



## Technical Committee „Room and Building Acoustics“

**Minutes of Meeting Friday 17th September 2004, 14:30 – 16:00**

**Guimarães, Portugal**

### **1. Report on the activities in the past two years**

Last meeting of the *TC Room and Building Acoustics* was held on Monday 16th September 2002 during *Forum Acusticum*, Sevilla. At the meeting it was decided to establish a number of working groups in areas where there are currently a special interest:

WG 1 – EN 12354 Building Acoustics Prediction Models (Chair: Eddy Gerretsen)

WG 2 – Opera House Acoustics (Chairs: Roberto Pompoli and Nicola Prodi)

WG 3 – Acoustics in Open-Plan Schools and Offices (Chair: Claus Møller Petersen)

WG 4 – Sound Insulation Requirements and Sound Classification (Chair: Birgit Rasmussen)

It was decided to organise a symposium in 2003 on room acoustics in Manchester, UK, as a joint symposium together with *TC Computational Acoustics*. The topic was decided to be: *Acoustic Characteristics of Surfaces: Measurement, Prediction and Applications*. Prof. Trevor Cox was head of the organising committee. The symposium took place 18-19 September 2003 at University of Salford and was very well attended.

It was decided that a symposium on building acoustics should be organised in 2004 joint with CIB WG 51 Acoustics. However, this has not happened.

### **2. Status for the current four working groups**

There has been some activity but not in all WGs. The members should have more information about how to contribute to the work, and the chairmen should have better instructions. All WGs will be asked to prepare a status document before the next general meeting of TC-RBA in 2005.

### **3. The role of the TC (Statutes)**

#### **Objectives**

In order to fulfil the objectives of the Association and to promote international cooperation within different fields of acoustics, EAA may establish Technical committees (TC). A TC will act as a forum for members who share a common interest in a specific field of acoustics.

### **Tasks**

An important function of a TC is to provide help in organizing EAA events. A TC may organize special sessions and workshops, review and select submitted papers, etc. A TC may also initiate studies and prepare documents such as strategies, policy statements, state-of-the-art assessments, reports, etc, within its defined technical field. All such work is reported to the EAA Board for further processing. A TC may not act on behalf of EAA without specific delegation of power from the Board to act on a specific matter.

### **Membership**

Members of EAA who are experts in the technical field, may express their interest on joining the TC. The TC convener invites members, on the basis of their technical merit and expertise, to join the TC. The TC may agree on inviting experts with desired qualifications from outside EAA to join the committee work, if suitable for the purpose of the task.

### **Modus operandi**

The TC shall serve the interests of EAA and follow the by-laws of the Association, but the TC may choose its own way of conducting business. This may be done in meetings held e.g. in conjunction with EAA events, by e-mail or correspondence, by maintaining an interactive web site etc.

### **Economy**

EAA is not responsible for any expenses generated by a TC. Financial matters of a TC shall be handled through a national member society.

## **4. Member list**

There are currently 206 members of TC-RBA. The homepage of the TC-RBA is found under: [www.eaa-fenestra.org](http://www.eaa-fenestra.org). Those who want to become a member of the TC can contact the chairman: [jhr@oersted.dtu.dk](mailto:jhr@oersted.dtu.dk)

## **5. Structured sessions on RBA at Forum Acusticum, Budapest 2005**

There had already been good contact to the TC-RBA for proposals of sessions. The General Chairman of the organising committee, Frigyes Reis explained the plans for structured sessions in room and building acoustics. It was suggested to add a session on façade sound insulation – indoor noise from outdoor sources, and to organise this joint with the TC Noise.

## **6. Plans and ideas for future activities**

### **Sound insulation descriptors**

It is considered were important to prepare a document with recommended future descriptors for airborne and impact sound insulation in buildings. (Related to WG 4)

Action: A draft report should be made for discussion in the TC-RBA in Budapest, September 2005

When ready, the report is conveyed to the EAA board for further action (distribution as an advisory report from EAA to the National authorities)

### **New measurement methods in building acoustics**

Several new methods have been introduced for measurement of airborne sound insulation. ISO/CD 18233 describes the use of MLS, sine sweep etc. ISO 15186 describes the use of intensity for sound insulation measurements. There are special problems related to the low frequency range 50-100 Hz. It might be useful to have a forum for exchange of experience with the new methods.

It was decided to establish a new WG. Chairman: Patrizio Fausti, Italy.

### **Recommended room acoustic requirements for auditoria and other categories of rooms**

From one of the members (Uwe Stephenson) it was suggested that the TC-RBA should prepare a document as a guideline for acoustic criteria in various categories of rooms. This could be laid down in cooperation with European architectural associations and forwarded to the European Commission.

It was decided to establish a new WG. Suggested chairman: Joseph Novak, Czech Republic.

### **Database of loudspeakers for room acoustic applications**

An open database with directional characteristics of loudspeakers is being prepared by Bengt-Inge Dalenbäck. This will be very useful for room acoustic computer modelling.

Action: When ready, it is suggested to have a link from the TC-RBA website.

### **4<sup>th</sup> Round Robin on room acoustic computer modelling**

The 4<sup>th</sup> Round Robin on room acoustic modelling is suggested to deal with the auralization results. Action: It is suggested to ask PTB in Braunschweig, if Ingolf Bork can do the comparison tests and evaluate the results.

The work is suggested to start in Budapest, September 2005. If possible, a room in Budapest is selected for the investigation, and the participants in the kick-off meeting can visit the place and make own observations. As a reference for the auralization some dummy-head recordings shall be made, and the same sources (speech and music) shall be recorded in an anechoic room.

It is suggested to ask the group from University of Ferrara (Italy) to do the recordings.

### **Meetings in 2005**

- Forum Acusticum. 29 August – 2 September 2005, Budapest.
  - A general meeting of TC-RBA will be organised.
  - Monday 29 August: *A workshop on auralization in room acoustics*, including the start of 4th Round Robin on room acoustic computer modelling.

### **Meetings in 2006**

- A symposium on building acoustics should be organised. The main topic could be: *New measurement methods in building acoustics*.
  - Possibilities for location: Vitoria, Spain, or Tampere, Finland, joint with Euronoise. 5-7 June 2006

### **Meetings in 2007**

- A symposium on room acoustics should be organised in Spain as a satellite symposium to ICA 2007 in Madrid.

## **7. Any further business**

The meeting was attended by 11 people. After the meeting the participants were invited on a visit to the construction site of the new concert hall in Porto, Casa da Musica.

2004-09-22

Jens Holger Rindel,  
(Chairman of TC-RBA)