KEYNOTE MICHAEL WEINGAERTLER

Michael is a construction market expert at the Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO). His focus is put on analyses and forecasts on infrastructure and construction markets within the research area “Structural Change and Regional Development”. His publications cover a broad variety of construction aspects like macro-economic issues, energy efficient construction and renovation, innovation in the construction sector as well as housing financing, public housing support and policy.

He is deeply involved with WIFO's co-operation with the leading European construction market-forecasting group, Euroconstruct. Michael Weingaertler co-organized many conferences, participates in the creation and publishing of the Euroconstruct reports and is member of the Strategic Group of the network for over ten years. Euroconstruct reports are widely recognized for their thorough analysis and forecasting of construction market trends in Europe.

Above all he is regularly holding lectures for companies at financial events and trade fairs nationally and internationally. The I-RIM Conference is pleased to include Mr. Weingaertler in the 2014 conference program.

Carol Houghton trained as a physicist in her home town of Liverpool and has worked with or within the thermal insulation industry for over 40 years, having been director of research and more recently head of regulatory affairs for a major multinational company.

She currently provides technical and regulatory affairs consultancy services to UK, European and International companies, research organizations, national and European trade associations, government departments, the European Commission and NGOs. She is the Chairman of, or a member of, many national or international committees related to thermal insulation or construction products. She also assists the European Commission as an independent expert member of the EC's Expert Group on Dangerous Substances under the Construction Products Regulation (CPR) and also sits on the BSI's Policy Committee on the CPR and standardisation.

Carol has 3 children and 7 grandchildren and, in her local community, works as a magistrate (Justice of the Peace).
Dr. Saber is leading numerical modeling in the field of energy efficiency in built environment at NRC-Construction. He developed the NRC’s hygrothermal 2-D and 3-D and time dependent model called “hygIRC-C”. Prior to NRC, Dr. Saber was a Research Assistant Professor at the Institute for Space and Nuclear Power Studies and Chemical and Nuclear Engineering Department, University of New Mexico. His relevant research interest include numerical modeling, experimental investigation of mold growth on building materials, thermal and hygro-thermal modeling of building envelopes, high performance buildings, building modeling simulation, day lighting using skylight devices, thermal insulations materials for building applications, flow in porous media, heat and mass transfer, Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD), radiation heat transfer, heat pipes & thermosyphons, electronic cooling, thin film stability, two-phase flow, combustion, smoke managements, fire dynamics, energy conversion systems, advanced radioisotope power systems for space applications, and artificial intelligent control.

Dr. Saber has a PhD from the Chemical and Nuclear Engineering Dept., University of New Mexico, a M.Sc. from the Mechanical Engineering, Mansoura University, Egypt in and B.Sc. from the same University in 1988. Currently, Dr. Saber is working as a Research Officer at the Building Envelope and Materials Program, Construction Portfolio, National Research Council of Canada (NRC), Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Dr. Saber has received numerous awards throughout his career and is a member of the editorial boards of the Journal of Building Physics, a task group member of the National Building Code of Canada, and member of several national and international professional organizations. Dr. Saber has written together with other researchers over 160 technical papers, book, book chapters and reports.

Ray Williams has worked at the National Physical Laboratory (NPL), the UK’s National Measurement Institute, for fifty years.

For thirty-five years he has worked in the Thermophysical Property Measurement Group focussing on materials and structures used in buildings. Initially helping to establish the UK’s National Standard facility for the measurement of the thermal conductivity of insulations and building materials and then taking on the responsibility for establishing the NPL’s hot-box facility, used to measure the overall heat transfer through large building structures (U-values). This facility now comprises two hot box apparatus, one of which can be fully rotated to facilitate heat transfer measurements with the test element in any orientation and the other has been designed to accommodate very heavy test elements (up to about 800 kg) such as masonry walls. Both of these apparatus were built in-house at the NPL to his own designs.
Salem Farkh is the Head of Unit ‘Hygro-Thermal Performance of Building Elements and Materials’ at the Scientific and Technical Center for Buildings (CSTB), France. His main activities are related to thermal insulation of buildings (certification, CE marking, tests, technical assessment, research and consultancy). He is strongly involved in national, European, and International standardization of test and calculation methods related to thermal insulation (products and building components). At national level, he is the convener of Th-Bât commission that develops national calculation rules. At European level, he is the technical expert in different Working Groups of CEN/TC89 (WG7, WG12 and WG13) and CEN/TC88 (WG21). At ISO level, he is a member of ISO/TC163/SC2/WG9 that is responsible for revision of common EN/ISO standards, working on reflective products since 2005 (tests, modeling and calculation). He is the project manager of the research program to assess, by test and by calculation, the thermal behavior of reflective products.

Throughout this time he has been an active member of CEN and ISO expert working groups, producing a suite of standards for measuring; calculating and simulating heat transfer through windows, doors, rooflights and curtain walls as well as a standard for carrying out energy rating of windows. He is a member of CEN TC 89 WG12 which recently published EN 16012 “Thermal Insulation for Buildings — Reflective Insulation Products — Determination of the Declared Thermal Performance” and he is a member of CEN TC89 WG13 that is working to draft a standard for measuring the dynamic thermal performance of structures using the real climate as the external boundary condition.

Dr. Medina has been involved in the experimentation and simulation of the performance of attic radiant barriers since the late 1980’s. Dr. Medina is an associate professor in the Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering Department at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas, and has an appointment in the Mechanical Engineering Department. He joined the faculty in 1998.

Dr. Medina holds a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering with a specialization in thermal sciences. He has extensive experience in the modeling and experimentation of building components, including radiant barriers and building systems. He has published over 35 technical articles in the area of building energy efficiency and written over 100 reports detailing energy conservation procedures from assessments in industrial manufacturing plants. He received an "Outstanding Service Award" from the Office of Industrial Technologies of the US DOE for work related to promoting energy conservation.
Eng. Shikha Ebrahim is a Research Associate in Building and Energy Technologies Department (BET) at Kuwait Institute of Scientific Research (KISR). She obtained her B. Sc. Degree in Mechanical Engineering at Kuwait University in 2010 and joined KISR at the same year. She is involved in a number of client-funded projects related to energy conservation and efficiency. Additionally, she has experience in improving indoor air quality and thermal comfort in buildings.

Dr. Yarbrough is President of R&D Services, Inc. a testing and consulting company located in Cookeville, TN. He is Professor Emeritus of Chemical Engineering at Tennessee Technological University. Dave holds a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He is a registered professional engineer and author or co-author of over 200 technical papers or reports. He has been active in technical areas related to thermal insulation for over 25 years.

With a Masters Degree and PhD in applied economics, Noble has over 10 years of experience producing economic forecasts. As Economics Director of the Construction Products Association, Noble has overseen all the Association’s economic publications including the Construction Industry Forecasts that have been featured regularly in the Financial Times, in addition to radio appearances on the BBC Radio’s Today programme and television appearances on BBC News and Sky News. He also writes a regular column for Construction News in addition to an Economist’s Blog for Building magazine.
Nico A. Hendriks is emeritus professor in building materials and sustainable construction at the Eindhoven University of Technology, the Netherlands. He also is Professional Partner of the BDA Group, including Kiwa BDA Testing, Gorinchem, the Netherlands. This institute has extensive facilities for the testing of materials and constructions for roofs and facades.

Since 2010 the BDA Group forms part of the Kiwa Organization. The mother company Kiwa NV is EOTA member and TAB (Technical Assessment Body, the CPR name for Approval Body). Professor Hendriks is Chairman of the Kiwa BDA Expert Centre Building Envelope, which is responsible for the issuing of the BDA Agréments® linked with Kiwa Certificates. Kiwa has branch offices in nine countries, including the UK. At the faculty of Building and Architecture of the University he is still lecturing the course ‘Façades and Roofs’.

Over a period of more than 30 years he has published and presented numerous papers on the building physics, mechanics, material technology and applications in this area. He has been a member of several CEN Technical Committees and Working Groups. At present he is member of CEN TC 89 WG12 and WG13, TC 88 WG11 and WG21.

Giovanni Roscini joined Torninova Srl in 2001 and today is the Chief Sales Officer. Giovanni has held various management level positions in sales, marketing, product management and business developments for cast stretch film and air bubble film divisions of Torninova Corp. He has a degree in economics and business from Perugia University.

Steve Baden has worked in the residential energy efficiency field for over twenty five years, including eighteen years with home energy ratings and energy mortgages on both the state and national levels, and ten years administering a state energy office. Mr. Baden initiated the "Warm Homes for Alaskans Initiative" which received the "1993 National Award for the Most Outstanding State Housing Program" from the National Council of State Housing Agencies. Steve was also awarded "Lifetime Achievement Awards" from the U.S. Department of Energy and RESNET.
Tim Fenn was educated at Reading University and worked as a Soil Scientist in Africa for 13 years; winning a WWF Environmental Award in 1994 for work undertaken in community based on sustainability projects. He worked on environmental projects throughout southern & East Africa, Haiti and the USA. He returned to England in 1997 and worked in construction winning numerous awards in business, training and sustainability. He successfully trained construction teams to deliver air-tight, high performance new builds and retro-fits and has been overseeing undergraduate on-site research projects on low carbon buildings. Tim is currently Managing Director of Green Factory ltd which designs & builds new low carbon buildings using its own engineered timber framing system and has built some of the first Code 6 & “Passivhaus” houses in the UK. He has also consulted for companies in Bangladesh (clothing factories) and Kenya (Hotels) on new low carbon commercial developments. Green Factory has also designed the first low carbon prison building in the UK where only prison inmates were used in the build as part of a pilot training programme. Tim is presently working on a new “Passivhaus” lodge development in Yorkshire which will be the largest Passivhaus development in the UK. He also serves as vice-chair of the Oxfordshire Construction Training Group and on the sustainability advisory board for Highbury College in Portsmouth. He is developing a new sustainable construction accredited training programme for builders.

Sergio has been Business Director and co-founder of Prodex in Costa Rica since 1996. He holds a Master’s Degree in Marketing and International Trade. He also has pursued studies in business strategies, management of board of directors, family companies, and corporate governance. Has vast experience in reective insulation and radiant barriers. He has been responsible for opening and developing markets of reective insulation and radiant barriers in more than 26 countries in Latin America, North America, and Europe. Currently, Mr Luconi is a member of RIMA International board of directors.

Jim is the Owner of KdB Insulation Ltd. based out of Belfast, UK. As described by his long lost cousin Samuel Clements—Jim is an expert, an ordinary guy from a different town. Jim’s business savvy and great sense of humor has contributed greatly to his career. He will be presenting along with Guy Delcroix on the topic of hybrid systems.
Mr. Thistle is a graduate of the University of WI, Stevens Point. He is Vice President of Sales for Packaging Dynamics, Specialty Packaging and Laminations. He is responsible for sales and product development for the International Converter division of Packaging Dynamics. International Converter is a leading producer and supplier of laminates and facers used in reflective insulation and radiant barrier applications. With significant technical resources and a global presence, International Converter is continually developing new products used in many different insulation applications.

Mr. Byrd is Vice President of Sales for ROMEX World Trade, a global manufacture and distributor of radiant barriers, reflective and forest products. He was educated at Nichols State University, Perdue University, and certified by the State of Louisiana in building science and has over 25 years of experience in manufacturing and distribution of forest products. Mr. Byrd serves on the Board of Directors of the Building Association of Texas, Louisiana and Mississippi; he is an active member of American Society of Testing and Materials and on the advisory council to APA the engineered wood Association. He is also the current President of RIMA International.

Mr. Wadsworth is President of Innovative Energy Inc. and has been engaged in the reflective insulation industry for over 30 years. He has been an active member of RIMA-I, serving on the board of directors and every executive office position over the years. He has conducted a number of seminars in various building industry conferences and trade shows, including several at NFBA in the 90’s. His company specializes in providing protective packaging solutions for temperature sensitive products during shipment.
Mr. Delcroix is the Research and Development Director and Export Director of KdB Isolation France. He is an Ingenieur Ecole Centrale de Paris (ECP 73) and member of the CEN TC89 WG 12 representing AFNOR (French Association for Normalisation). He is also the International Director on the RIMA-I Board.

Mr. Boulding founded and became President of TVM Building Products in 1997, a fully integrated group specializing in reflective insulation products. He has been involved with all aspects of the reflective insulation market including serving as President of RIMA from Jan 2004 - December 2007. Michael has extensive experience in selling reflective insulation products to specific markets.
Profession Kwon holds a BA, MS and Dr. degrees from Chung-Ang Univ. in Korea. He is currently a professor at the School of Architecture in Halla University in Korea. In addition he is the Director of the Korea Green Building Council, a Chairperson of the Green Energy Committee with the Korea Facility Management Association, and a member of the Energy Consulting Committee for Nam Yang Ju City. He is also judge of Green Technology at the Korea Institute of Construction & Transportation Technology Evaluation and Planning. He is a certified Passive House Consultant and an Insulation specialist in Korea. In addition, he was a Visiting Scholar at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the US in 2002 for a year. He done research on cellulose, reflective and aerogel insulation and is consulting on Passive House Planning.

Mr. Patel has an MBA from S.P. Jain University, Dubai, UAE - April 2010, a Bachelor Of Science with majors in Chemistry and spent a semester with the Programme in Information Technology, Sydney, Australia. His background is in Sales & Service Management and he has used those skills to help develop Aerolam Insulations Private Limited. Relatively new to the reflective insulation market, he has done extensive research on the industry in India and will be sharing that information on our Industry Updates Panel.

After gaining a background in geotechnical testing and several management roles in the construction materials industry, Keith Anderson has been Technical Manager in the Asia Pacific region for Kingspan Insulation (formerly Air-Cell Insulation) for the past 12 years. Keith now manages Kingspan’s technical services, testing and certifications and product developments from Kingspan’s Asia Pacific head office in Perth, Western Australia. Kingspan supplies flexible bubble/foil and foam/foil products, along with a range of rigid foam insulation board products, most of which have reflective facings. Keith has lived in Perth since 1986 where he enjoys the outdoor lifestyle, surf lifesaving in summer and soccer coaching in winter.