained during Press-in Piling (*tentative)

Chair: Dr. Osamu Kusakabe, *President of International Press-in Association*

No. of members: 9 (nine)

No. of meetings: 1

TC-3: Technical Committee on Expansion of Applicability and Assessment of Seismic Performance of PFS Method (*tentative)

Chair: Dr. Jun Otani, *Professor at Kumamoto University*

No. of Members: 24 (twenty-four)

No. of meetings: 2

To support TC activities, some budget was allocated from those for the 6th Research Grand Award (Item I-3) from the view of effective use of limited financial resources.

4. Disseminate technical information

Along with the original Activity plan Item I-2 and 3, “**Press-in retaining structures: a handbook, First edition 2016**” was published in December, 2016. The first IPA seminar on Press-in Technology was held in Singapore on March 2, 2017, utilizing the Handbook. This seminar fulfilled the major functions of the 6th International Workshop as was planned in Item II-2.

IPA considered itself that the organization is matured enough to hold an international conference in triennial basis, and formed the organizing committee in February, 2017 for the international conference to be held in September, 2018. This will cover the essence of Item II (International Conference Activities), and Item I-4 (Publication of 5th Proceedings of “Press-in Engineering 2017”).

5. Information sharing IPA activities among IPA members

In relation to the original Active Plan IV (Public Relations Activities), IPA launched Newsletter by forming the Editorial Board since September 2016. The following issues were published and distributed to all the IPA members during this fiscal year.

Vol.1, No.1	September, 2016	17p
Vol.1, No.2	December, 2016	21p
Vol.2, No.1	March, 2017	28p

6. Financially sound organization

There are three main sources of income; membership dues, sales of outcomes of research activities and donation. As of 31st March, 2017, the membership increased from 496 to 575 (individual member category), from 30 to 43 (corporate member category).