

European Union Network for the Implementation
and Enforcement of Environmental Law



**IMPEL 2000 Conference
on Environmental Compliance and
Enforcement
October 11-13, 2000, Villach, Austria**

FINAL REPORT

Edited by:
Margit RAPP

CENTRIC AUSTRIA® - Carinthian Environmental Training and Infrastructure Center

and

Wolfgang HAFNER
Government of Carinthia

Klagenfurt, November 2000

This report reflects the standpoint of the IMPEL Network but not necessarily the view of the National Administrations or the Commission.

This report was adopted at the IMPEL Meeting of December 6 – 8, 2000 in Paris

**IMPEL 2000 Conference
on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
October 11 to 13, 2000; Villach, Austria**

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Government of the Province of Carinthia

Klagenfurt, November 2000

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Thanks have to be given to all 157 participants of the Conference from the European Commission, the IMPEL Secretariat, 12 Member States (Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom), 12 Accession Countries (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia) and Norway.

Special thanks have to be given to the members of the preparatory team and to the speakers, chairs and rapporteurs of the Conference (in alphabetical order):

Robert BAERT, Rob BAKX, Laurens BEIJEN, Vaclovas BERZINSKAS, Annick BONNEVILLE, Christopher BOOTH, Gerry BYRNE, Paolo CAGNOLI, Xavier CARBONELL, Antonio Leones DANTAS, Allan DUNCAN, Ed EGGINK, Emelie ENCKELL, Rob GLASER, Franz GRASZMANN, Ghislaine GUIMONT, Susan HAY, Armin HEIDLER, Markku HIETAMÄKI, Kaare Svarre JAKOBSEN, Palle JOERGENSEN, Vita JOKUMSEN, Erkki KANTOLA, Bruno de KERCKHOVE, Steve KILLEEN, Annelie KOHL, Ossi KOSKI, Georges KREMLIS, Inga Birgitta LARSSON, Kenneth LEDGERWOOD, Rolf LINNENKAMP, Dara LYNOTT, Philipp LUCAS, Georg LUTZ, Ana MAGRO E SILVA, Guiseppe MARELLA, Eckhart MEYER-RUTZ, Ladislav MIKO, Martin MURRAY, Angeles NAVES, Gudmund NIELSEN, Sylvia PALIEGE BARFUSS, Ralf PÄTZOLD, Waltraud PETEK, Kia REGNER, Maria RÜTHER, Ulrika SAMUELSSON, Gernot SCHNABL, Terence SHEARS, Gunter SPERKA Ivan STEFELJ, Hartmut STREUFF, Michael STRUCKL, Paul TEMPANY, Pieter Jan VAN ZANTEN, Peter WADE, Franz WALDNER, Andreas WASIELEWSKI, Matthias WEIGAND, Gerhard WEIHS, Gernot WURM, Axel ZAFOSCHNIG.

Last but not least we would also like to say many thanks to the management of the Congress Center Villach, the translation agency, the computer experts of the Department 15 of the Government of Carinthia and to Mrs Iris SPEISER, Mr Bruno WACHTER and Mrs Gisela WOLSCHNER for managing excellently the daily challenges of this Conference.

Klagenfurt, November 2000

Wolfgang HAFNER , Karin MIKLAUTSCH and Margit RAPP



SUMMARY

The IMPEL 2000 Conference on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, which took place from October 11 to 13, 2000 in the Congress Center Villach (Carinthia, Austria) offered for the first time the possibility of presenting IMPEL to approximately 160 participants from the European Commission, the IMPEL Secretariat, the Members States and the Accession Countries, to raise public awareness as well as to discuss and evaluate the role of IMPEL.

Generally the conference aimed to give the IMPEL Network a broad platform of information, discussion and exchange of experience.

The first day of the conference (Wednesday, October 11, 2000) started with an *Opening Session* and 3 *Plenary Sessions* dealing with the History of IMPEL, the Environmental Policy and the Role of IMPEL, Enforcement of Environmental Law (Stick and Carrot) and IMPEL Products. On the second day, 4 parallel *Topic Sessions* took place concerning the main topics of the work of IMPEL (**Networks, Inspection, IPPC, Environmental Information Systems**). On the third day, the results of the 4 topic sessions were summarised and discussed in a *Final Session*.

During all days of the conference the *IMPEL Market Place* was open with two internet plug-in stations to inform about IMPEL activities and products.

The most important findings of the conference were summarised in the Conclusions – a document presented and discussed in the Final Session with the strong recommendation to foster and strengthen the network on a national and regional level within the EU and the Accession Countries. The participants of the conference encouraged the IMPEL Network to continue and develop its activities in line with its particular strengths, gave many ideas for future areas of co-operation and projects, such as further projects on integrated permitting and inspection, and called for further IMPEL Conferences to be held regularly to provide a forum to share experience and to strengthen networking.

With the agreement of all conference participants these conclusions were forwarded to the IMPEL Meeting in Paris, December 2000.

The results of this conference are published in the final report.

This report consists of 2 parts:

- The printed version in English including all facts regarding the conference and the abstracts of the contributions
- The CD-ROM including the Long Versions and the Power Point Versions of the contributions and fotos of the conference.

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(*Ana MAGRO E SILVA, Portugal*)
- The IMPEL Report on the "Workshop on Licensing and Enforcement Practices in Cement Plants Using Alternative Fuels"
(*Wolfgang HAFNER, Austria*)
- The IMPEL Report on "The Interrelationship between IPPC, EIA and SEVESO Directives and EMAS Regulation"
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- Networks in Denmark
(*Palle JOERGENSEN, Denmark*)
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- Best Practise in Compliance Monitoring (Intermediate Report on Ongoing Activities)
(*Franz WALDNER, Austria*)
- Development of a Voluntary Scheme for the Peer Review of Inspectorates
(*Martin MURRAY, United Kingdom*)
- The Efficiency Programme of the French Inspection System
(*Annick BONNEVILLE, France*)
- The Practical Use of the Reference Book
(*Pieter Jan VAN ZANTEN, The Netherlands*)
- The Role of Third Parties in Inspections
(*Rolf LINNENKAMP, Germany*)

- Minimum Frequency of Inspections in Denmark
(*Kaare Svarre JAKOBSEN, Denmark*)
- The Swedish Experience with Self-Monitoring
(*Inga Birgitta LARSSON, Sweden*)
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(*Xavier CARBONELL, Spain*)
- Experiences made in Sweden
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(*Markku HIETAMÄKI, Finland; Steve KILLEEN, United Kingdom*)
- Presentation of the UK Pollution Inventory
(*Paul TEMPANY, United Kingdom*)
- Presentation of the Finnish VAHTI-System
(*Ossi KOSKI, Finland*)
- Presentation of the German Environmental Information Network
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- Results of Topic Session 3 – Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)
(*Georg LUTZ, Germany*)
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ANNEX B: COUNTRY BALANCE

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1. IMPEL AND THE CONFERENCE

The *European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL Network)* is an informal network of the environmental authorities of the Member States of the European Union. The European Commission is also a member of IMPEL, it shares the chairmanship of the meetings and is hosting the IMPEL Secretariat.

The IMPEL Network was initiated in 1992. Its objectives are to create the necessary impetus in the European Community to make progress on ensuring a more effective and comparable application of environmental legislation. The IMPEL Network promotes the exchange of information and experience and the development of a greater consistency of approach in the implementation, application and enforcement of environmental legislation with a special emphasis on Community environmental legislation. It provides a framework for policy makers, environmental inspectors and enforcement officers to exchange ideas and to encourage the development of enforcement structures and best practices.

The AC IMPEL was created in order to support the Accession Countries with the challenge of EU like institution building and EU standards of environmental legislation and enforcement.

IMPEL has gained more and more importance within the last few years. In 1997 the Council of Environmental Ministers proposed the further development of the IMPEL Network. The idea of having a forum for the informal exchange of experiences beside the official institutions of the EU has been confirmed through several concrete products and activities, such as plenary meetings, ad-hoc-working groups and workshops. The disseminating of the idea of IMPEL takes place mainly via the national co-ordinators, the implementation mainly in the European regions.

The IMPEL 2000 Conference on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement, which took place on October 11 to 13, 2000 in the Congress Center Villach (Carinthia, Austria) offered for the first time the possibility of presenting IMPEL to a broad audience, to raise public awareness as well as to discuss and evaluate the role of IMPEL.

1.1. Objectives

Generally the conference aimed to give the IMPEL Network a broad platform of information, discussion and exchange of experience. The IMPEL 2000 Conference served as a platform:

- to present the IMPEL Network to a broad audience.
- to create a forum for the exchange of information and development among the civil servants (legal and technical experts), who are working in the field of the enforcement of environmental law on national, regional and local levels of EU Member States and the EU Accession Countries and EEA Countries.
- to encourage the co-operation between the environmental authorities of the European Commission and the EU Member States, as well as between the environmental authorities of the EU Member States and their regions.
- to discuss the role of the IMPEL Network in the development of EU Environmental Law.
- to present the national networks and the possibilities of strengthening these networks
- to present and discuss projects concerning the implementation of the IPPC Directive and environmental crime.

1.2. Preparatory Meetings

For the preparation of the conference an expert group was formed.

4 preparatory meetings were held.

The first preparatory meeting was held in Helsinki, Finland (December 3rd, 1999). The second was held in Villach, Austria (January 31st - February 1st, 2000), the third in Porto, Portugal (May 26th – 27th, 2000) and the fourth and last meeting was held in Vienna, Austria (September 15th – 16th).

The purpose of these meetings was:

- to define the main objectives of the conference sessions,
- to confirm the agenda of the conference including speakers, chairs, rapporteurs and topic sessions (cf. **ANNEX A**),
- to design feedback forms including general questions about IMPEL and specific questions regarding the topic sessions (cf. **ANNEX B**),
- to check all organisational facts regarding the conference.

1.3. Participants

All Member States, Accession Countries and Norway were asked to participate at the conference.

A total of 131 participants from 12 Member States (Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom) attended the conference.

A total of 25 participants from 12 Accession Countries (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia) and 1 from Norway attended the conference.

4 participants attended from the European Commission and 1 from the IMPEL Secretariat.

A full list and the country balance of all 157 participants is given in **ANNEX C**.

2. THE CONFERENCE

The conference lasted for 3 days.

- October 11th, 2000: Opening Session and 3 Plenary Sessions
- October 12th, 2000: 4 parallel Topic Sessions
- October 13th, 2000: Final Session: resume and conclusions

2.1. October 11th, 2000:

Opening Session – Opening by Austria and the European Commission

(Chair: Waltraud PETEK, Austria)

- Welcome
(Gerda SANDRIESSER, City Councillor
Herbert SCHILLER, Carinthian Minister of the Environment
Georges KREMLIS, European Commission)
- The History of IMPEL
(Allan DUNCAN, United Kingdom)

Plenary Session 1 – Environmental Policy and the Role of IMPEL

(Chair: Waltraud PETEK, Austria)

- The Development of the 6th EU Environmental Action Programme
(Georges KREMLIS, European Commission)
- The Challenge of Combining EU and National Environmental Policy
(António Leones DANTAS, Portugal)
- The Role of AC-IMPEL for the Candidate Countries
(Vaclovas BERZINSKAS, Lithuania; Ivan STEFELJ, Slovenia)

Plenary Session 2 – Enforcement of Environmental Law – Stick and Carrot

(Chair: Martin MURRAY, United Kingdom)

- The European Commission's Point of View on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement of Environmental Law
(Georges KREMLIS, European Commission)
- Inspection in Denmark – The Use of Stick and Carrot
(Peter WADE, Denmark)
- Member States – Use of Voluntary Agreements
(Matthias WEIGAND, Germany)

Plenary Session 3 – IMPEL Products

(Chair: Kia REGNER, Sweden)

- The Influence of the IMPEL Exchange Programmes
(Rob GLASER, The Netherlands)
- The IMPEL Reference Book for Environmental Inspection
(Ana MAGRO E SILVA, Portugal)
- The IMPEL Report on the “Workshop on Licensing and Enforcement Practices in Cement Plants Using Alternative Fuels”
(Wolfgang HAFNER, Austria)
- The IMPEL Report on “The Interrelationship between IPPC, EIA and SEVESO Directives and EMAS Regulation
(Paolo CAGNOLI, Italy)
- The IMPEL Report on “Lessons Learnt from Accidents”
(Ghislaine GUIMONT, France)

2.2. October 12th, 2000 – 4 parallel Topic Sessions:

Topic Session 1 – Networks

(Chair: Ed EGGINK, The Netherlands)

Rapporteur: Erkki KANTOLA, Finland)

Purpose

Existing networks experience different difficulties: for example, a lack of co-operation between different actors involved in enforcement activities; the provision and exchange of information; how to harmonise the actions of the different authorities involved; formal problems like split competencies, etc.

The objective of this topic session was to raise the awareness for existing networks of different organisations, governmental bodies, inspectorates, etc., dealing with environmental inspections and enforcement on national and regional levels within the EU Member States and the Accession Countries. Through the exchange of information and discussions, participants should be encouraged to promote, strengthen and improve existing networks and to build new ones.

Input

The input for the discussions in this topic session was given by representatives from different Member States and Accession Countries.

Expected Outcome

A better understanding of different situations by exchange of information;

An insight in existing networks on national/regional level and how others manage co-operation;

Ideas for improvement of co-operation, legislation, enforcement at different levels;

stronger networks.

Contributions

- Networks in Spain
(Angeles NAVES, Spain)
- Networks in the UK
(Kenneth LEDGERWOOD, United Kingdom)
- Networks in the Czech Republic
(Ladislav MIKO, Czech Republic)
- Networks in Denmark
(Palle JOERGENSEN, Denmark)
- Networks in the Netherlands
(Laurens BEIJEN, The Netherlands)
- Networks in Italy
(Guiseppe MARELLA, Italy)

Topic Session 2 – Inspections:

(Chair: *Michael STRUCKL, Austria*
Rapporteur: *Franz GRASZMANN, Germany*)

Purpose

Inspections are a key element for the enforcement of European environmental legislation. Consequently, many IMPEL activities and most IMPEL products deal with inspection. This is in line with an overall EU strategy to strengthen the supervision of environmental requirements. Furthermore, environmental inspections play a role in the field of criminal investigations and in environmental quality checking, where they can prompt feed-back to policy makers. In this context, the topic session “Inspection” should offer some genuine possibilities

to discuss the contents of IMPEL products for inspection in depth,
to exchange inspection experience and inspection practices and
to make recommendations for the harmonisation of procedures.

Input

Examples of environmental inspections in various EU Member States within the framework of former and planned IMPEL activities.

Expected Outcome

Presentation of possible solutions for the challenge of environmental inspections and ideas for further IMPEL work.

Contributions

- Minimum Criteria for Inspections (from IMPEL Report to Council Recommendation)
(*Susan HAY, European Commission*)
- Best Practise in Compliance Monitoring (Intermediate Report on Ongoing Activities)
(*Franz WALDNER, Austria*)
- Development of a Voluntary Scheme for the Peer Review of Inspectorates
(*Martin MURRAY, United Kingdom*)
- The Efficiency Programme of the French Inspection System
(*Annick BONNEVILLE, France*)
- The Practical Use of the Reference Book
(*Pieter Jan VAN ZANTEN, The Netherlands*)
- The Role of Third Parties in Inspections
(*Rolf LINNENKAMP, Germany*)
- Minimum Frequency of Inspections in Denmark
(*Kaare Svarre JAKOBSEN, Denmark*)
- The Swedish Experience with Self-Monitoring
(*Inga Birgitta LARSSON, Sweden*)
- Environmental Management Systems, Audits and the Regulator
(*Dara LYNOTT, Ireland*)

Topic Session 3 – Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)

(Chair: Andreas WASIELEWSKI, Germany)

Rapporteur: Georg LUTZ, Germany)

Purpose

The Council Directive 96/61/EC describes the prevention of emissions into air, water or soil, wherever this is practicable, as the objective of the integrated approach of pollution prevention and control, taking into account the management of waste, and, where it is not practicable, the minimisation of these emissions, in order to achieve a high level of protection for the environment as a whole. Accordingly, the EU Member States have to guarantee an integrated approach when issuing permits for installations or for substantial modification of existing installations since October 30, 1999. However, the levels of implementation of the IPPC Directive across the EU Member States are, at present, still different. The objectives of the workshop were :

to explore the varying legal pre-conditions of the EU Member States concerning the integrated approach from the point of view of administrative implementation;

to discuss the respective practical experience of application and enforcement.

Input

Examples and experiences of licensing procedures and compliance from various Member States within the framework of the IPPC Directive.

Expected Outcome

Presentation and discussion of possible solutions from the administrative point of view; feed-back to the level of policy-making.

Contributions

- Introduction to the IPPC Directive
(Gernot SCHNABL, European Commission)
- Experiences made in Austria
(Gernot WURM, Austria)
- Experiences made in France
(Philippe LUCAS, France)
- Experiences made in Spain
(Xavier CARBONELL, Spain)
- Experiences made in Sweden
(Ulrika SAMUELSSON, Sweden)
- Integrated Permitting for a Power Plant – A Comparison of Permitting in EU Member States
(Gerry BYRNE, Ireland)

Topic Session 4 – Environmental Information Systems (EIS)

(Chair: Hartmut STREUFF, Germany)

(Rapporteur: Markku HIETAMÄKI)

Purpose

Member States have built and operate several Environmental Information Systems. The importance of Environmental Information Systems will increase in the future, because many national environmental administrations have to rationalise their work and the Aarhus Convention requires the members of the convention to collect, manage and distribute environmental information. Objectives of this topic session were:

discussion of environmental data on emissions/discharges/wastes and air & water quality;

discussion of inspectors' possibilities to use environmental data and compliance monitoring information through electronic networks;

Aarhus Convention;

obligations to process environmental information and to provide information to the public through public telecommunication networks;

presentation of the IPPC Directive (96/61/EU) and European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER) as a way to produce environmental information about emissions and discharges, both for public and for decision makers.

Input

The input for the discussion was given by representatives from the European Union Commission and from different EU Member States. Participants to the session were invited to tell "what kind of Environmental Information Systems" they need in their work. It was also possible to access the UK, Finnish and German Environmental Information Systems through the INTERNET.

Expected Outcome

State of Environmental Information Systems in European Union Member States;

Examples of how Environmental Information Systems can help inspectors in their daily work;

Ideas on how Environmental Information Systems should be developed in the future.

Contributions

- IPPC Directive 96/61/EC and the European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER)
(Gernot SCHNABL, European Commission)
- Effects of the Aarhus Convention on Inspections
(Susan HAY, European Commission)
- Why to build EIS
(Markku HIETAMÄKI, Finland; Steve KILLEEN, United Kingdom)
- Presentation of the UK Pollution Inventory
(Paul TEMPANY, United Kingdom)
- Presentation of the Finnish VAHTI-System
(Ossi KOSKI, Finland)
- Presentation of the German Environmental Information Network
(Maria RÜTHER, Germany; Hartmut STREUFF, Germany)
- Needs and Plans to Further Develop EIS
(Markku HIETAMÄKI, Finland; Paul TEMPANY, United Kingdom)

2.3. October 13th, 2000:

Final Session

(Chair: *Waltraud PETEK, Austria*
Terence SHEARS, IMPEL-Secretariat
Rapporteur: *Wolfgang HAFNER*)

Reports on Results of Topic Session

- Results of Feedback Forms – General Questions
(*Wolfgang HAFNER, Austria*)
- Results of Topic Session 1 – Networks
(*Erkki KANTOLA, Finland*)
- Results of Topic Session 2 – Inspections
(*Franz GRASZMANN, Germany*)
- Results of Topic Session 3 – Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)
(*Georg LUTZ, Germany*)
- Results of Topic Session 4 – Environmental Information Systems (EIS)
(*Markku HIETAMÄKI, Finland*)

Final Conclusions

3. THE CONTRIBUTIONS

3.1. Opening Session

(Chair: Waltraud PETEK, Austria)

The History of IMPEL

Environment Agency

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This paper traces the history of the IMPEL Network from its conception, as perceived by the author, to the present time.

The need for a network of regulators was discussed at a UNEP meeting on environmental legislation and enforcement in 1989. This was followed by a Dutch proposal for creation of such a network during the Dutch Presidency of the European Community in 1991. The proposal was accepted at an informal meeting of the Environment Council and the UK hosted the first meeting of the network during its Presidency in 1992.

The paper describes the original, simple objective of the network, its membership and working arrangements. It then explains the involvement of the European Commission and how, over the years, the objectives and organisational arrangements were gradually adapted to meet needs that were changing rapidly with increasing interest in the quality and consistency of implementation of environmental legislation across the Community.

It reviews the achievements of the network and suggests that these have been helped by the voluntary nature of participation, by the informality of the organisation and by a readiness to adapt structures and programmes to meet the objectives of all partners. It concludes that the effort and expense are thought to have been worth-while by pointing to the creation of AC-IMPEL on the model of the IMPEL network and to the words of Commissioner Wallstrom who said that the informal nature of the IMPEL network enables it to achieve objectives that would be more difficult to achieve in a formal context.

3.2. Plenary Session 1

Environmental Policy and the Role of IMPEL

(Chair: Waltraud PETEK, Austria)

The Development of the 6th EU Environmental Action Programme

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6th Environmental Action Plan, IMPEL

There have been clear improvements in the Environment but also many persistent and new problems that seem beyond the ability of environmental policy to tackle on its own.

Environmental objectives and costs need to be integral parts of economic and social activity. Environment-friendly techniques and policies should be stimulated and key environmental issues identified where there is a need for a lead at European and global levels.

The 6th Programme will provide a coherent medium term strategy for tackling these and other threats to the environment. Actions should be clearly linked to environmental objectives and targets, with support from those economic and policy sectors directly concerned. This will enable the environment to be at the heart of the policy objectives of transport, agriculture and energy.

The four priorities requiring action are:

Climate Change Kyoto targets should be achieved and measures to reduce climate change introduced.

Environment and health Air pollution is a source of ill health and suspended particulates are causing illness, even deaths, in the cities. Concern about dioxins and other chemicals is growing.

Nature and biodiversity Nature and bio-diversity are essential to ensure the basic life support systems on the planet. However species are under threat and habitats being destroyed, mainly owing to economic development.

Resource and waste management The amount of household and dangerous waste produced continues to grow. We have to tackle that and also stop taking clean water for granted.

It is our responsibility and interest to improve the quality of life of people around the world.

The Challenge of Combining EU and National Environmental Policy

Inspectorate General for the Environment

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The beginning of a widespread revolution as regards environmental law in Portugal was set on the 1st of January 1986, date when Portugal became a full member of the European Communities.

The fundamental reference was the Outline Law for the Environment - Law n.11/87, of 7 April, approved one year after the country's accession to the Communities. This document expresses the structuring principles of environmental law by then consolidated, both at Community level and even at international level.

In the early nineties, Portugal integrated the most important part of environmental Community legislation, not without significant difficulties in some areas, namely the control of dangerous substances - Directive 76/464 and subsequent ones.

After having integrated Community law, Portugal faces some problems as regards its implementation and execution reinforcement, similarly to what has happened in other Community countries.

The scattering of competencies regarding the execution of Community law segments, by several departments, creates some problems at the level of implementation and even sometimes of the mere transposition of directives. The situation worsens when the departments involved are integrated into different ministries.

Environmental administration and its greater or lesser capacity to be able to carry out the demands of Community law was present in the debate underlying transposition of the IPPC directive recently made - Executive Law n.194/2000, of 21 August.

The adoption of the Water Framework Directive and the execution complexity of the objectives contained therein, may justify a reformulation of the national environmental administrative structure.

Successful Implementation of IMPEL Concepts and Recommendations in Lithuanian Environmental Protection System

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IMPEL, Lithuania, Implementation

A presentation regarding the first steps towards implementation of the IMPEL provisions, concepts and recommendations in Lithuanian Environmental Protection system. It is emphasized that active participation in the activities of IMPEL and AC-IMPEL networks and implementation of IMPEL provisions is supported by the top management of Lithuanian Environmental Administration. The role of national Lithuanian AC-IMPEL co-ordinator, the system of distributing IMPEL documents, and implementation of the provisions of these documents in the Environmental law enforcement institutions is reviewed. The presentation identifies differences between Regional Departments and District Agencies in implementing the IMPEL provisions and describes motivation measures and incentives used by the State Environmental Protection Inspectorate. Additionally, Lithuanian experience in improving working skills of environmental inspectors is described. Finally, implementation of IMPEL provisions in the ongoing Technical Assistance projects is noted.

The Role of AC-IMPEL for Candidate Countries

The Role of AC-IMPEL for Candidate Countries

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One of the priority tasks in the integration process of candidate countries to the EU is the transposition and implementation of the entire EC legislation into the legal system of each candidate country. In this respect, practical implementation seems to be much more difficult to achieve than formal compliance. For this purpose, the European Commission and EU Member States have set up the EU-IMPEL network with the aim to help EU Member States in the implementation and enforcement of the environmental legislation in their countries. In co-operation with the EU-IMPEL network, the European Commission suggested to the candidate countries to set up AC-IMPEL, an informal parallel network closely connected to the existing EU-IMPEL and drawing from its experience and expertise as regards the implementation and enforcement of the *acquis communautaire* as well as its transposition into the legal systems of accession countries. The network's main tasks are: organising plenary meetings, organising exchange programmes and special training programmes for environmental inspectors, drawing up assessments of legislation implementation and enforcement systems in accession countries, participation in EU-IMPEL projects. The network is financed by EC funds, by accession countries and other contributors. AC-IMPEL's work can be assessed as positive. However, I believe that after the initial three-year-period the efficiency of this network could now be improved; some concrete proposals as to this improvement are laid out in the final part of full version of my lecture.

3.3. Plenary Session 2

Enforcement of Environmental Law – Stick and Carrot

(Chair: Martin MURRAY, United Kingdom)

The European Commission's Point of View on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement of Environmental Law

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What is implementation?

Transposition of directives, practical application and enforcement in the member states.

What is compliance and enforcement?

Transposition within deadlines and communicated to the Commission; national legislation in conformity with the directive.

Regulatory Cycle

The essence of this is that assessment feedback from enforcement has an input to both legislation and permitting

Transposition on time

MS should transpose on time. Where they fail to notify transposing measures on time a simple infringement procedure is begun.

Problems in implementation

Legislation may be complex; implementation may be costly; awareness levels may vary between MS

Complaints

The number of complaints continues to rise (and has almost doubled in five years).

How to improve implementation?

Better and simpler legislation; co-operation between MS and the Commission during and after the transposition period; improved access to information and justice.

Inspection in Denmark, The Use of Stick and Carrot: Enforcement and Sustainable Industrial Production through Differentiated Inspection Practises

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Environmental Management Systems, Role of the Authority, Differentiated Inspection, Green Networks, Sustainable Industrial Production

Inspection of industries in Denmark has been very effective. By the end of the 1990's there are very few industries that intentionally violate environmental law, but enforcement reactions still occur on a fourth of all inspections. The need for sustainable development has spawned the growth of "green networks", comprising private and public industry, as well as municipal and regional environmental authorities. Inspection services have in turn undergone dramatic changes, from a "command and control" focus to a balanced combination of enforcement and co-operation, with a clear focus on sustainable industrial production. A necessary consequence of this change in focus is more differentiated inspection practises, where industries are rated and inspected according to their attitude towards prevention of negative environmental effects. The promotion of sustainable development through voluntary, but binding membership, in green organisations has resulted in impressive environmental benefits and a greater will on the part of companies and employees to engage voluntarily in environmental management systems. The long term results for environmental authorities include flexible inspectors engaged in both enforcement and dialogue with industry concerning sustainable production practises. This development is intertwined with the industry sector result: companies with management and employees engaged in the planning and effectuation of environmental programmes, where environment, economy and open dialogue with stakeholders go hand in hand. The presented case reveals that in the course of 5 to 6 years it is possible to involve up to one third of a region's large and medium-sized industries and their environmental authorities in a green network promoting environmental management and sustainable development.

Use of Voluntary Agreements

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On the basis of the 5th European Environmental Action Programme the European Community extends the available strategic instruments for sustainable development. In addition to traditional legislation other policy instruments, but also legal instruments are an important goal of the 5th Action Programme and will be an essential part of the 6th Action Programme.

The „acquis communautaire“, we have reached today, relies heavily on command and control. Often, the result of enforcing environmental law will be confrontation between public authorities and industrial operators. What we need is co-operation instead of confrontation, direct responsibility of business instead of command and control.

Voluntary agreements and other ways of self-control will lead us to better results for the environment than traditional administrative structures can do - even more so with the increasing deficit of the enforcement due to the growing lack of states' personal and financial resources.

Environmental agreements according to the principle of shared responsibility encourage an active approach from industry. They are likely to create cost-effective measures and they are usually faster in place than regulations are. Thus they are a really useful complementary tool to European legislation.

3.4. Plenary Session 3

IMPEL Products

(Chair: *Kia REGNER, Sweden*)

The Influence of the IMPEL Exchange Programmes

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Summary

The initiative of the IMPEL exchange programmes between the EU member states (MS) originated from the activities of working group 4, the working group of IMPEL in charge of the management of the enforcement process. The aim of the IMPEL exchange programme was defined in October 1993 as follows:

To transfer information and experience concerning management aspects of the enforcement process in the member states to delegates of enforcement authorities of other member states.

The exchange programme started in 1994 in the Netherlands followed by the Danish programme. All 15 MS inspectorates have joined the programme that lasted till the end of 1999. At the beginning, funding was provided solely by the organising inspectorate. Once funding from the commission was made available, increasing amounts of money were spent to support the organising countries. The average costs of an exchange programme is about 60.000 EURO.

More than 600 inspectors have joined the programme during all these years and great appreciation was noticed not only by the participants but also by the organising countries. The exchange programme initiated and promoted in a number of MS countries the internal co-operation of regions and provinces. The influence of the programme can not be easily measured in figures. It is known that many inspectors of the MS now have a network with colleagues in other countries and frequent contacts for information and exchange are made.

Mutual understanding of the problems facing their brother inspectorate have been improved. The exchange programmes have contributed to across the border co-operation in many fields. Other projects in IMPEL may have benefited from the contacts created by the exchange programmes.

Increased attention to and participation of the Accession Countries (AC) required an approach similar to the one of IMPEL and similar exchange programme were initiated. EU IMPEL members were invited to participate and vice versa AC members were invited to join the EU exchange programmes.

As a result of the exchange programme it was felt that in more in depth discussion on specific inspection approaches in practice was needed. Two of-spring programmes are now in progress. In the Comparison programme typical inspector topics of the organising countries are discussed and the PEEP programme (Project on Environment Enforcement Practises), focuses on country practices applied in day to day inspection and enforcement. The Comparison programme started in Denmark in 1999 and the PEEP programme has been joined by 6 MS so far. Both programmes are equally successful and progressing.

The IMPEL Reference Book for Environmental Inspection

Inspectorate General for the Environment

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In recent years, the European Union has rapidly developed environmental policy and legislation in order to harmonise the environmental requirements imposed on industry within the European Union. Member States have largely brought their national environmental legislation and policies in line with EU requirements.

The tasks and responsibilities of environmental inspecting authorities in EU Member States have become more complicated. This is partly the result of the harmonisation of national legislation with EU requirements, and partly the result of the development of self-regulatory instruments like Environmental Management Systems.

The organisation of inspectorates and the constraints faced in day to day practice can vary widely among the EU Member States.

The document "IMPEL Reference Book for Environmental Inspection" was prepared by an ad hoc working group reporting to cluster I - Training and Exchange of Standing Committee 2 from the former IMPEL structure, beginning to work in late 1997.

The initial purpose of the IMPEL Reference Book was to provide basic tools, on the inspection side, for the management of inspectorates as well as a reference guide for the work of environmental inspectors in EU Member States; later it was expanded to other countries, namely the AC - IMPEL.

The middle management will find useful information on the administrative and inspection framework as well as on the organisation of inspectorates in the EU Member States. Environmental inspectors will find a step-by-step and practical approach for inspection work, supported by practical examples in several areas, from all EU Member States.

The IMPEL Reference Book final report was adopted in June 1999.

The IMPEL Reports on Minimum Criteria for Inspections

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Inspections, Minimum Criteria, IMPEL, Frequency, Self-Monitoring, Reporting, Reports, Seminar

In 1997 IMPEL were asked by the Commission to write a report on Minimum Criteria for Inspections. The report was produced and approved by the IMPEL plenary which then commissioned further reports on specific matters concerning Inspections: Frequency of Inspections; Operator Self-Monitoring Planning and Reporting of Inspections. An Inspections Cluster, involving representatives of eleven countries was formed to produce the reports, managed by the author on behalf of the UK. These reports were approved at IMPEL plenaries in Dec 98 and June 99. They are available on the IMPEL web-site and hard copies are available at the conference. The paper lists the conclusions of each report.

A seminar was held in March 1999 in Harlem in the Netherlands. The paper lists the conclusions from that seminar.

The author gives his personal views on the value of IMPEL and on why it works well, including the following: it is a relatively informal body; it involves practitioners; there are free exchanges of information and consensus views are achieved.

The paper reflects on what the "Inspections Cluster" group achieved apart from producing the four reports on Inspections. These achievements included: the voluntary and enthusiastic contributions; the agreement of high level principles; the allowance for flexibility in the way in which principles were to be applied; and the mutual respect and understanding gained.

IMPEL Workshop on Licensing and Enforcement Practices in Cement Plants Using Alternative Fuels

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Incineration of Waste, Cement Plants, Feedback to the European Commission

From 11 to 13 May 1998 an IMPEL Workshop on Licensing and Enforcement Practices in Cement Plants Using Alternative Fuels took place in St. Veit/Glan in Carinthia, Austria. The main objectives of this workshop were to compare the situation in the Member States (MS) and to give an overview on the current and future requirements of the European Union (EU). Additionally the workshop offered the opportunity to discuss the working paper on the incineration of waste and to give feedback to the European Commission (EC).

The current situation in the MS was presented through contributions of the participants from the MS, practically complemented by an excursion to an existing cement plant using co-incineration of plastics waste. Presentations dealing with Best Available Technology (BAT) and the working paper on incineration of waste showed the current and future requirements of the EU.

The evaluation of the questionnaire, which was distributed to all MS in advance, demonstrated among other things that there were great differences in:

- Current ELV's, particularly NO_x and SO₂
- Requirements on monitoring
- Criteria for input material, particularly waste
- Competent authorities and licensing procedure, e.g. trial runs

Details were discussed in four working groups under the headings:

- Common approach
- Monitoring and inspection
- emission limit values and mixing rule
- Input waste

The results of the working groups were presented by rapporteurs and discussed in the plenary session.

Based on the outcome of the IMPEL workshop the following main conclusions can be drawn:

- Generally the points of the working paper of the EC on incineration of waste concerning cement industry, which were presented by Michael Theben, were accepted by the participants of the workshop
- The workshop gave a good feedback to the EC concerning the working paper on the incineration of waste, some details will be reconsidered as reported in the final discussion.
- There is no need for the mixing rule, particularly for cement plants using alternative fuels.
- The ELV for SO₂ (and TOC) should be stipulated by national regulations, because these emissions depend on the quality of raw materials used in first instance.
- Trials are often performed in connection with co-incineration of alternative fuels but need definition, standardisation and guidance.
- Monitoring and inspection of sites needs standardisation but the results of the competent IMPEL Cluster should be awaited.
- There is a need to identify criteria for selecting wastes as fuels.
- Unsorted household waste and clinical waste are not suitable for co-incineration in cement plants.
- Follow-up work is required for some outstanding issues, e.g. on the topics trial runs, monitoring and inspection and criteria for wastes as fuels.
- The format of this IMPEL workshop is fitting for many environmental problems and with appropriate organisation can provide valuable feedback to the EC

Although some issues were unresolved the workshop proved to be effective and successful by all participants. The IMPEL Secretariat are convinced that this workshop showed the invaluable benefits of the IMPEL Network.

The Interrelationship between IPPC, EIA and SEVESO Directives and EMAS Regulation

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IPPC, VIA, SEVESO, EMAS, Environment Information, Decision, Integration, Participation, Monitoring

Objectives of the IMPEL project: "Interrelationship between EIA, IPPC, Seveso Directives and EMAS Regulation" were to share experience and ideas of the MS to ensure consistency and effectiveness between the four instruments and elaborate, where appropriate, proposals for better consistency and effectiveness. The project was completed through four workshops organised by Italy as 'lead country' in the years 1997/98. Different approaches are used by Member States to transpose the different instruments, mainly because there are different national legal systems. In the four IMPEL workshops on 1997/98, the following items were deepened to improve a better integration between EMAS Regulation and the three Directives.

The competent authorities in charge of transposition, implementation and application of the instruments confronted themselves with various questions:

- how do the four instruments fit together?
- are their provisions consistent?
- what kind of information is requested from the developer or the operator when the installation falls into the scope of two or three Directives?
- how should the obligation to inform and to involve the public be dealt with?
- is it possible to have a single permitting procedure which is consistent with the requirements of all three Directives?
- finally, what role can EMAS play in this context?

The project highlight the possibilities of using the synergies between the four instruments, mainly concerning the: consistency of the four instruments; field of application and the determination of the application of the four instruments; required environmental information or documentation; participation of the public and authorities and, in transboundary cases, Member states; required decisions and environmental management.

The IMPEL Report on “Lessons Learnt from Accidents”

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French experience feedback

1. BARPI – Analysis of industrial hazards and pollutions Bureau:

Created in 1992, BARPI is in charge of the experience feedback that it is possible to make through the industrial accidents. In the MATE (Ministry of the spatial planning and the environment), it works for the SEI (Industrial environment service), part of the DPPR (department for pollution and risk prevention).

This bureau has the particularity not to be located in Paris, as the other ones but in Lyon.

2. BARPI Missions:

Our missions are mainly the following ones :

- to gather information on the different accidents that occurred in France but also all over the world.
 - It is necessary to have an idea of what can occur abroad . In this case, it gives tangible elements from which lessons are possible to be learnt. The diagram here under explains our way to work in order to collect information.
- to spread the information we store :
 - At the moment, the spreading of our documents is quite different according to the papers concerned. Either it is wide, that is not limited to the inspectorate and the MATE departments, or it is more local, limited to a DRIRE, i.e. the local representation of the inspectorate.
 - Further, we will see the various recipients of the information we issue and the different documents that are prepared.
- The constitution of a technical support has been felt as something necessary about ten years ago. The aim is still to help other departments and bureaus of the MATE giving them tangible information on the various topics they are in charge of. It can concern industrial activities but also other technical fields ...as long as we have sufficient information on them.

We will see that this help can be direct or not direct, that is, sometimes, we have to answer to questions of private consultants looking for information (... sometimes asked by the inspectors).

3. Sources and spreading diagram:

The sources are potentially various and the tendency is getting more and more significant with the use of the web.

The problem is to get both available and liable data : it is not so easy . And as a consequence, it is necessary to “cross” them, checking them as far as possible. The best solution is to have official reports, but it is not possible on each accident, of course.

The different sources are mainly :

- the inspectorate generally speaking i.e. the inspectorate for classified installations but also other departments whose activity is fostered on special field : e.g. water policy, Explosives inspectorate from the Defence Ministry, transports mission from the transports ministry,...)
- The civil safety department (including the fire fighters local or national departments)
- Media (websites above all for international relationships; newspapers of the various regions,...)
- Official organisms from other countries, as far as possible
- Technical magazines through articles focusing on particular topics.
- Professional organisations (from time to time),
- Insurance companies.

The documents written up by BARPI are listed here under (in the 7th transparency).

4. The ARIA database:

Remind of the name : ARIA for Analysis, Research, Information on Accidents

Up to the 31.12.1999, 17140 accidents have been registered in the database, whatever the field or activity concerned.

Only for 1999, 1786 accidents have been counted.

The accidents are registered according to the interest they present. As a consequence, it is possible to find major and serious accidents, significant ones but also incidents or near misses. This means that events with low consequences or no consequence at all might be registered as long as some lessons are possible to be learnt.

The scope of activities is very wide but some limits are fixed even though : for instance, concerning transports, only the accidents where hazardous substances are involved are taken in account.

5. Method used:

Our way of working is based on two main principles :

- analysis on samples formed by a lot of accidents (several tens). The main aim here is to foster on the tendencies of the sample such as the main activities concerned, the different developments, the main causes, the consequences, the seriousness according to the international scale. When it is possible and depending on the in-depth of the study, technical recommendations may be proposed.
- Analysis on one particular accident: the aim here is to gather the information on it coming from the different experts for instance and make a synthesis that can lead to exemplary solutions on technical fields or even on organising levels.

Of course, each of these methods leads to experience feedback, whatever the way it is presented.

6. Information recipients:

The diagram presents the partition of the different types of recipients :

- the main part , more 1 query out of 2 comes from consultants and insurances.
- On a lower level, there are production sites (or organisms in connection with them), 1 query out of 5
- About 1 query out of 10 comes from administrations,
- 1 query out of 20 comes from security services and nearly at the same level, there is research and training activities.

For the last year, about 940 queries were answered to.

7. Different types of documents issued by BARPI:

2 origins at the very beginning :

- answers to questions or queries,
- studies carried out on BARPI's own initiative.

For each of them, different types can be observed :

- studies on particular topics : the more recent are the ones concerning rubbish incineration plants, pipe transports, handling goods machines.
- answers to direct questions : most of the time a list of significant accidents (shortly summarised is sent)
- An inventory is drawn up every year : all the accidents available at the beginning of the following year in the data base are mentioned.
- Summaries on significant accidents are written up : for instance, those that are mentioned in the IMPEL document following the "lessons learnt from accidents" meeting.
- Articles published in technical French magazines (« Face au risque » or « Préventique »)
- Courses given to schools of engineers or others (veterinary school).

3.5. Topic Session 1

Networks

(Chair: Ed EGGINK, The Netherlands)

Rapporteur: Erkki KANTOLA, Finland)

Competencies, Administrative Organisation and Collaboration Mechanisms for the Application of Environmental Legislation in Spain

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Competencies of the Public Administrations with regard to the Environment

In Spain, the competency for regulating the protection of the environment is neither the sole nor the exclusive concern of a particular administration. Title VIII of the Spanish Constitution demarcates the competencies of the State and of the Autonomous Communities (Regional Administrations) on this subject.

Article 149.1.23 of the Constitution grants to the State exclusive competency for drawing up the basic legislation with regard to the environment, without prejudice to the powers of the Autonomous Communities to establish additional rules of protection, and article 149.1.9 in turn establishes that the Autonomous Communities shall be able to assume managerial competencies in environmental matters. Indeed, the Statutes of Autonomy of the Autonomous Communities have attributed managerial competencies over the environment to those administrations.

In terms of the competencies of the Local Administration, Spanish Constitution makes no explicit reference to these. Therefore, in order to learn the environmental competencies the **Governing Act of Local Regime Bases** and the different acts at the environmental, sector, state and autonomous levels have to be resorted to.

CENTRAL AND AUTONOMOUS ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

State Administration. The exclusive competency that the Constitution grants to the State (basic legislation regarding the environment) is exercised by the Ministry of Environment, created by Royal Decree 758 of 5 May 1996. In this way, the Spanish body for the environment was brought into line with those existing in the majority of member countries of the European Union.

Autonomous Administration. Within the Autonomous Communities, the exercise of environmental competencies is assigned to the Boards of Environment, which share this field with other allied Boards such as Territorial Planning, Agriculture and Urban Development. Most of the Boards develop their competencies via one or several Directorates General.

COLLABORATION MECHANISMS

Sector Conference on the Environment. Regulated by Act 30 of 1992 on the Juridical Regime of Public Administrations and Common Administrative Procedure, later modified by Act 4 of 1999, this Conference is a body for co-operation with regard to the environment and has a composition that is multilateral.

Participating in this body are the topmost authorities with environmental competencies: the Minister of

the Environment and the Councillors of the Autonomous Communities responsible for environmental topics.

National Committee of Local Administration. This Committee is the standing body for collaboration between the General Administration of the State and the Local Administration.

Advisory Council for the Environment. The Advisory Council for the Environment was created in 1994 by Royal Decree 224 with the aim of promoting the participation of organisations representing social interests and persons of acknowledged prestige in drawing up environmental policy and monitoring it.

Interministerial Committees. Numerous Interministerial Committees in turn exist for the purpose of co-ordinating the actions of the various ministries affected by measures or provisions with an environmental content.

Network of Environmental Authorities. The recently created Network of Environmental Authorities has the primary objective of guaranteeing the integration of the environment in the carrying out of actions financed by EU Funds and based on the principles of sustainable development.

Networking in the United Kingdom

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The lecture outlines the new political framework recently established in the United Kingdom and reviews the networking arrangements in place with respect to the implementation of environmental legislation.

It focuses on the networking arrangements set up by the three UK Environment Agencies to ensure, inter alia, a consistent approach in the development of enforcement policy, technical guidance and research and monitoring.

It examines the interfaces between the UK regulators in the enforcement of the IPPC, EIA and Seveso II Directives.

The arrangements are mainly informal but promote the exchange of information and experience, and assist the development of enforcement structures, best practice and increased professionalism by bringing together people with different skills, expertise and backgrounds

In the conclusions the benefits and costs of networking are discussed.

Co-operation and networks in the Czech Republic

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Czech Environmental Inspectorate, National Co-operation, International Co-operation, International Agreements, AC-IMPEL, INECE, Regional Transboundary Co-operation, CITES Compliance and Enforcement

Overview of Czech Environmental Inspectorate's competencies and tasks is shortly explained, including the history and description of its international relations and participation in networks. The ways of implementation of national and international co-operation networks are described. Importance of international co-operation in enforcement of multilateral agreements is stressed. The reasons for and benefits from the creation of networks are discussed, together with existing limitations and problems within the Czech republic. Two examples of networks (existing or under preparation) are described more in detail: regional transboundary network of Czech and German environmental administration, build-up within the framework of Phare-Twinning project, and national network for implementation of CITES agreement, including the co-operation with non-environmental national (customs, police) or international (Interpol, WCO) authorities and organisations. The supporting and facilitating role of AC-IMPEL network is discussed also.

Co-operation / Networks in Denmark

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Voluntary Networks between Authorities and Companies, Networks between Authority Officers

Presentation of 3 different types of networks in Denmark. 1 between Authorities and Companies and two networks between Authority Officers.

Authority/Company Networks. 56 networks registered in Denmark. Participation in these networks are voluntary. Practical networks. Examples of working areas: Environmental assessment, Life Cycle Assessment, Environmental Process Consultants, Green Accounts.

Networks are not active in Enforcement. Strengthening the connection between Authorities and Companies. Increase the awareness of environmental issues by the companies, prevent or reduce the need for Authorities to make enforcement.

Authority Networks. Decentralised Environmental regime in Denmark. Great need for co-operation/networks. DAVID-network for Officers in counties. In-service courses where discussions are important. Teachers are members them self.

IPPC-network: Internet network for Officers in counties, with exchange of experience, permits, information, discussion forum, contact-lists.

The strength of both Authority networks are the close dialogue between colleagues and the easy access to share information and experiences.

Co-operation: Networks in the Netherlands

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Co-operation, Co-ordination, Commitment, Covenants, Service Units

In 1997 the Dutch government concluded that the environmental enforcement got too little attention and that there should be better co-operation between administrative authorities and more co-operation with judicial authorities. The provinces were given a co-ordinating role and they were asked to bring about covenants with the other competent authorities.

In each province there are now one or more covenants. Participants are the provincial government, the municipalities, the water boards, decentralised departments of the State and (through an annexe) the judicial authorities.

The aim of the covenants is promoting proper procedures by efficient and effective use of staff and resources, making appointments about the exercise of inspection and enforcement and improvement of the co-operation between different administrative authorities and between administrative and judicial authorities.

In each province one or more service units were set up. The aim of the service units is the facilitating of the enforcement processes, the facilitating of the exchange of information, the distribution of expertise about enforcement, and assistance to the consultations within the framework of the covenants. The State gives subsidies for the service units: up to 15 million Euro for 1999 to 2003 inclusive.

Networks in Italy

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This paper takes an overview of the main institution dealing with the environment in Italy, reviews the progress to date in the networks of co-operation in environmental topics including enforcement and compliance in Italy, and explores the challenges and opportunities created by the development of such networks.

Since the institution of the Minister of the Environment, the National Agency for the Environmental Protection, and the following institution of Regional Agencies, the central and the local administrations of Italy started to enhance and formalise networks dealing with environmental topics including enforcement and compliance co-operation; at the same time it's a reality that lot of progress have been made in a number of areas of co-operation. Under the supervision of the National Agency several working groups of officials have developed a co-operative work program on environmental matters, facilitated by the so-called "ANPA/ARPA network ". The National and Regional institution continued to strengthen their co-operative relationship also on environmental enforcement and compliance, building partnership among a diverse range of local, state and regional agencies to enhance enforcement and compliance efforts aimed at environmental problems in Italy.

Co-operation on environmental enforcement and compliance is beginning to take shape throughout the Italy, principally stimulated by the creation of the ANPA/ARPA network as well as a commitment of the government to work co-operatively toward sustainable development.

3.6. Topic Session 2

Inspections

(Chair: Michael STRUCKL, Austria
Rapporteur: Franz GRASZMANN, Germany)

Minimum Criteria for Inspections (from IMPEL Report to Council Recommendation)

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1. Origins of the idea and need for guidelines on minimum criteria; first enunciated in Commission's Communication on Implementing Community Environmental Law of 1996. Necessary to consolidate the 'acquis communautaire' by better implementation and enforcement.
2. Correct application and enforcement responsibility of Member States in first instance. Each Member State can decide how. But this led to disparities in different inspection mechanisms/agencies with possibility of distortion of competition.
3. Communication recommended that guidelines be drawn up setting out minimum criteria for environmental inspections. Council and EP endorsed this - role foreseen for IMPEL.
4. IMPEL Working Group on Inspections set up - conceptual framework of Regulatory Chain. Reported in November 1977.
5. IMPEL report used as basis for Commission proposal for an EP and Council Recommendation on Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections in the Member States. Aimed at industrial installations. Non-binding act - possibility of EC financing to capacity build, etc. Step-by-step approach.
6. Legislative process - (Adopted by Commission on 16 December 1998. Co-decision procedure). EP and Council co-legislators. Views of ECOSOC, COR also obtained. EP want to change to form of a directive. Council and Commission maintain view that recommendation better in first instance. Common position of Council reached 30.12.1999. EP's 2nd Reading Opinion given 6.7.2000. Now in trilogue/conciliation stage. If no agreement reached by end of French presidency, proposal will fall.

Best Practice in Compliance Monitoring

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Environmental Monitoring

The IMPEL Inspections Cluster in recent years has produced advice on 'Frequency of Inspections', 'Operator Self-Monitoring' and 'Minimum Criteria for Inspections'. 'Compliance Monitoring' is a related activity which can also influence how Member States assess and report compliance with EU legislation. The IMPEL network also has recognised that there is a need for advice on broader regulatory themes, and in particular on best practice in the broad theme of compliance monitoring.

The project objectives are to exchange information and develop Best Practice on Compliance Monitoring (BPCM) at industrial installations - under IPPC Council Directive 96/61/EC - as well as urban waste water treatment plants - under Council Directive 91/271/EC. The aim is to give practical guidelines to key staff in competent authorities in the EU and MS and Accession Countries (AC) who are responsible for the implementation of environmental law and regulation.

In December 1999 an inaugural workshop was held in Windermere /UK to define the details of the BPCM project and the report structure. A group of participants from 8 Member States (UK as project manager, A, D, FIN, IRL, NL, P and S) took part in the discussion and a sub-group of 5 experts was nominated to do the drafting work.

In this presentation a short review is given of the main principles of BPCM in the light of experiences of the Member States involved in this project. The basic structure of the report comprising aspects like methods of monitoring, frequency, mechanisms, assessment and reporting is outlined.

Further discussions and amendments on the draft report by the whole project group took place in early October 2000. With respect to the complexity of compliance monitoring and size of the draft report the scheduled date of completion (31 December 2000) has to be delayed. Meanwhile the UK project management will submit a progress report to the IMPEL plenary in Paris in December 2000.

The conclusions of this project finally will be disseminated to MS and AC IMPEL members through a seminar.

Development of a Voluntary Scheme for the Peer Review of Inspectorates

Environment Agency

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In May 2000, IMPEL agreed Terms of Reference for a 2-year project designed to develop and test "a voluntary scheme for reporting and offering advice on inspectorates and inspection procedures" (the "scheme"). This paper summarises the background to, and current progress with the development of the scheme.

Efficiency Programme of the French Inspection System

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French Inspection System, Efficiency Programme, Inspection Organisation

In France state is in charge of pollution and risk prevention through two main ways:

- Preparation of legislation
- Environmental inspection system which :
 - Manages the environmental permitting system
 - Controls respect of permits and legislation

There are a total of 740 equivalent full time inspectors for 65 000 installations requiring a permit (about 10 000 IPPC ones).

It is clear it is not enough. It is one of the reasons why the French ministry of the environment developed an efficiency programme for the French inspection system. It is based on:

- Organisational measures and firstly a staff increase of 20% from 1999 to 2001
- Improvement of the monitoring at the different levels : national, regional and local
- Definitions of priorities
- Standardisation and common methodologies to save time and to harmonise practices
- Improvement of training programs
- Development of tools such information systems

The Practical Use of the Reference Book

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A few years ago the IMPEL-plenary requested an ad hoc working group to provide a tool to environmental inspectors in the European Union.
The result presented now, the reference book is both meant for senior and middle management as well as field inspectors.

Managers will find useful information on administrative and inspection framework as well as on the organisation of inspectorates.

Field inspectors will find a step-by-step and practical approach for inspection work.

Most important aims of the books are:

- Improvement of human resources management and financial planning by senior and middle management, strengthening of the institutional framework of the inspectorates through the presentation of state-of-the-art management techniques related to running inspectorates, and descriptions of management aspects of inspectorates EU-wide
- Review, and if possible measurement, of the quality of the inspectorates' performance, and measurement of the quality of compliance activities by competent authorities, including evaluation of their effectiveness.

This Topic-session is about the practical use of the reference book.

In the first part of the session I will step with you through the book on outlines. Some of the most important and interesting points will be mentioned, larded with some practical experiences when necessary or interesting.

After that, conclusions and some new initiatives to be undertaken by IMPEL on this field will show up. At the end we will discuss practical experiences as well as future developments on the fields of inspection, inspectorates, etc.

The Role of Third Parties in Inspections

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Inspection of Plants; Multi-media Environmental Protection; Third Parties (External Experts); Concrete Examples; Briefly Assessment of Experience

This article describes the basic principles of the inspection of plants in respect of multi-media environmental protection in Germany and the current distribution of roles between environmental authorities, plant operators (self-inspection) and external experts (Third Parties). The requirements placed upon the competency of the experts and, in general, their tasks and activities within the framework of the overall inspection system are discussed. Some concrete examples taken from current practice illustrate experts' inspection and monitoring tasks both on behalf of authorities and operators. To conclude, the role of Third Parties is briefly assessed on the basis of experience in North Rhine-Westphalia (from the point of view of the Ministry for the Environment), and potential future changes in the distribution of roles between the Government and experts are described.

Minimum Frequencies of Inspection in Denmark

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Environmental regulation in Denmark is decentralised. At the policy level the Ministry of Environment and Energy is responsible for environmental policy and for establishing the legal framework in Acts. The Danish Environmental Protection Agency issues orders and provides guidelines on how to implement the acts at an operational level. The counties (14) and the municipalities (275) are the main players and are responsible for issuing licenses and undertaking inspections and environmental enforcement. The state does not have an inspectorate.

The Danish permitting system:

- the most complex activities require a licence from the counties;
- the less complex activities require a license from the municipalities;
- the least complex activities must notify the municipalities of their operations;
- a number of similar branches (fur farms, auto repair shops, etc.) is regulated by specific branch ordinances.

Total compliance checking and enforcement of about one sixth of the installations is done by the counties. The municipalities take care of the other installations. Municipalities and counties are not subordinate to each other but are at the same level of authority.

Minimum frequencies for inspection apply only for municipalities.

By late 1996 the minister for the environment and the National Association of Local Authorities in Denmark (NALAD) made an agreement on minimum frequencies of inspection. The agreement was taken into effect in 1998.

Danish minimum inspection frequencies:

- 50% of licensed activities should be inspected annually;
- 50% of activities obliged to notify before operation or regulated by a specific branch statutory order should be inspected during 2 consecutive years (=25% annually);
- 50% of animal farms should be inspected during 3 consecutive years (= approximately 16% annually), except pig farms with 6-9 months' storage capacity for manure which should be inspected during 3 consecutive years (=33% annually).

These are minimum frequencies and should not be regarded as "good inspection practice". If a municipality inspects less frequently than the above-mentioned minimum frequencies, the State (the Danish EPA) will intervene.

The minimum frequencies do not reflect any qualitative or technical standard for inspection. Danish EPA lays down the qualitative standard for inspection in Guidelines.

Inspection frequencies in 1998 on a national level

- licensed activities: 56%
- activities obliged to notify before operation or regulated by a specific branch statutory order: 36%
- animal farms: 23%
- pig farms with 6-9 months' storage capacity for manure: 30%

However, the inspection frequencies on a national level cover great differences on a local level. Each municipality should comply with the minimum frequencies. In 1998 1/3 of the municipalities did not comply with the minimum frequencies for listed activities. Most of the municipalities not complying were only lacking 1-2 inspections and the DEPA therefore chose not to intervene in these situations. 27 municipalities lacked more than 2 inspections and the DEPA has initiated a dialogue with these municipalities. We are still waiting for the outcome of this dialogue.

The Swedish Experience with Self-Monitoring

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Operator Self Monitoring – Swedish experiences

The presentation starts with a brief history to give a background and continues with a presentation of the recent legislation reform especially focused on the current self monitoring rules. Comments are given on consequences for inspection. Finally a comparison between self monitoring system and environmental management is given.

Operator Self Monitoring has a long tradition in Sweden.

During the forties self monitoring started to develop within the permit-giving system of the water legislation in practice at that time. These permits commonly requested monitoring responsibilities from the operator. The monitoring programme stated both compliance monitoring and monitoring of the impacts which the activity might cause on the water courses affected. These monitoring were often quite comprehensive studies (and might include hydrological ones, emission monitoring, impact studies on the quality of the recipient and on the fishery capacity). The studies were often performed by experts and the costs were to be covered by the operator.

The Environmental Protection Act came into force 1969. From this time integrated permit giving was established and has been in practice since then; thus over thirty years. At first it was commonly practised to state Operator Self Monitoring as a condition within the permit. From the beginning of the eighties however the Act was amended and specific articles were introduced concerning a compulsory demand on Operator Self Monitoring. By these articles the Self Monitoring responsibility was formalised for all installations with permit obligations.

By the new Environmental Code 1999 the request on Operator Self Monitoring was further developed and a specific Operator Self Monitoring Ordinance was established.

The legislation is founded on the principle of reversed burden of proof which means that the operator has to prove that his operation is not harmful to the environment or public health.

All this information is also information for the public and thus available for anyone interested or affected.

The Operator Self Monitoring involves

- monitoring of the performance of the operator (process conditions, management systems etc),
- monitoring of the releases (emissions to air and water, wastes etc)
- as well as
- monitoring of the impacts on and the quality in the receiving environments (air, water, noise etc)

By a legislative reform the environmental rules within 15 different acts were merged into one, the Environmental Code, which came into force January 1999. The different, previous 15 acts contained regulations for instance concerning nature, environment, chemicals, public health, waste, farming and forestry .

Here are common rules on inspection within the Code. To the Code is added an Operator Self Monitoring Ordinance where you find more detailed rules about the self monitoring. Further regulation and guidance is a responsibility for the Swedish EPA.

Operator Self Monitoring in Sweden means that the operator independently and continuously plans and controls the operations to comply with the regulations and prevents the impacts on the environment. It means that the operator establishes a Monitoring Programme as well as other necessary investigations to study and follow the environmental performance of and the impacts from the installation. The operator has to design the programme and get it running. The operator must explain and justify the monitoring and the measuring. He has responsibilities that the monitoring is performed in accordance with high quality and independence. The operator must keep the Programme and the monitoring results documented and available at any request from the authority. He has to

report the results and make comparisons with the rules, regulations and permit conditions etc he has to comply with.

The operator has to systematically investigate and assess the risks on environment and health. He has to keep and document the management routines and other organisational issues and to keep a documented chemical list. He also has immediately to report disturbances and incidents.

The role of the inspecting authority is to check the operator's Monitoring Programme and scrutinize that the programme fulfil appropriate and relevant needs and that quality considerations are implemented and ensured (for example by use of standard methods, independent laboratories and standardised methods). The inspector also examines how the self monitoring is performed. He examines the results and identifies exceedences.

However, the authority is not obliged to take a formal decision to approve the operator's programme. The authority only has to interfere if necessary. In that case the authority can request the operator to make even further measuring and to take further measures.

If these measuring is made or if these measures is taken by an external contractor (consultant) the costs must be fully covered by the operator.

The inspecting authority has annually to make inspection plans and has to keep a list of all the installations that need to be inspected.

The inspecting authority has to check the compliance. If there is non-compliance it is mandatory for the inspecting authority to report to the prosecutor. In addition to this the authority is obliged to take decisions on a special Environmental Sanction Fee which the operator has to pay when non-compliance has occurred. These enforcement actions are mandatory for the inspector to take. The inspecting authority may, if necessary, issue urgent orders or prohibitions.

The operator must annually report to the inspecting authority. This rule has been mandatory according to formal rules in the legislation since the 80th but was earlier practised as a request in the monitoring programme. In his report the operator must present the outcomes and the findings from the Self monitoring, for instead emissions to air, water, soil, waste, energy use, proactive action taken etc. The operator has to report immediately if there are incidents, disturbances or accidents etc.

So, what consequences can we see concerning the inspection and enforcement activities?

Even if an operator complies with all rules, answers all questions, sends in all reports etc this does not necessary mean no work for the authority. Deskwork with scrutinizing programmes and reports, as well as operator contacts still takes lots of time.

However, self monitoring gives opportunity to use the inspecting resources in a much more effective way. The task for the inspector is still to plan the inspection work. Usual criterias for such a planning is to be applied no matter if there is an operator self monitoring systems in function at the installation or not. For example priority has to be given to those installations which cause the most damage and nuisance to the environment or where the complexity of the facility give reason for a high priority. Other aspects to take into account when planning the inspections are how the compliance is fulfilled or earlier experiences from the installation.

When there is an operator self monitoring system applied at an installation, the task for the inspector is to differentiate the inspection work in accordance with how well the operator's self monitoring and compliance is fulfilled. The inspector primary focuses on the operator self monitoring system, how this is organised and performed and if the operator fulfils the self monitoring task successfully. The overall task for the inspector is thus to check that the Operator Self Monitoring system is working. This means that the inspection work has to involve other inspection tasks as amending the monitoring programme, doing site visits etc only in the extent this is necessary. The focus has to be on issues on responsibilities rather than on the actual measuring. Indirect inspection instead of direct one. To get and check the Operator Self Monitoring System working.

Than of course the inspection task still includes studying the compliance and scrutinizing the results from the monitoring and evaluation of the performance of the operator etc. Such inspection tasks takes efforts even when an operator self monitoring system is practised but to the Swedish experience, operator self monitoring is an useful way to make efficient use of inspection resources.

To summarise the Swedish experience of self monitoring system

- It is important to differentiate the inspection and plan it in accordance to how well the Operator Self Monitoring is performed
- It is best practice to primary focus on checking the system and on responsibility issues
- Compliance checking and enforcement actions still is a task for the inspector but he is helped also in this task by the operator.

There are lots of similarities between Operator Self Monitoring and Environmental Management Systems as for example EMAS and ISO. In such cases where the outcome from the EMAS / ISO are made public it may be used by the inspector within the inspection work.

The slide makes an attempt to compare the two systems, self monitoring system and environmental management system.

Environmental Management Systems and IPC Licensing

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Environmental Management System (EMS), Eco Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS), Environmental Management Programme

The Environmental Protection Agency as part of Integrated Pollution Licensing requires facilities to implement an Environmental Management system. A part of the system is to have a programme that sets out clear environmental objectives and targets to be reached at a facility and the management support needed to ensure targets are met.

The core of the integrated licensing system is the principle of continuing improvement in environmental performance and, to this end, a company will set itself a number of projects to undertake as part of its EMP. Many of these projects include process modifications and raw material substitution, not just end-of-pipe treatment.

The EPA conduct audits similar in structure to that conducted under the ISO 14000 environmental management standard. Before an audit, all relevant documentation is reviewed by the EPA. The history of compliance with licence conditions and any enforcement actions taken relating to the facility are checked. Once on-site, an initial meeting is held to review the licensee's Environmental Management Programme and compliance with the IPC licence. The auditor will speak to the facility's management and staff and will review abatement equipment performance, monitoring and analysis procedures and corrective actions taken in response to a complaint, incident or non-compliance.

An audit report, summarising the audit findings, is completed, forwarded to the company and also placed on the public file.

3.7. Topic Session 3

Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)

(Chair: Andreas WASIELEWSKI, Germany

Rapporteur: Georg LUTZ, Germany)

Council Directive 96/61/EC concerning integrated pollution prevention and control

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IPPC, BAT, Integration, Integrated Permit, Industrial Installation, Environment as a Whole, Best Available Technique

Directive 96/61/EC plays a central role among the legislative instruments designed to combat pollution from large point-sources in the Community. Both the concept of the "integrated" protection of the environment as a whole and the character of the instrument as "framework" Directive, giving substantial flexibility to the Member States and their competent authorities, were greeted with much interest but also with criticism.

The Directive imposes substantial obligations it imposes on the operator of an IPPC installation on one hand, and on the competent authorities on the other. The concept of "best available techniques" is central for the issuing of an integrated permit. Integration is to be understood as a matter of substance as well as a question of procedure. Public participation in the permitting procedure, to be aligned with the provisions of the Aarhus Convention, is another key issue of the Directive. Given the importance of the instrument and the challenge it represents, the Commission assists Member States in their task to transpose and apply the Directive in various ways, mainly through the "Information Exchange Forum" and the IPPC Experts Group.

Despite a three-year transposition period, the Directive is not yet implemented in some MS. A clear overview on the merits and shortcomings of the instrument in day-to-day practice cannot be given yet.

Experiences with the integrated permitting process in Austria

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Keywords: Industrial Act; Waste Act; one-stop-shop-principle; incineration; recovery

The transference of the IPPC-Directive into Austrian legislation caused heavy difficulties, due to both horizontal and vertical spreaded competences laid down in the federalist constitution. So it took almost three years to adapt the Industrial Act as the most relevant law for enterprises. Finally an attempt failed to create only one law with extensive regulations for all fields requiring official approval ("one stop shop" principle). Nevertheless an integrated permission process has been existing for ten years for approving installations for waste treatment set by the Waste Act.

One central issue on the technical field in transferring the Directive was the implementation of BAT (Best Available Techniques), as Austria has enacted the State of Technology (State of the Art) in the relevant legislation. As a fact of this, economic aspects and the specific local situation of the plant has not been put into account so far.

Experiences with the integrated permitting process in Austria exist in licensing plants related to the waste act. Up to now four various projects were permitted in Carinthia:

- a) co-incineration of plastic waste („light fraction“) as a fuel substitute in a rotating cement kiln
- b) recovery of Ni by thermic utilisation of used catalysts of the fat hardening process (hydrogenation of oils)
- c) incineration of mainly biomass residues and plastic waste in a fluidized bed furnace of a fibre board enterprise
- d) incineration of combustible waste in a fluidized bed furnace used as boiler

As a result of the experiences till now the following positive aspects have occurred:

- consideration of all single legal regulations by one consistent competent authority
- synergistic effects by interdisciplinary project assessment
- shortening of course of time
- high level of expertise by employing non-official scientific experts
- avoidance of twin-track activities
- higher acceptance in the public

Negatives:

- difficulty to find a joint date for the permission hearing causing high loss of time
- large number of participants
- lack of experience of non-official experts in administration procedure
- high costs
- communication problems due to large number of participants

As an outlook, legislation in Austria should be changed to a consistent concentrated permitting procedure in the sense of a "one-stop-shop" instead of co-ordinated single proceedings. This makes it necessary to adapt the constitution in reforming and clearing up the competences of the executing bodies. At the same time self responsibility of operators is to step up. In a countermove enforcement by competent authorities must increase. Last, but not least, the "State of Technology" should be implemented to guarantee an utmost high level in environmental protection.

Experiences made in France

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French Experience with Integrated Permitting

Historical background

- 1810: Décret impérial du 15 octobre 1810 relatif aux manufactures et ateliers qui répandent une odeur insalubre ou incommode
- 1917: Loi du 19 décembre 1917 sur les établissements classés dangereux, insalubres ou incommodes
- 1976: Loi du 19 juillet 1976 sur les installations classées pour la protection de l'environnement
- 2000: Code de l'environnement (ordonnance n° 2000-914 du 18 septembre 2000)

Integrated permitting is inscribed in the 1976 Act

- Protection of the environment as a whole - Extended integrated approach
Nature protection, Quality of the biotope, Water, Air, Land, Waste
Surrounding commodity, Public health
Balanced management of resources of the local environment
Agriculture, Monuments
Risks (Seveso directive), Noise
- Two defence lines
Performances of the best available techniques
Assessment of the effective impact of the mill
- Only one permit, only one competent authority

Integrated permitting is inscribed in the 1976 Act

- Permitting addresses related installations
- Prescriptions can be defined at the industrial **site level**
- The permit can be modified
- Last acts for IPPC directive application
Impact assessment: monitoring, use of energy, site restoration
Reconsideration and updating of the permit
Operating state each ten years

The definition of technical prescriptions of the integrated permit

Application of article 3 of the IPPC directive with :

- Minimal prescriptions from sectorial national regulations
- Performances of the best available techniques
- Assessment of the effective impact of the mill

The definition of technical prescriptions of the integrated permit

Sectorial national regulations

- Accident and accidental pollution prevention
- Water use
- Effluent treatment
- Emission limit values

Air pollution - Water pollution

Spreading - Water from rain - Waste - Noise and vibrations

- **Release conditions - Calculation of chimneys height**
- **Release monitoring**
- **Environment report**
- **Monitoring of the effects on the environment**

Air - Water - Land

The definition of technical prescriptions of the integrated permit

Sectorial national regulations

Define minimal prescriptions applicable to the industrial activity

- The prescriptions must be written in the permit
- The prescriptions are applicable to the new installations permits
- Application conditions for existing installations are defined
- Specific situations

The definition of technical prescriptions of the integrated permit

Performances of the best available techniques

- A guide for emission limit values in the permit
- No systematic official document for each sector
- Existing guides:
 - « *Traitement de surface: techniques de réduction des déchets* », 1995
 - « *Meilleures techniques disponibles pour l'environnement - L'exemple de la production de la pâte à papier* », 1995
- The impact assessment describes the technological options, taking into account the performances of the best available techniques

The definition of technical prescriptions of the integrated permit

Assessment of the effective impact of the mill

- One of the two defence lines for environment protection
- Assessment under the control of the operator
- Integrated approach imposed by the regulation
 - Initial situation of the site
 - Assessment of the effects on the environment as a whole
 - Technological options
 - Technical measures to reduce the drawbacks of the mill
 - Restoration of the site

The definition of technical prescriptions of the integrated permit

Paper industry

- Arrêté du 3 avril 2000 relatif à l'industrie papetière
- previously: arrêté du 6 janvier 1994 relatif à l'industrie papetière
- Prescriptions depending on the fabrication process and the product.
 - Mechanical or thermo-mechanical production of paste
 - Raw wood pulp or white wood pulp
 - Kraft pulp production from broad-leaved tree or coniferous tree
 - Pulp from old paper recycling with ink
 - Definition of classes for paper and cardboard

Progress to be done in the integrated permit

- New obligations for the impact assessment
- The use of BREFs
- Updating of the national regulations at the sector level
- Justification necessary for granting the permit

Conclusion

- The French legislation is adapted to apply the integrated permit from the IPPC Directive

- Only one permit since the 19th century, only one competent authority
- With one specificity: the prescriptive sectorial national regulations
- Two defence lines for permit granting :
Performances of the best available techniques
Assessment of the effective impact of the mill
- Extended integrated approach, including risk assessment

Environmental Intervention in Catalonia

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Pollution: the direct or indirect introduction, by means of human activity, of substances, vibrations, radiation, heat or noise into the atmosphere, water or land which may have harmful effects on human or environmental welfare, or which may lead to damages to material goods or deteriorate or compromise the enjoyment or other legitimate uses of the environment.

Activity: the operating of an industry or establishment which may affect the safety or health of people or the environment.

Emission: the expulsion into the atmospheres, water or land of substances, vibrations, radiation, heat or noise originating directly or indirectly from specific or disperse focal points of the activity.

Immission: the presence in natural resources, and specially in the air, water or land, of substances, vibrations, radiation, heat or noise which affect their natural composition.

Substantial modification: any change in the authorised activity which may have harmful or important repercussions on the safety or health of people or the environment.

Non-substantial modification: any change in the authorised activity which may not have harmful or important repercussions on the safety or health of people or the environment.

Integrated assessment: the analysis of the environmental effects and results of the activity carried out, comprising the description and specifically the installations, raw and auxiliary materials, the processes, products and consumption of natural resources and energy, and all kinds of emissions and their repercussions for the environment as a whole. This also includes repercussions which may arise from abnormal operating conditions, incidents and accidents.

Serious accident: an event, such as substantial emissions, fire or explosion resulting from a runaway process during the operation of any establishment to which the provisions on major accidents are applicable, and which involves serious danger, either immediate or deferred, to the health of people or the environment, on- or off-site, and where several hazardous substances are involved.

The industrial sector has always played an important role in the structure of business in Catalonia. The census of activities with a potential environmental impact that are controlled by the authorities gives a figure of approximately 82,000 plants. This is the context in which the Parliament of Catalonia passed Law 3/1998 of 27th February 1998 on the Integral Intervention of Environmental Administration, a new regulation for the system of controlling these activities.

Law 3/1998 replaced the 1961 national regulation on the impact of objectional, unhealthy, harmful and dangerous activities, and anticipated Directive 96/61/EC regarding integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC) that had still not been transposed at national level.

The Law classifies activities in three different annexes according to the degree of impact potential. Activities appearing in Annex I have a high environmental impact and includes 1,620 plants affected by the IPPC; Annex II gives activities with a moderate environmental impact while those with a low environmental impact appear in Annex III. Different sectorial environmental authorisations for the activities in Annex I and Annex II are grouped into just one, the environmental authorisation and the environmental licence respectively.

This regulation also deals with the system of control that the plants in each Annex are subject to and differentiates between controls that are made prior to an activity starting up and periodic controls that are made over time.

Experiences with IPPC in the Member States, Sweden

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The Environmental Protection Act came into force 1969 in Sweden. The Act consisted of a list of environmentally hazardous activities that required permits. The conditions of the permits included water pollution, air pollution, noise and waste. The localisation principle, BAT and reasonableness rule were also to be considered. The Environmental Protection Act was reformed several times.

The Environmental Code came into force 1999. The background for chapter 9 (hazardous activities) were the Environmental Protection Act and the IPPC-directive. There were some parts from the IPPC directive which was incorporated in the Code such as Environmentally quality norms, eco-cycle principles, resource management and some details concerning Environmental impact statements.

The list of hazardous activities that need a permit according to The Environmental Code (approximately 5000 enterprises) is of a larger extent than the IPPC list (approximately 500 enterprises).

Sweden has had the same sort of integrated legislation compared to the IPPC-directive for more than 30 years. In Sweden's perspective, there is not much new in the IPPC directive. Therefore, our surveillance and permit licensing is not going to change particularly. In spite of that, Sweden is very pleased with the IPPC-directive, mainly because of the sake of justice for similar enterprises all over Europe!

Integrated Permitting for a Power Plant – A Comparison of Permitting in EU Member States

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Integrated Permitting, Power Plant, EU, IPPC Directive

A workshop was held in Dublin in April 2000 to examine issues surrounding the preparation of permits in conformance with the IPPC Directive. Twenty one representatives from twelve member states of Impel took part along with fourteen representatives from twelve AC Impel members.

Following consultation, it was agreed that the workshop would examine the permitting of a gas fired large combustion plant.

A fictitious application was produced and sent to each participant. The participants were requested to prepare a permit under their own National permitting system, which would meet the requirements of the IPPC Directive. The participants were allowed to request further information from the applicant and this was duly provided where requested. The permits were then forwarded by the participants to the organisers for collation prior to the workshop.

The workshop opened with a review of the requirements of the IPPC Directive and the use of Bref documents. It went on to re-examine details of the application and to compare the permits produced.

At this stage the workshop broke into four groups which discussed the issues raised and critiqued the permits produced.

The rapporteurs for each group summarised the discussions of the groups and these were drawn together to provide the conclusions of the workshop. There was a large measure of agreement as to the structure and content of the permits although disparities were noted regarding the emission limit values to be applied.

3.8. Topic Session 4

Environmental Information Systems (EIS)

(Chair: Hartmut STREUFF, Germany

Rapporteur: Markku HIETAMÄKI, Finland)

European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER)

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Pollutant Emission Register, Emission Inventory, Monitoring, EPER, IPPC, PRTR

The European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER) is a key element of the European Council Directive on Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) and will provide essential environmental information to the public. After introduction in 2003, it will be a major step to improve public awareness and to meet the needs for the public "right-to-know" about industrial pollution.

Every three years Member States are obliged to report to the European Commission. Information on emissions of 50 pollutants from about 20,000 individual industrial facilities, covered by the IPPC Directive, will be collected in the EPER. Member States will send their first reports to the Commission in June 2003, providing data on emissions in 2001 (optionally 2000 or 2002). The European Commission, assisted by the European Environment Agency, will make the data in the EPER register / database publicly accessible on the Internet, including disclosure of site-specific information of relevant polluting sources.

Both public and industry can use the EPER data to compare the environmental performance of individual facilities or industrial sectors in different countries. Governments can use the registered data to monitor the achievements in meeting environmental targets.

Effects of the Aarhus Convention on Inspections

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1. UN/ECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (The Aarhus Convention).

- Signed by all MSs + EC (\pm 30 signatories in total) in Aarhus, Denmark in 1998.
- remarkable – NGO participation
 - EC signed 'per se'.
- 3 pillars
 - Access to information
 - Public participation in decision-making
 - Access to justice

2. Effect in MSs

- Amendment of Directive 90/313/EEC.
- Amendment of EIA/IPPC Directives and others.
- Access to justice – covered in proposals, possibly more.

3. Transparency

- Proposal to amend / replace Directive 90/313/EEC means more active supply of information.
- Proposal for Recommendation on Minimum Criteria for Inspections – reports to be available.
- Public awareness leads to better application / enforcement.

4. MSs' obligations generally (including inspections information)

- Wide definition of environmental information / deadlines.
- Exceptions.
- Review procedures.
- Active supply of information.

Why to build EIS

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Summary

Environmental Information Systems have started their life as systems to which regional administration fed in information and mainly central administration used the data for the assessment of the environmental protection and reporting to international conventions. Little by little some systems have changed so that they can support also inspectors in their daily work on the compliance monitoring. Although systems cannot be accessed directly, public can get information out of them. So far reports made using the reporting interface have been free of charge to public. If asked information is large or needs additional programming then it is not any more free of charge.

The compliance monitoring system (VAHTI), which is one important part of Finnish Environmental Information Systems, was build to help inspectors in their daily work. It is not clear whether the VAHTI system has decreased inspectors' workload or not, but without it, it is not possible to carry out the compliance monitoring at the present level.

History

Environmental Information Systems have been build to support Finnish authorities in their work. What is considered as help has varied considerable time to time and looking back it is easy to say that all applications have not been so supporting but progress has been made all the time.

Finland has had a separate environmental legislation for a very long time. IPPC directive was implemented only at the beginning of March 2000. Air Protection Act, that came in force 1982, contained "air pollution control register" and where automatic data management could be utilised. Around 1985 the register was established according to the act as a centralised data bank containing numeric information from air protection permit application. Only very few persons used the register. At the middle of 1980's started a comprehensive planning exercise by the Finnish Environmental Institute to create a data system covering all sectors of environmental protection. At late 1980's many separate systems were established utilising the network created by the state environmental authorities covering regional and central administration. Intention was to integrate all environmental information together, but systems lived "a separate life" (in Digital Wax computers). We are still converting some of them to present environment.

The air protection register consisted of the information of the permit applications (mainly emissions and other technical data 1982-1984) and as a new information also operators' yearly reports of fuels and emissions were yearly added into the system. The similar system was created on water side. The great idea was: people in regional administration feed the data into the system and all administration can use. An reporting interface for most common needs were build. Some person were authorised to access directly to the data base using SQL-language. The system could produce information to regional and nation wide emission surveys and helped to follow and estimate the progress of environmental protection on a general level. The support for inspectors making compliance monitoring was minimal compared to the needs we have identified today. Somehow the development to integrate separated systems (air and water emissions and the quality of the environment) slowed down and totally stopped. Because the system did not help regional authorities in their daily work they started to develop integrated system containing environmental permits and emissions to air and to water. The ministry started to finance the initiative.

Present situation and the compliance monitoring system (VAHTI)

In the middle of 1990's the new project started. First it was integration of all emissions by moving existing data bases to the new system. Waste reports were included in 1996 (first reporting year was 1995 on test bases). It was clear very soon that integrated data of production, raw materials, fuels and emissions/discharges/waste was not enough for the compliance monitoring. At a first step the permits

ware included into the system with the correspondence to permit holders (document management system). Adding reports covering wastes was a big increase into system. Waste are identified using European Waste Catalogue. With the addition of waste reports the number of reporting facilities increased from around 2000 to 8000. Inspectors fed manually reports to system and the work load became unbearable because the amount of waste data so huge. Between 1998-2000 it was carried out a project called "Electronic reporting". At the beginning of this year a small group of facilities report electronically to authorities and no report of production, raw materials and emission are not needed any more on paper. The number of facilities reporting electronically shall increase to 200 next year covering all major facilities. The IMPEL work "Minimum Criteria on Inspection" has initiated a work to develop the system so that out of the inspection reports parts of information can be taken by the system and fed to the data bank. These parts contain information why the inspection has been made and what is the outcome of the inspection. Summary reports will help authorities estimate the level of the compliance monitoring and focus their resources to areas that lacking behind.

Because all operators' reports to authorities and permits are available to public [and interest has so far been limited] we open parts of the systems to public only during the next year. Now (and also in the future) private persons can call environmental centres and authorities send printed reports from the system. The whole copy of data bank have been given for research free of charge but for instance consultants have to pay for the information. Registers containing information of the quality the environment cannot yet be used together with compliance/emission registers.

Needs and Plans for the Future Development of the Pollution Inventory, England and Wales.

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Pollution Inventory, Emissions Register, Pollutant Release and Transfer Register

An inventory of sources and releases of key pollutants was first established in 1990 by a predecessor body to the Environment Agency. It covered major industrial processes in England and Wales. In 1997, the present inventory was created with major improvements, primarily establishing a standard list of substances and thresholds for discharges in two groupings: those to air and those to water/ground water/soil. The Inventory is now on the Agency's interactive website, and is the most popular page. Widespread public interest in better access to environmental data is driving UK Government policy, as well as legal imperatives such as the European Pollutant Emissions Register (The EPER, instigated under the Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive) and the Aarhus Convention.

It is government and Agency policy to extend the inventory beyond the minimum requirements of the EPER. We are now starting a three year expansion programme that will include major sewage treatment works. We are adding emitters of radionuclides from major sources such as power stations down to research establishments and hospital. Finally, we will keep our own wider list of 160 substances and lower reporting thresholds than EPER, as well as waste production data.

Presentation of the Finnish VAHTI-System

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Database, Emission, Discharge, Waste, Air and Water Quality, monitoring

The monitoring and environment loading datasytem (Vahti) is a database for the input and storage of information on the environmental permits of clients and their discharges into water, emissions into air and solid wastes. In addition to data input, document management have been implemented into the system.

The main purpose of the data system is to function as a tool or the regional environment centres in processing and monitoring permits. The system also produces basic data on emissions into air, discharges into water and waste.

The VAHTI-system, founded in 1997, consists of a client application, running on Windows NT workstations, SQL Server database server and fast nation wide network connecting the database server and workstations. The client application is based on Visual Basic 6.0.

In addition, separate web-application can be used to browse VAHTI-data and to generate various kinds of reports. Web- application is based on Microsoft IIS / ASP- techniques. Graphics are generated via ChartAsp components.

For operators is produced electrical reporting system in year 2000. The system is based on ASP(active server pages) and SQL server 7.0 database.

German Environmental Information Network - GEIN

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EIS, GEIN, German Environmental Information Network

The German Environmental Information Network (GEIN) consolidates a wide range of information currently distributed across many different Web sites run by public organisations in Germany, such as environmental authorities, agencies and ministries at the federal and Land (state) levels. It thus acts as an information broker for environmental information in Germany.

GEIN joins together 50 suppliers of environmental information from governmental authorities and other public institutions at the federal and Land levels. This offer encompasses: more than 80,000 individual Web pages, numerous database interfaces (dynamic Web offers), such as, for example, to the catalogues of environmental data compiled by the German Federal Government and the various German federal Länder (states). The new feature is that GEIN makes these dynamic Web offers, which otherwise are hidden to conventional search engines, accessible to the user. This function is of special importance, as such databases mainly contain data on specific subjects and it makes these data easy to retrieve together with other information. (<http://www.gein.de>).

The German Environmental Information Network was conceived under the title "GEIN 2000" in a close co-operative effort between the Federal Government and the Federal Länder in the framework of an Environmental Research Plan (UFOPLAN) project managed by the Federal Environmental Agency.

Needs and Plans to Further Develop EIS

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General

There are almost limitless needs and possibilities to develop Environmental Information Systems:

- Member States have countless separate systems containing information about environment;
- International agreements such as Århus convention shall in the near future require that there is access to environmental information electronically;
- IPPC Directive and the Commission's decision require that Member States identify installations/facilities falling into the scope of the directive and collect information emissions/discharges from those installations/facilities and report to the Commission necessary information; and
- internal pressures to develop national compliance monitoring.

The development ideas

Net services shall be developed strongly. The development shall be divided to three main areas: document management system for whole [state] environmental administration, services to public and different compliance monitoring systems. The electronic document/content management system shall be base for all documents coming in and what the administration sends out. All other systems shall utilise this system. The definition phase has been carried out and the building of the system can start soon.

Services to public will be provided through the portal to environmental information. This arrangement replaces gradually the existing web-service which has grown more or less freely from individual needs. The decision to renew the service is made and the definition phase will start soon. Portal to environmental information shall provide information on environmental strategies, policies, plans and also information on how they have affected the quality of the environment. Regional portals shall be developed to provide more locally specific information.

The development of the compliance monitoring system (VAHTI) has many directions:

- move all present MS Visual Basic code to component programming (Java or Visual Basic);
- increase the number of installations reporting electronically;
- extend more VAHTI application outside firewall in order to provide all municipalities access to it as almost equal users as regional environmental centres;
- develop more "administrative applications" and renew user's interface in order to make use of applications such as environmental quality systems;
- move a small part of VAHTI outside the firewall as an Internet service to give public information they don't get from portal; and
- start making use of the electronic document/content management system by moving the corresponding subsystems out of VAHTI.

The compliance monitoring system (VAHTI) has so much Visual Basic code in such a form that the maintenance is coming increasingly difficult. According to decision all parts of the system shall be changed/ported so that during next two years we have the system that support web-tools. This is also a precondition that a part of VAHTI can be moved outside of firewall and to provide municipalities a service comparable to environmental centres. According to the Environmental Act (entered into force 1.3.2000) municipalities must provide all necessary information to Environmental System (of which VAHTI is a part) and they can on the other hand get all necessary [available] information from the system. A computer system is today only workable way to fulfil this requirements.

It is considered that the portal to environmental information will not fulfil all the information needs of the public. Under development is a plan that also a part of VAHTI information shall be moved to Internet. However, emissions/discharges shall be provided only on plant level (in VAHTI on process level) and concerning the compliance monitoring only reasons for site visit and the results of the visit will be given into Internet.

In the near future it is reasonable to expect that systems containing information of the quality of the environment are move to web-service. When this has happened then the use of them can be connected to VAHTI. A interface through which an inspector can get "a full picture" of an environmental protection in a selected area can be developed. This means that the inspector can identify all installations in an area under investigation and read their permits with special conditions such as limit values, see the emissions/discharges and waste (time series), see "compliance history" and what kind of environmental studies/surveys have been made and what is quality of the environment in the neighbourhood. Naturally this will take a lot of time, but we have to have a vision for the future and **first of all the inspectors must feel that this kind of system could help them!**

3.9. Final Session

(Chair: Waltraud PETEK, Austria
Terence SHEARS, IMPEL-Secretariat
Rapporteur: Wolfgang HAFNER, Austria)

In the Final Session the results of the Feedback Forms-General Questions and of the 4 Topic Sessions were represented.

Results of the Feedback Forms – General Questions

(Wolfgang HAFNER, Austria)

The figures in the bracket show the number of designations.

(1) General

- 85 returned feedback forms
- comments positive for IMPEL

(2) Policies and Strategies

- IMPEL should stay informal (11)
- focussing on practical work (8)
- development of IMPEL Action Programme (4)
- strengthen the influence on EC, EP & MS (4)
- compulsory EC-participation in IMPEL activities and EC-feedback to IMPEL-recommendations
- involvement in legislative process
- structure to prepare IMPEL Plenary
- evaluation of IMPEL products

(3) AC-IMPEL

- Closer co-operation to AC-IMPEL (11)
- skills for inspectors (2)
- translation of IMPEL-products
- bi- or trilateral projects/workshops (2)

(4) Issues of interests I

- Exchange programme for inspectors (13)
- sustainable development
- nature protection (2)
- Kyoto goal
- environmental crime
- transboundary impact
- economic and fiscal instruments
- training of inspectors
- permitting procedures

(5) Issues of interests II

- IPPC and EPER
- ISO 14.000 and EMAS
- branch approach
- application of secondary materials
- stack testing systems
- feedback on accidents
- EIA
- alternatives to command and control
- intensive agriculture and wood processing

(6) Issues of interests III

- Integrative BAT
- comparison to BAT in Sevilla
- new legislation and technologies
- best practice on e-commerce
- specification of analysis, monitoring and measurement methods
- special permits for EMS-certificated industries
- test permits for authorities (2)
- bench marking

(7) Networking

- links to other networks (costums, interpol, NGOs, OECD.....) (5)
- involvement of local authorities and municipalities
- general public involvement
- world wide union network
- all MS should be involved !
- involvement of industries

(8) Information and Dissemination

- ... should be improved
- public awareness raising
- guidelines for dissemination within the MS (7)
- Internet database on glossary of environmental terms
- Internet register of IMPEL inspectors (4)
- Conclusions

(9) IMPEL is a very useful informal network

- ... should be strengthened
- ... should be enlarged
- ... should be improved
- a lot of work and a huge challenge

Results of Topic Session 1 – Networks

(Erkki KANTOLA, Finland)

The topic of the first session was networks. The main objective was to survey the existing national and regional networks of different bodies dealing with environmental inspections and enforcement within EU and AC countries. The working group approached the topic through presentations dealing with six different networks in six different countries; Spain, United Kingdom, Czech republic, Denmark, The Netherlands and Italy (see attachments). Two of the participants also presented different networks. The reasonably small group size encouraged lively discussions and made it possible to evaluate the networks in detail. The presented networks dealt with different governmental levels.

This report is a summary of the main findings. The body of the text is divided into sections addressing the following questions: What are the problems participants face in setting up network?, what are the advantages they see in networking?, what developments in networking do the participants anticipate? The final section presents of the principal conclusions of the session.

Problems in setting up networks

- Lack of resources
- Objectives not clear
- No capacity available

No recognition and conviction on the need of networking

Co-operative networks do not materialize out of thin air. They require sufficient personnel and financing both when being set up and maintained. Concrete benefits are often difficult to define in the early, start-up phase of a network. When objectives are unclear, motivation among those involved easily diminishes. A successful co-operative network requires clear commitment on the part of both organizations and users. A particular problem among Accession Countries is constantly changing organizations and staff. Lack of commitment by organizations and staff causes co-operation to decline. When people are not involved in networking, they fail to recognise the value of networks.

Advantages

- Improvement of quality of work and professionalism
- Staff development by training and exchange

Good tool for Accession Countries

Developing joint working programmes (priorities, strategies etc.)

Exchange of information and experience

The topic session emphasized the advantage of networking and the concrete benefits it can bring to people's everyday work. In addition to offering a forum for exchanging information and experiences, a network provides an excellent tool for defining joint strategies and priorities. The session stressed the need for a strong network of environmental authorities and the officials working within them at all governmental levels throughout Europe.

Anticipated developments

- Effective use of modern communication technology, including interactive ways of working
- The use of networks to reach mutual goals
- Greater participation by accession countries in the IMPEL network

Improvement of national IMPEL networks

The rapid adoption of the latest communication technologies will improve networking markedly in the near future. For example, the interactive Internet will allow for rapid and smooth exchange of information and points of view and thus speed up co-operation via networks. Networks provide a viable alternative to increased regulation in pursuing mutual goals. The discussion underlined the equal importance of national and regional networks for the dissemination of IMPEL information. This is seen as part of the effort to spread good practice throughout Member States and Accession Countries.

Main conclusions

- Networking leads to better quality of work and of products
- Strengthen national IMPEL networks
- Be specific on the goals of a network
- Make network activities part of the job
- Pay attention to the maintenance of the network
- Avoid duplication between networks

Member States and Candidate Countries are encouraged to create and strengthen IMPEL networks, to facilitate information flows and to promote widespread participation in IMPEL projects. The important role of the national co-ordinators was stressed in this respect, in particular with regard to avoiding duplication of effort. A particular focus of interest was the need to define the goals of networking in order to facilitate maintenance of the networks and to sustain motivation among those involved. The commitment of users – both organizations and individuals – to the maintenance and use of networks is essential if co-operation is to be sustained. Make time for networking.

Results of Topic Session 2 – Inspection

(Franz GRASZMANN, Germany)

The Topic Session 2 “Inspections” dealt with 2 main subjects:

1. Presentation of the current and recent IMPEL projects:

- Minimum Criteria for Inspections
- IMPEL Reference Book
- Best Practice in Compliance Monitoring
- Development of a Voluntary Scheme for the Peer Review of Inspectorates

2. National experiences and presentations of national monitoring and enforcement systems of France, Sweden, the Netherlands, Denmark, Ireland, Germany.

IMPEL Projects

Minimum Criteria for Inspections

The IMPEL report (reported in November 1997) was used as a basis for a Commission proposal for an EP and Council Recommendation on Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections in the Member States that aimed at industrial installations. It should be a non-binding act with the possibility of EC financing for capacity building.

Legislative Process (Co-Decision Procedure):

EP and Council are co-legislators and the view of ECOSOC, COR are also obtained. The EP wants to change the form of a recommendation into a directive, whereas Council and Commission maintain the view that a recommendation is better in first instance. After the EP's 2nd reading the proposal now is in trilogue/conciliation stage. If no agreement is reached by the end of the French presidency this proposal will fall.

It is especially remarkable that there are no differences between the EP and the Council about the contents of the proposal but only on the form.

It was suggested to look for contacting members of the EP by representatives of the IMPEL-Network and the Commission.

Best Practice in Compliance Monitoring (BPCM)

The BPCM project focuses on developing common principles and practical advice on measuring pollution and on using the results to check compliance with numerical limits for authorities, operators and external experts (third parties). It covers monitoring of both ambient pollution and emissions, and addresses such issues as:

- The rationale and responsibility for measurements
- The need to consider practical monitoring requirements with limits
- The design of monitoring programmes including the frequency of monitoring
- How to compare monitoring results with limits in order to determine compliance
- How to respond to the results of compliance monitoring and to report them.

Development of a Voluntary Scheme for the Peer Review of Inspectorates

TOR's for this project were presented and agreed at the plenary in Porto. The first activities of the project are:

- The search for “Candidate Inspectorates”
- Development and distribution of a questionnaire
- Evaluation of the questionnaires at a seminar (October 2000 in London)

- The Member States are invited to join this project now. The discussion focused on the problem “access to the results” of the evaluation of “Candidate Inspectorates”.

IMPEL Reference Book

The IMPEL Reference Book is not only used in Member States and AC Countries but also in China and other South Asian Countries where former representatives of the IMPEL Network act as consultants. The authorities in these countries appreciate the IMPEL Reference Book as a very good guideline.

National Experiences and Presentations of National Monitoring and Enforcement Systems

It is not the place to repeat the complete presentations, but to focus on some remarkable aspects of some of the national monitoring and enforcement systems.

Operator Self Monitoring – Swedish Experiences

Operator self monitoring has developed gradually from Water legislation during the 40's and the Integrated Permits Act in 1969 to a new Environmental Code and a Self Monitoring Ordinance in 1999. This Environmental Code amalgamates 15 acts. It was reported what self monitoring in Sweden means. Remarkable are the given consequences for inspection:

- Self monitoring does not automatically mean less work for the authorities
- Measurements and reports are not the whole truth
- Inspection has to be differentiated.

Minimum Frequencies of Inspection – Danish Experiences

By late 1996 the minister for the environment and the National Association of Local Authorities in Denmark made an agreement on minimum frequencies of inspection and to use the document on minimum criteria for inspection as a working basis. While the minimum frequencies do not reflect any qualitative or technical standard for inspections the Danish EPA lays down the qualitative standard for inspection in guidelines.

Environmental Management Systems and Integrated Pollution Licensing – Irish Experiences

The Integrated Pollution Licensing requires facilities to implement an Environmental Management System. A part of the system is to have a programme that sets out clear environmental objectives and targets to be reached at a facility and the management support needed to ensure targets are met. The core of the integrated licensing system is the principle of continuing improvement in environmental performance.

The Role of Third Parties in Inspection – German Experiences

The basic principles of the inspection of installations in respect of multi-media environmental protection and the current distribution of roles between environmental authorities, operators and external experts (third parties) are described. The requirements placed upon the competency of the experts and, in general, their tasks and activities within the framework of the overall inspection system are discussed.

Important general conditions:

- Equivalence of inspection, that means retaining material environmental standards
- The more tasks are assigned to experts the higher the quality level and quality insurance system must be
- The external experts can perform monitoring and inspecting tasks but it is only the task of the competent authority to respond to a discovered non-compliance in order to its removal.

Results of Topic Session 3 – Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)

(Georg LUTZ, Germany)

At present the Council Directive 96/61/EC of 24 September 1996 concerning integrated pollution prevention and control (IPPC Directive) plays a central role amongst the legislative instruments designed to combat pollution from large point-sources in the Community. The aim of Topic Session 3 was to examine the formal and material aspects as well as the difficulties of implementation of the IPPC Directive in the member states.

1. The first aspect in Topic Session 3

The introduction of the IPPC Directive was given by Mr. Schnabel of the European Commission. The aim was to learn about and to discuss experiences made with IPPC Directive in member states. Austria, France, Spain and Sweden gave a short overview in the implementation of the IPPC Directive in national legislation.

After discussing the situation in other member states, it became obvious that more centralist states have less problems with the (formal) implementation of the Directive than states with a more federal system. In some cases the three-years transition period to transpose the Directive was still to short.

Experiences in member states:

Austria pointed out that the most important aspects of the IPPC Directive were implemented in existing single media laws (e.g. Industrial Act, Waste Management Act) in August 2000.

These new acts gave a perspective to realise the idea of a single integrated permit („one stop shop“) for the about 600 IPPC installations.

Austria was anxious that the BAT (Best Available Technique) standard of the IPPC Directive is of a lower level than the standard „state of the art“, Austria is familiar with. Therefore they want to hold on to the state of the art standard and hope other member states will do the same.

France explained that their Environment Protection Act of 1976 („classified installations“) already covers the most important aspects of the IPPC Directive. Especially the French list „classified installations“ contains all IPPC-Annex I installations (and a lot more). For these installations only one competent authority is used to grant integrated permits.

Sweden pointed out that they have had some experiences with IPPC aspects for years in their environmental legislation. They started in 1969 with a basic Environment Protection Act, last time reviewed in 1999 and now they are convinced to have implemented all IPPC aspects in the Swedish legislation. In the Swedish Environment Code list there are about 5000 installations and in the Annex I of the IPPC Directive there are about 500. All these installations have been used in Sweden for years to grant integrated permits – therefore they do not expect many changes in the IPPC Directive. Sweden is very pleased with the IPPC Directive because of the (hopefully) beginning harmonisation of industrial activities/ environmental requirements all over Europe.

The represent of **Spain** gave an overview about the Spanish, respectively about the Catalonian situation. Catalonia is an independent region of federal Spain and has with the Catalonian Law of February 1998 anticipated the IPPC Directive. Spain itself has still not implemented the Directive at national level. The Catalonian Law of 1998 has three categories of industrial activities: The first – with a high environmental impact – includes all Annex I activities of the IPPC Directive (and some others). With new unified Environmental Management Agencies the have started to grant integrated permits. On the other hand in Catalonia (and Spain) there is some work to do in solving problems with different competent authorities, in organising control activities by authorities and creating a reliable database not only in regard to IPPC installations.

2. The second point in Topic Session 3

was a report of a European workshop held in Dublin, April 2000, in regard to the topic „Integrated permitting for a power plant – a comparison of permitting in EU member states“. The Irish representative gave a short overview regarding experiences and results from this workshop: Not unexpected -there were some substantive differences in the permitting procedure as well as in the material requirements in the (fictive) permit in member states. The extent of the fictive permits differ from 2 up to 30 pages, in some cases the level of the ELVs (emission limit values) were not at a comparable level and also local aspects were not considered in a comparable way. Also other important aspects such as efficient energy consumption, BAT in a real integrated sense, what means „significant pollution“ and the consideration of economical aspects have to be more clarified.

The final report of this workshop in Dublin inclusive further detailed information will be available in December 2000.

3. The third point in Topic Session 3

was a structured discussion of the following items:

(1) Integrated permitting – what is new in/with integration?

Three main aspects were pointed out by this group:

- Integrative permitting procedure covers all environmental aspects of a given installation
- Experiences in most member states: One single permit is useful
- In case of different licensing procedures (with different competent authorities) full co-ordination is needed.

(2) Best available technique on integration – is it really feasible?

Five main aspects were pointed out by this group:

- The key element is BAT (Best Available Technique)
- BAT: Should be a European minimum standard
- BREFs: They will bring no integrated ELVs, but they will bring useful information in integrated techniques
- BREFs: They will (hopefully) develop to European accepted standards
- Unsolved problems: Integration of energy efficiency, consideration of local and economical aspects.

(3) Does the integrated approach require new types of inspection/inspectors and new inspection systems?

Three main aspects were pointed out by this group:

- No „Wunder-Wuzzi“ (Austrian expression for a totally competent, genius „super“-inspector) is needed
- MS have different systems – but they all can bring acceptable/good results
- Very important points:
 - Co-operation of different experts within licensing procedure is needed
 - A Project manager will be useful
 - Exchange of information will be useful (in MS and in Europe)
 - A European Network will be useful.

4. The fourth point in Topic Session 3

was the evaluation of a prepared questionnaire (see below) completed by all participants of Session 3. The results were the following:

- a) Have there been any changes concerning permitting and enforcement due to the IPPC Directive?

YES: 80% **NO:** **Partly: 20%**

- b) Will the implementation of the IPPC Directive encourage integration of air, water and soil recreation in your country?

YES: 100% **NO:** **Partly:**

- c) Will the implementation of IPPC Directive now require a new or modified inspection system?

YES: **NO: 70%** **Partly: 30%**

- d) Will the implementation of IPPC Directive need inspectors to develop new skills?

YES: 50% **NO:** **Partly: 50%**
(Co-operation,
language skills...).

5. Conclusion:

The IPPC Directive is a new and great challenge for all member states. All people, which are involved in the IPPC process (legal and technical authorities („permit writers“, inspectors)) have already accepted this challenge. Some member states seem to be a little bit further in the IPPC process, others are little bit behind – depending on their traditional environmental administration structures and their „man-power“ in this field. But all member states seem to be on the right way – for more protection of the environment all over Europe. Therefore the IMPEL Conference 2000 in Austria was a very useful contact and exchange forum.

Results of Topic Session 4 – Environmental Information Systems (EIS)

(Markku HIETAMÄKI, Finland)

The topic session has four components:

- legislation which may affect environmental information systems
- presentation of three environmental information systems that are in operation
- discussion on the future needs and plans for the future development of environmental information systems
- testing of three environmental systems that are in operation with the help of experts

The session was attended by participants from IMPEL and AC IMPEL. Some participants took part only in the morning session. The chairman of the session was Hartmut Streuff from Germany.

Results of the questionnaire concerning Environmental Information Systems in the Member States

Hartmut Streuff, Germany

A questionnaire was drafted and sent by Finland to national IMPEL co-ordinators in June 2000. National co-ordinators were asked to forward the paper to the institutions or persons that could answer the questions. The deadline for returning it was the 15th of August 2000. The following Member States answered: Italy, Ireland, Germany, Sweden and Finland. Recognising the high workload of environmental authorities no attempt was made to follow up the un-returned questionnaires. A preliminary assessment showed that general conclusions could be drawn from the five completed ones.

Member States have many different environmental information systems, but their content and use varies, as does their availability to regional and state level authorities. There is a wide coverage of data and long time series on air and water (emissions and the quality of the environment). The questionnaire was not intended to measure what is the quality and usability of data. Concerning wastes, the coverage is quite limited and time series are short.

Environmental reports can increasingly be found on Internet, as is environmental legislation. However, there are only rare instances where factual data can be accessed via the Internet. Inspectors can access data electronically (but not using an Internet browser) and in federal Member States they can access data mainly only regionally.

Member States are confident that they can use existing environmental information systems as a source when they report to the European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER). However, not all IPPC installations are listed in the systems, and also information about some pollutants does not exist.

A very clear conclusion can be drawn from the answers: the dialogues between the IMPEL community and the EIS community must be intensified in order to have systems that can better satisfy the needs of environmental authorities.

Legislation

United Nations/ Economic Commission for Europe Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (the Aarhus Convention) and environmental inspection

Susan Hay, European Commission

The Aarhus Convention was signed by all European Union Member States and the European Community in 1998. The total number of signatories is about 30.

The convention has three pillars: access to information, public participation in decision-making and access to justice.

The European Union legislation needs to be amended. Mainly Directive 90/313/EEC and the directives on environmental impact assessment and the IPPC must be amended, but also some others. It is foreseen that the European Community could ratify the Convention during the year 2003.

Concerning compliance monitoring and inspections, the convention has some fundamental effects. The convention gives NGOs the possibility to influence decision-making and open access to justice. Environmental authorities must, in general, start actively supplying information on environmental policies, plans, actions and on how these affect the environment.

Public environmental authorities must first acquire and update environmental information which is relevant to their functions. Mandatory systems has been established so that there is an adequate flow of information to public authorities about proposed and existing activities which may significantly affect the environment (5.1 §). Parties to the convention shall within the framework of national legislation ensure that the way in which public authorities make environmental information available to the public is transparent and that environmental information is effectively accessible. Authorities must provide sufficient information to the public about the type and scope of environmental information held by relevant public authorities, the basic terms and conditions under which such information is made available and accessible and the process by which it can be obtained (5.2 §). Environmental information must progressively become available in the electronic databases which are easily accessible by the public through public telecommunications networks (5.3 §).

The Aarhus Convention has consequences for the proposal for a Recommendations for Minimum Criteria for Inspections. In accordance with the draft recommendation, inspection reports should be publicly available.

In the discussion, it was stated that inspectors' work load increases with the active supply of environmental information such as providing information on the Internet on policies, plans, action programmes and on the state of the environment, but also with the passive supply of environmental information. The passive supply of information means that environmental authorities must answer directly within a stated time, questions asked by the public.

European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER)

Gernot Schnabl, European Commission

Under the Integrated Pollutant Prevention and Control Directive (96/61/EC), the Commission made a decision on 17 July 2000 concerning the European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER). The register will be publicly available on the Internet.

The EPER has two main objectives:

- to **collect emission data** in a publicly accessible register to enhance awareness, transparency and inter-comparability of environmental pollution (**public use**), and
- to **monitor the achievements** of industry and government in meeting environmental targets in national and international agreements and protocols (**government use**).

The EPER is one tool that can be used to meet the requirements on the public's needs for public right-to-know of releases from industry to the environment, as stipulated in the Aarhus Convention.

The EPER will cover 50 different pollutants, of which 37 are substances emitted to air and 26 are discharged to water. However, waste is excluded from the reporting obligations. Under the decision the reporting unit is the entire facility. One reason not to use the definition of "installation" from the IPPC directive is that waste water treatments plants are not in the scope of the IPPC Directive. It is foreseen that not all facilities will report all pollutants, because the decision has the pollutant specific threshold values. The Commission has estimated that about 20 000 large industrial facilities will be in the register.

The EPER has a simplified coding system with three classes for identifying the methodology used:

- Class M: Emission data based on measurements using standardised or accepted methods.
Class C: Emission data based on calculations using nationally or internationally accepted emission estimation method and/or emission factors that are representative for the relevant industrial sector.
Class E: Emission data based on non-standardised estimations derived from best assumptions or expert guesses.

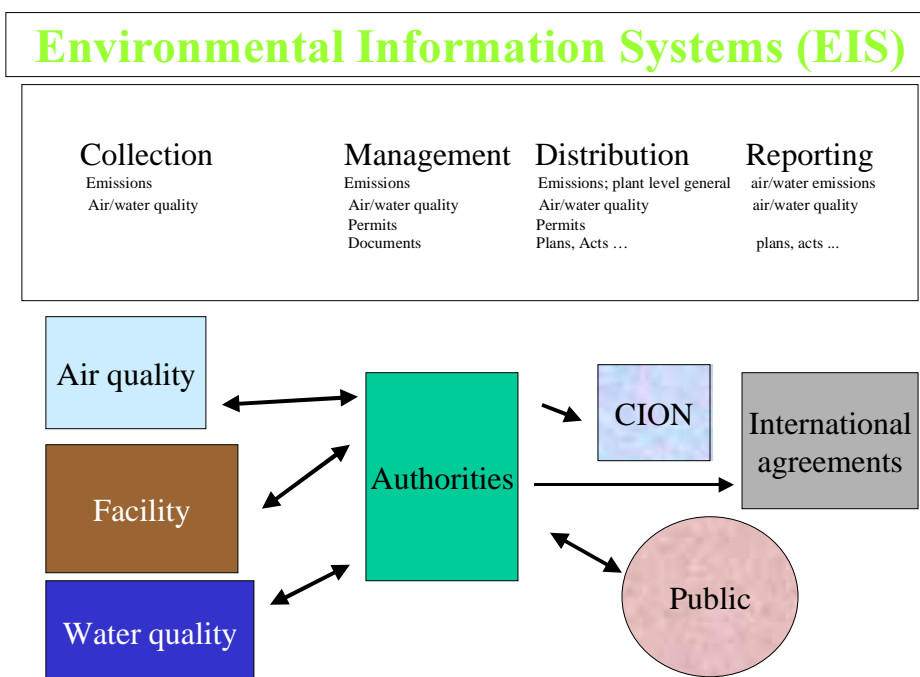
The Commission will support national seminars and will prepare a guidance document with the involvement of relevant industrial sectors and in consultation with the Member States. The guidance

document will be published in December 2000. To ensure that the reported emission data will be comparable, an electronic reporting format will be mandatory and will probably be facilitated by software to be developed by the European Environment Agency.

Every three years Member States will be obliged to report to the European Commission. Member States will send their first report in June 2003, providing data on emissions in 2001 (optionally or 2002). After two reporting cycles the Commission will make an assessment and one possible development is to include more pollutants, include other facilities than only IPPC one and go to annual reporting.

Presentations of national application of environmental information systems

There is no agreed on definition of environmental information systems (EIS). The following diagram illustrates how EIS was dealt with in the questionnaire and in the presentation of some national environmental information systems.



In this context, EIS covered all processes that collect information on the quality of the environment and on emissions. Systems that generate such information, if not operated by authorities were excluded. All authorities' systems that produce and manage environmental information were included. Additionally, those systems through which authorities distribute information to the public and report either to the Commission or under international agreements were included.

Because environmental information systems were interpreted broadly in order to get some overview of environmental related information, it was not possible for participants to present the whole spectrum of their systems, rather they were asked to concentrate on only one part.

Why build EIS?

Presentation of EIS

Needs and Plans for the Further Development of the Pollution Inventory, England and Wales.

Steve Killeen, United Kingdom

Paul Tempany, United Kingdom

There are many environmental information systems in the UK. The presentation focuses on one – the Pollution Inventory covering those activities in England and Wales.

The first environmental information system, the Chemical Release Inventory (CRI), was published by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of the Environment (HMIP) in 1992. The release of this information was

partially in response to pressures from NGO's. Data on emissions were based on the authorisation details for each process, and each one was bespoke, listing different substances and thresholds. The CRI was originally a database on paper reporting. In 1997 the Environmental Agency began to upgrade the CRI. The new system took into account better, for example, consistency of reporting, dissemination of information, public awareness and understanding, need to assist in environmental regulation, changes in regulatory requirements such as the IPPC directive and developments in emissions inventories.

The key aims of the Pollution Inventory (PI) are:

- to provide information to the public on industrial releases in their areas
- to enable the Environmental Agency to regulate industry in a more effective manner, leading to improved environmental protection
- to assist the Agency and Government in meeting national and European environmental reporting requirements
- to promote wider understanding and support through a Pollution Inventory Advisory Group

The Pollution Inventory is designed to:

- provide a list of releases for more than 150 substances from 2000 IPC processes
- show trends in environmental pollution on a year-by-year basis
- report on releases from industry in the most appropriate format
- help target regulatory effort at a local, regional, and national level.

Benefits of a Pollution Inventory:

- encourage the use of cleaner technologies
- encourage businesses to reduce their environmental impact
- enable greater public participation in environmental decision-making
- target regulatory effort at a sectoral level; performance league tables
- support the development of pollution reduction programmes for priority pollutants
- influence City Investors
- contribute to achieving a better environment.

Pollution Inventory system was presented as a real-time presentation over the Internet. The home page is www.environment-agency.org.uk. The Pollution Inventory can be entered via a map or locating an area of interest by using a post code or a placename. Interface also contains FAQ and a chance to ask other questions. There is information about data and help files as well.

The Pollution Inventory has been evolving over nearly 10 years of practical experience in the UK, and it has major potential which the Environmental Agency intends to exploit fully.

Pressures to further development

The European Pollutant Emission Inventory is the prime legal requirements for developing the Pollution Inventory. The EPER requires reporting to the Commission at regular intervals. During the first reporting period, many of the facilities covered will not be IPPC permitted. Additionally some farming activities will be entering integrated environmental regulatory control for the first time.

The Environmental Agency (England and Wales) will collect data on IPPC activities on behalf of the whole UK. Data collection and the quality of data must be improved. Data must be also be converted to easily understandable information to stakeholders. Furthermore, the scope of the inventory must be extended to cover sewage treatment plants and radionuclide releases. Additionally, the Agency wants to keep and develop further information on waste arising and management under IPC and IPPC activities. The Agency must also defend and keep up-to-date its current list of inventory substances.

The Environmental Agency sees good reasons for being among the leaders in this area. However, with limited resources a pragmatic approach must be taken when working with industry and other stakeholders

Why build EIS?

Presentation of VAHTI compliance monitoring system

Needs and plans for the further development of EIS in Finland

Markku Hietamäki, Finland

Ossi Koski, Finland

Environmental information systems have started out as systems to which the regional administration fed in information, and the central administration mainly used the data for assessing the environmental protection and reporting to international conventions. Little by little some systems have been developed so that inspectors in their daily compliance monitoring work also benefit from their use. Although systems cannot be accessed via the Internet, the public can get information from them free of charge. However, a fee is charged if the amount of information requested is large, or if additional programming is needed,

The compliance monitoring system (VAHTI), which is one important part of Finnish environmental information systems, was presented from a laptop computer because its main part is running only on the Intranet of the state environmental administration. VAHTI is a system for the input and storage of information on the environmental permits of clients and their discharges into water, emissions into air and solid wastes. In addition to data input, document management has been implemented into the system.

The main purpose of the data system is to function as a tool of the regional environment centres in processing and monitoring permits. The system also produces basic data on emissions to air, discharges into water and waste.

The VAHTI system, set up in 1997, consists of a client application (running on Windows NT workstations) a SQL database server and a fast nation-wide network connecting the database server and workstations. The client application is based on Visual Basic 6.0.

In addition, a separate web application can be used to browse VAHTI data and to generate various kinds of reports. The web application is based on Microsoft IIS / ASP techniques. Graphics are generated via ChartAsp components.

For operators, an electronic reporting system was available in the year 2000. The system is based on ASP (active server pages) and the SQL server 7.0 database.

The Finnish environmental administration plans to develop net services. These services will be divided into three main areas: a document management system for the whole [state] environmental administration, services for the public and different compliance monitoring systems. The electronic document/content management system will be the base for all documents coming in and what the administration sends out. All other systems will utilise this system. The definition phase has been carried out and the building of the system can start soon.

Services for the public will be provided through the portal to environmental information. This arrangement will gradually replace the existing web service which has grown more or less freely from individual needs.

The development of the compliance monitoring system (VAHTI) has many directions:

- move all present MS Visual Basic code to the component programming (Java or Visual Basic);
- increase the number of installations reporting electronically;
- move more VAHTI applications outside the firewall so that municipalities can access them, which will put them on an almost equal basis as regional environment centres;
- develop more "administrative applications" and renew the user interface in order to make use of merging applications such as environmental quality systems;
- move a small part of VAHTI outside the firewall as an Internet service to give the public access to information they do not get from the portal; and
- start making use of the electronic document/content management system by moving the corresponding subsystems out of VAHTI.

Presentation of the German Environmental Information Network (GEIN) Needs and plans for the Further Development of the GEIN

Harmut Streuff, Germany

Maria R  ther, Germany

The German Environmental Information Network (GEIN) consolidates a wide range of information currently distributed across many different websites run by public organisations in Germany, such as environmental authorities, agencies and ministries at the federal and Land (state) levels. It thus acts as an information broker for environmental information in Germany.

The GEIN joins together 50 suppliers of environmental information and encompasses: more than 80,000 individual web pages and numerous database interfaces (dynamic web offers), such as the catalogues of environmental data compiled by the German Federal Government and the various German Federal L  nder (states). The new feature is that the GEIN makes these dynamic web offers, which otherwise are hidden to conventional search engines, accessible to the user. This function is of special importance, as such databases mainly contain data on specific subjects and it makes data easy to retrieve together with other information.

The German Environmental Information Network was conceived under the title "GEIN 2000" in a close co-operative effort between the Federal Government and the Federal L  nder in the framework of an Environmental Research Plan (UFOPLAN) project managed by the Federal Environmental Agency.

The GEIN is an instrument that fulfils the Aarhus Convention from the technical point of view.

The Internet was used to demonstrate how the GEIN searches for and retrieve information. The home page is www.gein.de.

Efforts are currently being undertaken to establish the GEIN as the German web portal to environmental information.

Participants' views of Environmental Information Systems

In order to understand clearly the actual needs of inspectors concerning environmental information system the participants were the following questions:

- Do you consider that EIS are important?
- Are you satisfied with EIS?
- Do you think that EIS could help you in your work?
- Have the presentations given you new ideas about EIS?

All who were present considered EIS important, but **none of the participants were satisfied with [present] EIS**. This observation should be noted by those who are developing EIS. All participants, however, thought that EIS could help them in their work and that the presentations had given them new ideas about EIS.

These observations confirm and strengthen the responses that came out from the questionnaire: Environmental information systems have the potential to help inspectors in their work, but much better co-operation is needed between the users of EIS and those who are developing them.

At the end of the topic session, participants used computers to become familiar with the three systems:

- the Pollution Inventory from the United Kingdom,
- the VAHTI compliance monitoring system from Finland and
- the GEIN from Germany.

4. FINAL CONCLUSIONS

Conclusions

The IMPEL 2000 Conference on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement took place in Villach, Austria, from 11th to 13th October 2000 and brought together more than 160 civil and public servants engaged in the implementation and enforcement of environmental law from all over Europe, namely the EU Member States, the European Commission, the Candidate Countries and Norway.

In the Plenary Sessions the history of IMPEL was recalled, trends in environmental policy and the role of IMPEL together with different aspects and methods of enforcement of EU environmental law were presented and discussed and a selection of IMPEL products were presented to the audience. Four parallel Topic Sessions focussed on important enforcement issues - Networks, Inspections, Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC) and Environmental Information Systems (EIS). The results of the Topic Sessions were presented and discussed at the Plenary. The following conclusions summarise the most important findings of the Conference.

The Conference:

- stressed the importance of a strong network of environmental authorities and their officials at all governmental levels throughout Europe to foster implementation and enforcement of environmental law as an important part of the regulatory cycle and thereby to make an important contribution to the protection of the environment; a closer co-operation between IMPEL and AC IMPEL as well as with other existing networks was requested;
- underlined the equal importance of national and regional networks for the dissemination of information on IMPEL, its activities and findings, with a view to spreading good practice throughout Member States and Candidate Countries, and stressed the important role of the national co-ordinators in this respect;
- encouraged Member States and Candidate Countries to create or strengthen such networks, to facilitate information flows and to promote widespread participation in IMPEL projects;
- gave the opportunity to share information on the role of IMPEL and AC IMPEL as well as national and regional networks and stressed IMPEL's important role as a network of networks;
- illustrated the importance of co-operation in environmental compliance and enforcement, of exchange of information and experience to learn from each other, to understand different constitutional and administrative systems and approaches in order to develop best practice models: IMPEL has developed into a helpful tool for Member States and Candidate Countries, a forum to discuss problems and to identify solutions;
- acknowledged the value and importance of work done so far under IMPEL in numerous projects and especially called for a renewal of the very successful exchange programmes;
- stressed the importance of IMPEL as an expert forum to discuss the consequences of implementation and enforcement of EU environmental legislation and to give feedback to the European Commission on IMPEL's experience, and the need for an open dialogue between the European Commission, other institutions and IMPEL on proposed legislation and on recommendations of IMPEL activities;
- discussed IMPEL products and their impact on practical work and concluded on the valuable input of IMPEL activities to national developments. This is especially true for the Candidate Countries who stressed the importance of AC IMPEL and the EU IMPEL Network in their efforts to

implement the *acquis communautaire* in the field of the environment and to develop effective inspection and enforcement structures;

- looked at the development of the 6th Environmental Action Programme and the possibility of a role for IMPEL;
- showed that countries have common problems and that networking helps to solve some of these problems; it also stressed the importance of adequate human and financial resources for implementation and enforcement together with the importance of qualification, training and information systems;
- stressed the role of Environmental Information Systems as an instrument for supporting the various aspects of implementation and enforcement of EU environmental law;
- confirmed the particular strength of IMPEL as an informal network focussing on implementation and compliance issues, directly involving practitioners at all governmental levels working in this field;
- encouraged the IMPEL Network to continue and develop its activities in line with its particular strengths, gave many ideas for future areas of co-operation and projects, such as further projects on integrated permitting and inspection, and called for further IMPEL Conferences to be held regularly to provide a forum to share experience and to strengthen networking.

Since 1992 IMPEL has developed into an effective network identifying areas of common concern and improvement in the implementation and enforcement of EU environmental law.

The participants acknowledged the added value of this Conference and presented their compliments to the host country and the organising committee.

**IMPEL 2000 Conference
on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
October 11 to 13, 2000; Villach, Austria**

ANNEX A

PROGRAMME

Dear Madam,
Dear Sir,

The *European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law (IMPEL Network)*, together with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Labour, the Provincial Government of Carinthia and CENTRIC AUSTRIA® – Carinthian Environmental Training and Infrastructure Centre - would like to cordially invite civil servants (legal and technical experts), who are working in the specific field of the enforcement of environmental law on national, regional and local levels from EU Member States, European Commission and IMPEL Secretariat, EU Accession Countries and EEA countries to the

“IMPEL 2000 CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT”

which takes place from

11th to 13th October, 2000
in the Congress Center Villach, Austria.

The 3-day conference will be a unique combination of *Plenary and Topic Sessions*, which means that participants will have the chance to explore issues of particular interest in greater depth and in smaller groups, as, for example, on

- environmental policy and the role of IMPEL
- enforcement of environmental law
- networks
- inspection
- Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)
- Environmental Information Systems (EIS) and
- IMPEL products, e.g. Reference Book on Environmental Inspection.

The first day of the conference (Wednesday, October 11, 2000) will start with an *Opening Session* and 3 *Plenary Sessions*. On the second day, 4 parallel *Topic Sessions* will take place and deal with the main topics of the work of IMPEL. On the third day, the results of the 4 topic sessions will be summarised in a *Final Session*, final conclusions will be drawn and an outlook into the future will be given. On Saturday, October 14, 2000, participants will have the opportunity to take part in a *sightseeing tour across Carinthia*.

For all plenary and the topic sessions 2 and 3, simultaneous interpretations in the following languages will be provided: English, French, German, Italian and Spanish. For the topic session 1 following languages will be provided: English, Italian and Spanish. For the topic session 4 following languages will be provided: English and Italian.

The findings of the conference will be published in English in a printed report. It will contain the speakers' contributions, the results of the topic sessions and the final conclusions of the conference.

During all days of the conference the *IMPEL Market Place* will be open to inform about IMPEL activities and products. Participants are kindly invited to contribute to this market place, i.e. posters, brochures, reports, manuals, websites, etc. that might be of general interest to other participants of the conference, are highly welcomed.

After this event, the participants should have some knowledge on the best monitoring and enforcement practices all over Europe, about the IMPEL Network as such, but also on the building up of new networks, as well as on the implementation of the IPPC Directive and on the effective use of environmental information systems.

You will find enclosed in this conference folder a lot of information concerning IMPEL, the programme of the conference, the speakers' contributions, etc. All this information will also be available on the IMPEL website:

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/impel>

For information and any inquiries during the Conference:

Conference Office in the Congress Center Villach

Mr. Wolfgang HAFNER

Ms Karin MIKLAUTSCH

Ms Margit RAPP

Tel: 04242/205-5866, Fax: 04242/205-5844, Email: impel@ktn.gv.at

PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

TUESDAY, OCT. 10, 2000

- 18.00-19.00 Registration of participants
19.00 Welcome Reception in the Congress Center Villach

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 11, 2000

OPENING & PLENARY SESSIONS

- 08.00-09.00 Registration of participants
09.00-10.30 Opening Session:
Opening by Austria and the European Commission
10.30-11.00 Coffee Break
11.00-12.30 Plenary Session 1:
Environmental Policy and the Role of IMPEL
12.30-14.00 Lunch Break
14.00-15.30 Plenary Session 2:
Enforcement of Environmental Law - Stick and Carrot
15.30-16.00 Coffee Break
16.00-17.30 Plenary Session 3:
IMPEL Products
19.30 Reception of the City of Villach in the "Parkhotel Villach"

THURSDAY, OCT. 12, 2000

TOPIC SESSIONS

- 09.00-17.00 Topic Session 1:
Networks
09.00-17.30 Topic Session 2:
Inspection
09.00-17.00 Topic Session 3:
Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)
09.00-17.00 Topic Session 4:
Environmental Information Systems (EIS)
19.30 Reception of the Province of Carinthia in the "Tourismusschule Villach"
Departure at the Congress Center Villach at 19.00

FRIDAY, OCT. 13, 2000

FINAL SESSION

- 09.00-10.30 Reports on Results of Topic Sessions
10.30-11.00 Coffee Break
11.00-12.30 Final Discussion, Resume & Conclusions
12.30 Lunch

SATURDAY, OCT. 14, 2000

SIGHTSEEING TOUR

- Departure at 9.00 from the Congress Center Villach**
09.00-18.00 "Abbeys, Castles, Towns"

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2000

- 18.00-19.00 Registration of participants
19.00 Welcome Reception in the Congress Center Villach

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2000

- 08.00-09.00 Registration of participants

09.00-10.30 OPENING SESSION: OPENING BY AUSTRIA AND THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Chair: *Waltraud PETEK, Austria*

- 09.00-09.15 **Opening**
Waltraud PETEK, Austria
- 09.15-09.45 **Welcome**
Gerda SANDRIESSER, City councilor
Herbert SCHILLER, Carinthian Minister of the Environment
Georges KREMLIS, European Commission
- 09.45-10.30 **The History of IMPEL**
Allan DUNCAN, United Kingdom
- 10.30-11.00 **Coffee Break**
Press Conference

11.00-12.30 PLENARY SESSION 1: ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY AND THE ROLE OF IMPEL

Chair: *Waltraud PETEK, Austria*

- 11.00-11.30 **The Development of the 6th EU Environmental Action Programme**
Georges KREMLIS, European Commission
- 11.30-12.00 **The Challenge of Combining EU and National Environmental Policy**
António Leones DANTAS, Portugal
- 12.00-12.30 **The Role of AC-IMPEL for the Candidate Countries**
Ivan STEFELJ, Slovenia
Vaclovas BERZINSKAS, Lithuania
- 12.30-14.00 **Lunch Break**

14.00-15.30 PLENARY SESSION 2: ENFORCEMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW - STICK AND CARROT

Chair: *Martin MURRAY, United Kingdom*

- 14.00-14.30 **The European Commission's Point of View on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement of Environmental Law**
Georges KREMLIS, European Commission
- 14.30-15.00 **Inspection in Denmark - The Use of Stick and Carrot**
Peter WADE, Denmark
- 15.00-15.30 **Member States - Use of Voluntary Agreements**
Matthias WEIGAND, Germany
- 15.30-16.00 **Coffee Break**

**16.00-17.30 PLENARY SESSION 3:
IMPEL PRODUCTS**

Chair: *Kia REGNER, Sweden*

- 16.00-16.15 **The Influence of the IMPEL Exchange Programmes**
Rob GLASER, The Netherlands
- 16.15-16.30 **The IMPEL Reference Book for Environmental Inspection**
Ana MAGRO e SILVA, Portugal
- 16.30-16.45 **The IMPEL Report on "Minimum Criteria for Inspections"**
Chris BOOTH, United Kingdom
- 16.45-17.00 **The IMPEL Report on the "Workshop on Licensing and Enforcement Practices in Cement Plants Using Alternative Fuels"**
Wolfgang HAFNER, Austria
- 17.00-17.15 **The IMPEL Report on "The Interrelationship between IPPC, EIA and SEVESO Directives and EMAS Regulation"**
Paolo CAGNOLI, Italy
- 17.15-17.30 **The IMPEL Report on "Lessons Learnt from Accidents"**
Ghislaine GUIMONT, France

19.30 RECEPTION OF THE CITY OF VILLACH IN THE "PARKHOTEL VILLACH"
Buffet dinner and entertainment "Volksliedensemble Landskron"

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2000

TOPIC SESSION 1: NETWORKS

English/Italian/Spanish only

Chair: *Ed EGGINK, The Netherlands*

Rapporteur: *Erkki KANTOLA, Finland*

09.00-10.30 CO-OPERATION / NETWORKS IN MEMBER STATES

09.00-09.15 **Welcome and Introduction of the Topic Session**

Ed EGGINK, The Netherlands

09.15-09.45 **Co-operation / Networks in Spain**

Angeles NAVES, Spain

09.45-10.15 **Co-operation / Networks in the UK**

Kenneth LEDGERWOOD, United Kingdom

10.15-10.30 **Discussion**

10.30-11.00 **Coffee Break**

11.00-12.30 CO-OPERATION / NETWORKS IN MEMBER STATES (CONTINUED)

11.00-11.30 **Co-operation / Networks in the Czech Republic**

Ladislav MIKO, Czech Republic

11.30-12.00 **Co-operation / Networks in Denmark**

Palle JOERGENSEN, Denmark

12.00-12.30 **Discussion**

12.30-14.00 **Lunch Break**

14.00-15.30 CO-OPERATION / NETWORKS IN MEMBER STATES (CONTINUED)

14.00-14.30 **Co-operation / Networks in the Netherlands**

Laurens BEIJEN, The Netherlands

14.30-15.00 **Co-operation / Networks in Italy**

Guisepe MARELLA, Italy

15.00-15.30 **Discussion**

15.30-16.00 **Coffee Break**

16.00-17.00 FINAL DISCUSSION + CONCLUSIONS

19.30 RECEPTION OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF CARINTHIA BY MR HERBERT SCHILLER (DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECRETARY) IN THE "TOURISMUSCHULE VILLACH"
Buffet dinner and entertainment "Die Welken Nelken"

TOPIC SESSION 2: INSPECTIONS

Chair: *Michael STRUCKL, Austria*
Rapporteur: *Franz GRASZMANN, Germany*

09.00-10.40 IMPEL WORK ON ENVIRONMENTAL INSPECTION

- 09.00-09.05 **Welcome and Introduction of the Topic Session**
Michael STRUCKL, Austria
- 09.05-09.30 **Minimum Criteria for Inspections (from IMPEL Report to Council Recommendation)**
Susan HAY, European Commission
- 09.30-10.00 **Best Practise in Compliance Monitoring (Intermediate Report on Ongoing Activities)**
Franz WALDNER, Austria
- 10.00-10.40 **Development of a Voluntary Scheme for the Peer Review of Inspectorates**
Martin MURRAY, United Kingdom
- 10.40-11.00 **Coffee Break**

11.00-12.30 EXPERIENCE OF MEMBER STATES

- 11.00-11.40 **The Efficiency Programme of the French Inspection System**
Annick BONNEVILLE, France
- 11.40-12.20 **The Practical Use of the Reference Book**
Pieter Jan VAN ZANTEN, The Netherlands
- 12.20-12.30 **Short Summary of the Morning Session**
Michael STRUCKL, Austria
- 12.30-14.00 **Lunch Break**

14.00-15.20 EXPERIENCE OF MEMBER STATES (CONTINUED)

- 14.00-14.40 **The Role of Third Parties in Inspections**
Rolf LINNENKAMP, Germany
- 14.40-15.20 **Minimum Frequency of Inspections in Denmark**
Kaare Svarre JAKOBSEN, Denmark
- 15.20-15.50 **Coffee Break**

15.50-17.00 EXPERIENCE OF MEMBER STATES (CONTINUED)

- 15.50-16.20 **The Swedish Experience with Self-Monitoring**
Inga Birgitta LARSSON, Sweden
- 16.20-17.00 **Environmental Management Systems, Audits and the Regulator**
Dara LYNOTT, Ireland

17.00-17.30 SUMMARY OF THE AFTERNOON SESSION AND FINAL DISCUSSION

Michael STRUCKL, Austria

19.30 RECEPTION OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF CARINTHIA BY MR HERBERT SCHILLER (DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECRETARY) IN THE "TOURISMUSCHULE VILLACH"
Buffet dinner and entertainment "Die Welken Nelken"

**TOPIC SESSION 3:
INTEGRATED POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPPC)**

Chair: *Andreas WASIELEWSKI, Germany*

Rapporteur: *Georg LUTZ, Germany*

09.00-10.30 EXPERIENCES WITH IPPC IN THE MEMBER STATES

09.00-09.15 **Welcome and Opening of the Topic Session**

Andreas WASIELEWSKI, Germany

09.15-09.30 **Introduction to the IPPC Directive**

Gernot SCHNABL, European Commission

09.30-09.45 **Experiences made in Austria**

Gernot WURM, Austria

09.45-10.00 **Experiences made in France**

Philippe LUCAS, France

10.00-10.15 **Experiences made in Spain**

Xavier CARBONELL, Spain

10.15-10.30 **Experiences made in Sweden**

Ulrika SAMUELSSON, Sweden

10.30-11.00 **Coffee Break**

11.00-12.30 INTEGRATED PERMITTING

11.00-12.30 **Integrated Permitting for a Power Plant - A Comparison of Permitting in EU Member States**

Iain MacLEAN, Ireland

12.30-14.00 **Lunch Break**

14.00-15.30 STRUCTURED DISCUSSION

Items for the structured discussion:

- Integrated permitting – What is new in/with integration?
- Best available technique on integration – Is it really feasible?
- Does the integrated approach require new types of inspections and a new inspection system?

The discussion will be divided in this three sections, a brief introduction will be given by the chair.

15.30-16.00 **Coffee Break**

16.00-17.00 SUMMARY OF THE AFTERNOON SESSION

Andreas WASIELEWSKI, Germany

19.30 RECEPTION OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF CARINTHIA BY MR HERBERT SCHILLER (DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECRETARY) IN THE "TOURISMUSCHULE VILLACH"

Buffet dinner and entertainment "Die Welken Nelken"

**TOPIC SESSION 4:
ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS (EIS)**

English/Italian only

Chair: *Hartmut STREUFF, Germany*

Rapporteur: *Markku HIETAMÄKI, Finland*

09.00-11.10 ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS (EIS) IN MEMBER STATES

09.00-09.30 **Results of Questionnaire Concerning Environmental Information Systems (EIS) in the Member States**

Hartmut STREUFF, Germany

09.30-10.00 **IPPC Directive 96/61/EC and the European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER)**

Gernot SCHNABL, European Commission

10.00-10.30 **Effects of the Aarhus Convention on Inspections**

Susan HAY, European Commission

10.30-10.50 **Coffee Break**

10.50-11.30 **Why to build EIS**

*Steve KILLEEN, United Kingdom and
Markku HIETAMÄKI, Finland*

11.30-12.30 PRESENTATION OF EIS IN PRACTISE (a real time presentation)

11.30-12.00 **Presentation of the UK Pollution Inventory**

Paul TEMPANY, United Kingdom

12.00-12.30 **Presentation of the Finnish VAHTI-System**

Ossi KOSKI, Finland

12.30-14.00 **Lunch Break**

14.00-15.00 PRESENTATION OF EIS IN PRACTISE (CONTINUED)

14.00-14.20 **Presentation of the German Environmental Information Network**

*Hartmut STREUFF, Germany
Maria RÜTHER, Germany*

14.20-15.00 **Needs and Plans to Further Develop EIS**

*Paul TEMPANY, United Kingdom and
Markku HIETAMÄKI, Finland*

15.00-17.00 PANEL + PRACTICAL USE OF EIS VIA INTERNET

15.00-15.45 **Panel "What kind of EIS do Inspectors need in their work?"**

Participants are encouraged to give their opinions concerning needs for the future development of EISs

15.45-17.00 **Practical Use of EISs via INTERNET**

Participants are encouraged to use UK, Finnish and German Environmental Information Systems (EIS) via INTERNET and will get assistance to do so.

14.00-14.20 **Presentation of the German Environmental Information Network**

*Hartmut STREUFF, Germany
Maria RÜTHER, Germany*

14.20-15.00 **Needs and Plans to Further Develop EIS**

*Paul TEMPANY, United Kingdom and
Markku HIETAMÄKI, Finland*

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19.30 RECEPTION OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF CARINTHIA BY MR HERBERT SCHILLER (DEPUTY PROVINCIAL GOVERNOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECRETARY) IN THE "TOURISMUSCHULE VILLACH"

Buffet dinner and entertainment "Die Welken Nelken"

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2000

FINAL SESSION

Chair: *Waltraud PETEK, Austria and
Terence SHEARS, IMPEL-Secretariat*
Rapporteur: *Wolfgang HAFNER, Austria*

09.00-10.30 REPORTS ON RESULTS OF TOPIC SESSIONS

- 09.00-09.20 **Results of Topic Session 1: "Networks"**
Erkki KANTOLA (Rapporteur of TS1), Finland
- 09.20-09.40 **Results of Topic Session 2: "Inspection"**
Franz GRASZMANN (Rapporteur of TS2), Germany
- 09.40-10.00 **Results of Topic Session 3: "Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)"**
Georg LUTZ (Rapporteur of TS3), Germany
- 10.00-10.30 **Results of Topic Session 4 "Environmental Information Systems (EIS)"**
Markku HIETAMÄKI (Rapporteur of TS4), Finland
- 10.30-11.00 **Coffee Break**

11.00-12.30 FINAL DISCUSSION, RESUME & CONCLUSIONS

- 11.00-12.00 **Final Discussion, Resume, Conclusions, Outlook into the Future**
- 12.00 **Closing Address**
Karin MIKLAUTSCH, Austria
- 12.30 **Lunch**

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2000

SIGHTSEEING TOUR ACROSS CARINTHIA

- 09.00-18.00 **"Abbeys, Castles, Towns"**
Coach journey to Abbey of "Gurk", Castle "Hochosterwitz", Old City of "St. Veit/Glan"
+ classical concert in the Abbey of "Gurk"
+ lunch
- Departure at the Congress Center Villach at 9.00

Topic Sessions (TS)

On Thursday, Oct. 12, 2000 four parallel Topic Sessions will be performed referring to main topics of the work of IMPEL (**Networks, Inspection, IPPC, EIS**).

At the beginning of each topic session, a *Feedback Form* will be handed out including some *general questions*

- What are your ideas concerning the future work of IMPEL?
- How can IMPEL be of use to you?

and with a list of session specific questions (see below). Participants will kindly be asked to fill in these forms and to return them in the course of the session. At the end of each topic session, the suggestions made in these forms will be analysed. Highlights will be presented in the final session on Friday, Oct. 13, 2000.

TOPIC SESSION 1: NETWORKS

Purpose

Existing networks experience different difficulties: for example, a lack of co-operation between different actors involved in enforcement activities; the provision and exchange of information; how to harmonise the actions of the different authorities involved; formal problems like split competencies, etc.

The objective of this topic session is to raise the awareness for existing networks of different organisations, governmental bodies, inspectorates, etc., dealing with environmental inspections and enforcement on national and regional levels within the EU Member States and the Accession Countries. Through the exchange of information and discussions, participants should be encouraged to promote, strengthen and improve existing networks and to build new ones.

Input

The input for the discussions in this topic session will be given by representatives from different Member States and Accession Countries. Each presentation will take about 20 minutes followed by about 10 minutes for questions.

Expected Outcome

- A better understanding of different situations by exchange of information;
- An insight in existing networks on national/regional level and how others manage co-operation;
- Ideas for improvement of co-operation, legislation, enforcement at different levels;
- Stronger networks.

Specific Questions in Feedback Form

- Which networks do exist in your country and in which networks are you involved?
- What are the problems you are facing in setting up networks?
- Which advantages / disadvantages do you identify?
- Which developments do you foresee?
- How can co-operation in the field of enforcement (on your level) be improved?

TOPIC SESSION 2: INSPECTION

Purpose

Inspections are a key element for the enforcement of European environmental legislation. Consequently, many IMPEL activities and most IMPEL products deal with inspection. This is in line with an overall EU strategy to strengthen the supervision of environmental requirements. Furthermore, environmental inspections play a role in the field of criminal investigations and in environmental quality checking, where they can prompt feed-back to policy makers. In this context, the topic session "Inspection" should offer some genuine possibilities

- to discuss the contents of IMPEL products for inspection in depth,
- to exchange inspection experience and inspection practices and
- to make recommendations for the harmonisation of procedures.

Input

Examples of environmental inspections in various EU Member States within the framework of former and planned IMPEL activities.

Expected Outcome

Presentation of possible solutions for the challenge of environmental inspections and ideas for further IMPEL work.

Specific Questions in Feedback Form

- How do you personally assess the value of the IMPEL products on inspections?
- What should be the focus of further IMPEL activities on inspections?
- Have the presentations at the *IMPEL 2000 CONFERENCE* given an input to your inspection practise?
- Are the inspection examples from other Member States considerably different from the situation in your country or do you see common issues?

TOPIC SESSION 3: INTEGRATED POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPPC)

Purpose

The Council Directive 96/61/EC describes the prevention of emissions into air, water or soil, wherever this is practicable, as the objective of the integrated approach of pollution prevention and control, taking into account the management of waste, and, where it is not practicable, the minimisation of these emissions, in order to achieve a high level of protection for the environment as a whole. Accordingly, the EU Member States have to guarantee an integrated approach when issuing permits for installations or for substantial modification of existing installations since October 30, 1999. However, the levels of implementation of the IPPC Directive across the EU Member States are, at present, still different. The objectives of the workshop are :

- to explore the varying legal pre-conditions of the EU Member States concerning the integrated approach from the point of view of administrative implementation;
- to discuss the respective practical experience of application and enforcement.

Input

Examples and experiences of licensing procedures and compliance from various Member States within the framework of the IPPC Directive.

Expected Outcome

Presentation and discussion of possible solutions from the administrative point of view; feed-back to the level of policy-making.

Specific Questions in Feedback Form

- Have there been any changes concerning permitting and enforcement due to the IPPC Directive?
- Will the implementation of the IPPC Directive encourage integration of air, water and soil recreation in your country?
- Will the implementation of the IPPC Directive now require a new or modified inspection system?
- Will the implementation of the IPPC Directive need inspectors to develop new skills?

TOPIC SESSION 4: ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SYSTEM (EIS)

Purpose

Member States have built and operate several Environmental Information Systems. The importance of Environmental Information Systems will increase in the future, because many national environmental administrations have to rationalise their work and the Aarhus Convention requires the members of the convention to collect, manage and distribute environmental information. Objectives of this topic session are:

- discussion of environmental data on emissions/discharges/wastes and air & water quality;
- discussion of inspectors' possibilities to use environmental data and compliance monitoring information through electronic networks;
- Aarhus Convention;
- obligations to process environmental information and to provide information to the public through public telecommunication networks;
- presentation of the IPPC Directive (96/61/EU) and European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER) as a way to produce environmental information about emissions and discharges, both for public and for decision makers.

Input

The input for the discussion will be given by representatives from the European Union Commission and from different EU Member States. Participants to the session are invited to tell "what kind of Environmental Information Systems" they need in their work. It will be also possible to access the UK, Finnish and German Environmental Information Systems through the INTERNET.

Expected Outcome

- State of Environmental Information Systems in European Union Member States;
- Examples of how Environmental Information Systems can help inspectors in their daily work;
- Ideas on how Environmental Information Systems should be developed in the future.

Specific Questions in Feedback Form

- What kind of Environmental Information System do you use in your daily work and do they make your work more effective?
- Have the presentations at the *IMPEL 2000 CONFERENCE* given you new ideas how Environmental Information Systems could be developed?
- In what areas are the most urgent needs to develop Environmental Information Systems?
- Is there a need in your opinion to have a project under IMPEL with respect to Environmental Information Systems?

**IMPEL 2000 Conference
on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
October 11 to 13, 2000; Villach, Austria**

ANNEX B

Country Balance List of Participants

Country Balance

Number of Participants	Country
50	Austria
13	Germany
12	Netherlands
10	UK
7	Italy
6	Romania
6	Spain
5	Denmark
5	EC
5	Finland
5	France
5	Portugal
5	Sweden
4	Slovenia
2	Bulgaria
2	Czech Rep.
2	Slovakia
2	Ireland
2	Latvia
2	Lithuania
2	Poland
1	Hungary
1	Cyprus
1	Estonia
1	Malta
1	Norway

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IMPEL 2000 CONFERENCE

Nr	Country	Name	Organisation	Address	
1	Austria	BÄUMEL Egon	Provincial Government of Styria Dep. 3a	Stempfergasse 5-7 A- 8010 Graz	Tel: 0043/316/877/2030 Fax: 0043/316/877/2480 Email: egon.baeumel@stmk.gv.at
2	Austria	BLASCHUN Alfred	Provincial Government of Carinthia Dept. 15 - Environment and Technology	Flatschacherstr. 70 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/536/31547 Fax: 0043/463/344/184 Email: alfred.blanchun@ktn.gv.at
3	Austria	BRANDL Michael	Provincial Government of Tyrol Dept. Environmental Law for Industrial Affairs	Landhaus A- 6020 Innsbruck	Tel: 0043/512/508/2404 Fax: 0043/512/508/2405 m.brandl@tirol.gv.at
4	Austria	DIETSCHER Ursula	Provincial Government of Upper Austria Abt. Environmental Law	Christian-Coulin-Str. 15 A- 4020 Linz	Tel: 0043/732/6584/3442 Fax: 0043/732/6584/3409 ur.post@ooe.gv.at
5	Austria	DOLENZ Gerhard	Provincial Government of Carinthia Dept. 15 - Environment and Technology	Flatschacherstr. 70 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/536/31522 Fax: 0043/463/536/31500
6	Austria	FREUNDL Gerhard	Provincial Government of Carinthia Dept. 18 - Water Management	Völkermarkterring 29 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/536/31810 Fax: 0043/463/536/31828 Email: gerhard.freundl@ktn.gv.at
7	Austria	GOEDL Gerhard	Provincial Government of Styria Waste and Rehabilitation of contaminated sites	Landhausgasse 7 A- 8047 Graz	Tel: 0043/676/86663809 Email: gerhard.goedl@stmk.gv.at
8	Austria	GREINER Martina	Provincial Government of Carinthia Legal Dept. 8W for Water, Waste management, Energy and Nature Conservation	Mießtalerstr. 1 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/536/30816 Fax: 0043/463/536/30800 Email: martina.greiner@ktn.gv.at
9	Austria	HAFNER Wolfgang	Provincial Government of Carinthia Dept. 15 - Environment and Technology	Flatschacherstr. 70 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0463/536/31546 Fax: 0463/536/31500 Email: wolfgang.hafner@ktn.gv.at
10	Austria	HAGER Rainer	Provincial Government of Upper Austria Abt. Environmental Law	Christian-Coulin-Str. 15 A- 4020 Linz	Tel: 0043/732/6584/3432 Fax: 0043/732/6584/3409 ur.post@ooe.gv.at
11	Austria	HEIDLER Armin	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management Dep I/1U	Stubenring 5 A- 1010 Wien	Tel: 0043/1/51522/2109 Fax: 0043/1/51522/7122 Email: armin.heidler@bmu.gv.at

IMPEL 2000 CONFERENCE

Nr	Country	Name	Organisation	Address	
12	Austria	HIESBERGER Karl	Provincial Government of Lower Austria Dept. Environmental Law	Landhausplatz 1 A- 3109 St.Pölten	Tel:0043/2742/200/5206 Fax: 0043/2742/200/5280 Email: karl.hiesberger@noel.gv.at
13	Austria	JUNGWIRTH Andrea	Federal Ministry of Economics and Labour Abt.III/A/2	Stubenring 1 A-1010 Wien	Tel: 0043/1/71100/5811 Fax: 0043/1/7142718 Email: andrea.jungwirth@bmwa.gv.at
14	Austria	KANDUT Adolf	Provincial Government of Carinthia Legal Dept. 8W for Water, Waste management, Energy and Nature Conservation	Mießtalerstr. 1 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/536/30801 Fax: 0043/463/536/30800 Email: post.abt8w@ktn.gv.at
15	Austria	KÖLLER Rudolf	Provincial Government of Carinthia Dept. 15 - Environment and Technology	Flatschacher Str. 70 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/536/31507 Fax: 0043/463/536/31500 Email: rudolf.koeller@ktn.gv.at
16	Austria	KRAMER Franz	Provincial Government of Lower Austria Dept. Legal Aspects of Water Management	Landhausplatz 1 A- 3109 St.Pölten	Tel: 0043/2742/200/4365 Fax: 0043/72742/200/4040 Email: franz.kramer@noel.gv.at
17	Austria	KRONEDER Gerald	Provincial Government of Vienna MA 22 - Environment	Ebendorferstraße 4 A- 1082 Wien	Tel: 0043/1/4000/88311 Fax: 0043/1/4000/9988215 Email: kro@m22.magwien.gv.at
18	Austria	LANTSCHBAUER Wolfgang	Provincial Government of Upper Austria Abt. Environment	Stockhofstr. 40 A- 4020 Linz	Tel: 0043/732/7720/4539 Fax: 0043/732/7720/3468 Email: wolfgang.lantschbauer@ooe.gv.at
19	Austria	MACK Hans	Magistrat Villach Dept. Public Health	Rathausplatz 1 A- 9500 Villach	Tel: 0043/4242/205/2510 Fax: 0043/4242/205/2599 Email: hans.mack@villach.at
20	Austria	MALICHA Rosemarie	Provincial Government of Carinthia Dept. 15 - Environment and Technology	Flatschacherstr. 70 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/536/31526 Fax: 0043/463/536/31500 Email: chemiesv@ktn.gv.at
21	Austria	MAIER Johannes	Provincial Government of Carinthia Dept. 1 - EU Co-ordination	Arnulfplatz1 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/536/2888 Fax: 0043/463/536/2889 Email: johannes.maier@ktn.gv.at

IMPEL 2000 CONFERENCE

Nr	Country	Name	Organisation	Address	
22	Austria	MESSNER Barbara	Provincial Government of Carinthia Dept. 15 - Environment and Technology	Flatschacher Str. 70 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/536/31524 Fax: 0043/463/536/31500 Email: chemiesv.abt15@ktn.gv.at
23	Austria	MIKLAUTSCH Karin	Provincial Government of Carinthia Legal Dept. 8W for Water, Waste management, Energy and Nature Conservation	Mießtalerstr. 1 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/536/30811 Fax: 0043/463/536/30800 Email: karin.miklautsch@ktn.gv.at
24	Austria	MOSER Gerhard	Provincial Government of Tyrol Dept. Water and Energy Law	Eduard-Wallnöfer-Platz 1 A- 6020 Innsbruck	Tel: 0043/512/508/2476 Email: moser.ge@tirol.gv.at
25	Austria	MUCHITSCH Wilhelm	Federal Ministry of Economics and Labour Dept. III/6 - Technical Matters of the Industrial Code	Stubenring 1 A- 1011 Wien	Tel: 0043/1/71100/5501 Fax: 0043/1/7142718 Email: wilhelm.muchitsch@bmwa.gv.at
26	Austria	PALIEGE-BARFUSS Sylvia	Federal Ministry of Economics and Labour Abt.III/A/2	Stubenring 1 A- 1010 Wien	Tel: 0043/1/71100/5815 Fax: 0043/1/7142718 Email: sylvia.paliede@bmwa.gv.at
27	Austria	PETEK Waltraud	Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Environment and Water Management Dep I/1U	Stubenring 5 A- 1010 Wien	Tel: 0043/1/51522/2123 Fax: 0043/1/51522/7122 waltraud.petek@bmu.gv.at
28	Austria	PONTA Ursula	KIS (Carinthian Institute for Limnology)	Flatschacher Str. 70 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/536/31545 Fax: 0043/463/536/31500 Email: abt15.kis@ktn.gv.at
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30	Austria	RETTENBACHER-KRENN Barbara	Independent Administrative Court	Völkermarkterring 25 A- 9020 Klagenfurt	Tel: 0043/463/54350/25 Fax: 0043/463/54350/29
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132	Slovakia	RAJNIAK Ivan	Slovak Inspectorate of Environment Dep. Air Protection	Karloveska 2 SK- 84222 Bratislava	Tel: 00421/7654/27969 Fax: 00421/7654/20055 Email: knitsch@sizp.sk
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IMPEL 2000 CONFERENCE

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138	Spain	GALLEGO Belen	Autonomous Government of Catalonia Dept. Environment Centre for Cleaner Productions Initiatives	Paris, 184, 3a planta E- 08036 Barcelona	Tel: 0034/93/4151112 Fax: 0034/93/2370286 Email: prodneta@cipn.es
139	Spain	MENDEZ Miguel	Environmental Council Dept. Air Pollution	Manuel Siurot 50 E- 41013 Sevilla	Tel: 0034/95/500/3547 Fax: 0034/95/500/3780 Email: dpto.investigacion@cma.junta- andalucia.es
140	Spain	NAVES Angeles	Ministry of Environment Dept. General Direction of Environmental Quality	Plaza San Juan del la Cruz S/N E- 28071 Madrid	Tel: 0034/91/5976513 Fax: 0034/91/5976485 Email: angeles.naves@sgnci.mma.es
141	Spain	OBIS MOLINA Xavier	Autonomous Government of Catalonia Ministry of the Environment - Water Treatment Agency	Provenca 204-208 E- 08036 Barcelona	Tel: 0034/93/4193085 Email: xobis@correu.gencat.es
142	Spain	RODRIGUEZ Ana	Ministry of Environment Dept. General Direction of Environmental Quality and Evaluation	Plaza San Juan dela Cruz S/N E- 28071 Madrid	Tel: 0034/915/976795 Fax: 0034/915/975816 Email: ana.rodriguez@sgeaas.mma.es
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146	Sweden	SAMUELSSON Ulrika	Director of Environmental Protection County Administration of Västra Götaland	S- 46282 Vänersborg	Tel: 0046/521/605466 Fax: 0046/521/605507 Email: ulrika.samuelsson@o.lst.se

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148	UK	BOOTH Christopher	Environment Agency of England and Wales Dept. Environment Protection	5/E8, Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street UK- London SW1E 6DE	Tel: 0044/207/944/2505 Fax: 0044/207/944/4412 Email: chris.booth@detr.gsi.gov.uk
149	UK	BROCKLEHURST Martin	Environment Agency Dept. EPNS	Block I Government Buildings, Burghill Road Westbury-on-Trym UK- Bristol BS10 6BF	Tel: 0044/117/914/2686 Fax: 0044/117/9142770 Email: martin.brocklehurst@environment-agency.gov.uk
150	UK	DUNCAN Allan	Environment Agency Environmental Protection Directorate	Rio House, Waterside Drive, Aztec West, Almondsbury UK- Bristol B532 4UD	Tel: 0044/1454/624400 Fax: 0044/1454/624409 Email: allan.duncan@environment-agency.gov.uk
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**IMPEL 2000 Conference
on Environmental Compliance and Enforcement
October 11 to 13, 2000; Villach, Austria**

ANNEX C

Feedback Forms

FEEDBACK FORM	TOPIC SESSION
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NAME:	COUNTRY:
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GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. What are your ideas concerning the future work of IMPEL?

2. How can IMPEL be of use to you?

FEEDBACK FORM	TOPIC SESSION 1 NETWORKS
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NAME:	COUNTRY:
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SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

1. Which networks do exist in your country and in which networks are you involved?

2. What are the problems you are facing in setting up networks?

3. Which advantages / disadvantages do you identify?

4. Which developments do you foresee?

5. How can co-operation in the field of enforcement (on your level) be improved?

**IMPEL 2000 Conference
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ANNEX D

Press Release

IMPEL 2000 CONFERENCE

EU - Environmental Conference on the Improvement of European Environmental Regulations

From October 11th – 13th, 2000, the Austrian Federal Province of Carinthia is hosting the IMPEL - 2000 - Conference, an EU - Environmental conference with approximately 170 environmental civil servants from 24 European countries, as well as from the European Commission, at the Congress Centre in Villach. The welcome greetings will be delivered and the opening ceremony of the conference will be carried out by the Mayor of Villach, Mr. Helmut Manzenreiter, and by the Minister of the Environment of the Province of Carinthia, Mr. Herbert Schiller.

On account of the European Commission, and with the help of CENTRIC AUSTRIA, the Department of the Environment of the Federal Province of Carinthia is organising this conference within the framework of the IMPEL-Network of the European Union. IMPEL is an informal network of European environmental civil servants and the European Commission that was founded by the EU in 1992. Its main objective is the harmonisation of European Environmental Law.

The minimum requirements concerning environmental standards are determined by EU directives, which must then be enforced by the member states. However, the actual enforcement processes are subject to different levels of stringency. Of course, this can lead to differentiating results, as far as the stipulation and the monitoring of limit values is concerned. The consequences may be distortion of competition and negative impacts on the environment. It is one of the primary responsibilities of the IMPEL-Network to point out such differences, and to find the right balance.

For the first time ever, a big international conference like this will offer an ideal opportunity to specify the tasks and competencies of the IMPEL-Network, and to propose alternatives for improvement. Environmental civil servants from all the access countries have been invited as observers, because the enforcement of EU environmental regulations poses a big challenge for these countries.

The conference participants will discuss the monitoring and the enforcement of the environmental regulations, the implementation of new information networks, and the efficient use of environmental information systems. Apart from that, proposals will be worked out as to how the role of IMPEL could be strengthened in the future, so that the experience gathered from the practical application of environmental regulations will also be considered by the law-making bodies.

The conference, for which simultaneous translations into 5 languages (German, English, French, Italian, and Spanish) will be provided, has been budgeted at 157.000 Euro. About 75 % are financed through EU-funding, the remaining sum has been split between the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, the Environment and Water Management, the Austrian Ministry of Economic Affairs and the Provincial Government of Carinthia.

Twice before, namely in May 1998 and in March 2000, Carinthia was the host of very successful IMPEL workshops with the topics of "The incineration of plastic wastes in the cement industry" and "The use of chlorinated hydrocarbons in industrial plants".

The IMPEL-2000-conference is also meant to be a top-quality trial run for another major political event that will take place in the region next year : From September 27th to 28th, 2001, the 5th Environmental Conference of the Regions of Europe, "ENCORE 2001", will be organised by the Federal Province of Carinthia, also at the Villach Congress Centre.

For further Information, please contact the members of the organising committee, Mag. Karin Miklautsch (++43 463-536-30811) and Dr. Wolfgang Hafner (++43 463-536-31546).