

GROUP DISCUSSION 2

The Future of ITTC

Session Chair:

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1 Background and Motivation

Besides the very important issue of developing tasks for existing committees and defining new committees, discussions with different representatives of ITTC member organizations showed that for an organization like ITTC the wish and the necessity exists to look more into the future. This means to discuss the future role of ITTC and if possible to define future tasks. During the discussion in EC it was even discussed to prepare an outlook for the next 10 to 15 years. Such a type of master plan can also be a base for discussions with national authorities, but mainly for discussions with our clients from the shipbuilding and offshore industry. This last issue was not part of this group discussion in Copenhagen but is important for the future task of the EC working group.

Everyone agrees that ITTC is a sensible and useful organization – particularly model basins clients. We believe that main results of the committees work like recommended procedures and guidelines are useful, especially in disputable circumstances. However we must realize that how ITTC works (the established way) is not fixed forever.

At the moment different committees question whether the way how we operate in the committees is still adequate. Does ITTC need to be more flexible to react on new ideas which occur during the three years period? What could more flexibility look like? How to ensure more flexibility? If ITTC forces a committee chairmen to react in short terms, to react flexibly on new requirements, this means more responsibility and more freedom for the chairmen to change/modify some of the given tasks. But if so, should this be done with / without the agreement of the AC? Which also means short reaction times of AC members; and this could also end up in more meetings of some committees which again needed to be accepted by the ITTC organizations who send members into the committees. This means finally more engagement and more responsibilities of the member organizations

The objective of this group discussion was to talk about the future of ITTC, especially to discuss the trends how ITTC has to deal with its future role in political and administrative bodies like for example ISO, IMO, ... Additionally, the impact of such a new orientation on the activities of the different ITTC members and representatives should be discussed.

2 Agenda

For the presentations different topics and viewpoints on the above mentioned ideas were selected, keywords were addressed and highlighted by the presenters. The ppt-presentations are part of this volume III of the proceedings.

The presenters and the titles of their presentations were as follows:

J. Friesch Hamburg Ship Model basin

Why this discussion on the Future of ITTC ?

G. Strasser Vienna Model Basin

The future role of ITTC in relation to political national and international bodies

In this presentation the focus was given to the following key points:

- shall, needs ITTC to become more political?
Whatever political means in that consensus?
- Authorization
- Representation
- Reaction times
- Responsibilities, Compensation
- Interaction with AC and/or EC

L. Wilczynski CTO Gdansk (presented by J. Friesch)

The future role of ITTC in relation how to make the work between the conferences more fast, more efficient and more flexible.

In this presentation the following topics were addressed:

- why do we need changes
- do we need more efficiency, more flexibility
- How can we ensure this?

S.H. Van Moeri Korea

The future role of ITTC – the Asian View

In this presentation the Asian view especially when taking into account the voluntary role of ITTC membership was addressed

- decision making process in a voluntary association
- representation of Asia as the large shipbuilding area??
- How to ensure that the members follow the procedures and if not, why

F. di Felice INSEAN

The future role of ITTC in relation to research

The topics discussed were:

- do we need so many university representatives in the committees
- should there be a minimum number of representatives of commercial tanks in the com.
- how to ensure the most new developments
- how to be „in time“ and not behind new and important developments

V. Ehlers Lloyds Register

The future role of ITTC for the customers of the commercial tanks

In this presentation the view of an end user was shown:

- view of an end user
- how has EEDI influenced the end users work in relation to model basins.
- How can the expectations be addresses and how have they changed in the very near past
- what do we have to expect in the future

3 Discussion

One main question discussed by several persons was the future role of ITTC in terms of political actions. There were a large number of contributions which showed that most of the member organizations think that ITTC is best placed to provide reliable technical advice to external bodies like IMO, but that ITTC cannot and should not be a political organization. And this is not only because some of the ITTC member organizations are state owned institutes and not private ones. It was strongly suggested that the main role of ITTC should still be technical.

Nevertheless all discussers agreed that it is indeed necessary for ITTC to show up at the meetings of IMO and some even suggested that this should also be possible in other organizations like ISO, IACS, Associations of ship yards and /or ship owners and it was also suggested to have representatives of those bodies participating in AC meetings. Most of the discussers appreciated the work done so far by the AC Chairman in IMO and ISO and strongly advocate for a continuous participation of an ITTC representative in the IMO and ISO assemblies. Most of the discussers also agreed that for such a representation a fast procedure to come up with decisions is necessary, which means that sometimes it would not be possible to wait until a committee will come to a solution. But nevertheless some

discussers also required that the decisions made should be collective and supported by at least a number of members involved in the specific topic. Therefore their suggestion was to give the right to the AC chairman to arrange expert meetings in very short times using video meetings and/or email-communications. The decision of such a meeting will then justify the further action. This is what at least to some extent is already included in the Fast Track Decision Procedure (FTDP).

The discussion also showed that if we call such a behavior political we need to define how we come to reliable results which give us the legitimation to act as representatives in the different mentioned bodies. And this legitimation can only be based on reliable work we perform in our institutes and this means we have to ensure reliable results. It is the responsibility of each member organization to ensure the quality of the work performed. It was suggested to limit the amount of procedures, to try again to understand more of the physics behind all our work and it was mentioned that quick responses are necessary not only for the different bodies mentioned above but also for the clients of the model basins. Terms of references should be less vague, less incoherent and goals should be better defined. Additionally it was mentioned that the participation in committees should be only based on technical knowledge. This seems to be necessary to ensure that the report really also includes the state of the art of research and development.

This is all necessary because the clients which are the end users of our work depend in one way or another on the decisions made for example at IMO. Also therefore it was again concluded, as mentioned in the discussions above, that it is necessary to participate in IMO meetings, keep track on what is going on there and if possible try to influence their decisions based on technical knowledge. But this means to respond technically correct and in time.

One discussor also highlighted the role of the universities and suggested to assign well defined tasks to them, mainly to provide the theoretical background for the work of the model basins. He also suggested a "Council of Elders and a Scientific Council" of experienced and independent "thinkers" not suffering from conflicts of interest.

All discussors suggest keeping the EC Working group.

4 Conclusions

From the presentations and discussions it was concluded that the new developments around all member organizations will have an impact on ITTC and on how the official representatives have to react in the future.

Representation at IMO and ISO is highly desired and necessary and if expenses will occur they have to be worn by ITTC.

It was suggested to keep the working group, directly reliable to the EC, which has the tasks to present a more detailed overview of the actions outside ITTC. Additionally this group shall continue to collect ideas from all ITTC members concerning the above mentioned topics, including the definition of future tasks.

It is a brave action to come up with changes and with solutions to meet the new requirements. This can only be reached by a self-conscious community, sharing common rules of intellectual discipline and fair play and using modern efficient tools of communication.