

## Tuesday 13 April

### What's on Today

- Two events you don't want to miss today are the second Plenary Session on Spatially Enabled Society, and the after lunch speaker, John McLaughlin (Canada) giving his presentation on the Fourth Wave of Property Reform.
- The Director Generals' Forum today brings together senior managers of national mapping agencies from around 50 countries to discuss matters of mutual interest and to decide key issues to be presented at the closing ceremony. For invited participants only.
- Another key event of the Congress is tonight's reception, hosted by the Governor of New South Wales, Professor Marie Bashir AO at Government House. Invited guests should assemble outside the Convention Centre for transportation to Government House.

### Reminders

Exhausted yet? Limited places are still available for the Golf Day on Thursday: see the people at the SMIC stand at the entrance to the Exhibition Hall for details.

Limited places are also available for the popular Gala Dinner, but those interested will need to book by Wednesday morning at the Registration Desk.

Those booked on the Home Visits program on Wednesday evening should have made contact with their host family by now. This is certain to be a memorable event – for all the right reasons!

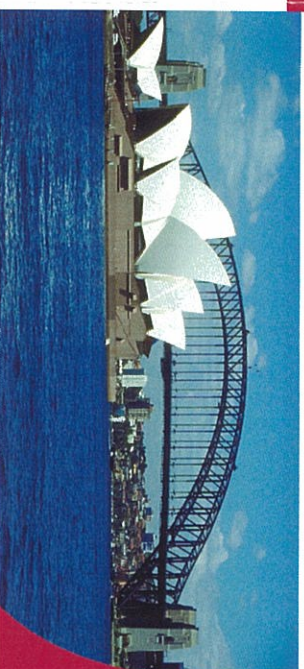
### Lost?

Need directions? Need information? Just ask one of the Arinex staff (in their pink uniforms), one of the famous 'red shirt army' FIG2010 Young Ambassadors or a Student Helper in their blue polo shirts (sponsored by the local Cumberland Group of Surveyors) for assistance.

#### The FIG 2010 Newsletter Issue 1, 13 March 2010

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## FIG 2010 DAILY NEWSLETTER

### XXIV FIG International Congress 2010

*Facing the Challenges - Building the Capacity*

11 - 16 April 2010 Sydney, Australia

### G'day!!

A big Australian welcome to all attending the 24th International Federation of Surveyors Congress in Sydney, Australia. With your presence, you have made it one of the biggest and most internationally well-represented FIG events to date - so well done!

The 2010 Congress includes delegates and speakers from around the world, with around 100 countries represented by more than 2000 attendees. To our overseas visitors please consider yourselves as honorary Aussies for the duration of the Congress. We encourage you all to have a great time.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank our major sponsors for the Congress: Titanium Sponsor Leica Geosystems, Platinum Sponsor ESRI and Gold Sponsor Trimble. Please make sure you visit their stands in the Exhibition Hall.

The four full days of workshops, presentations and technical sessions cover a broad range of topics from a number of internationally renowned speakers. We have planned it so there is something of interest for everyone.

One of the largest trade shows in FIG history - 5000 square metres and more than 100 exhibition booths - will complement the Congress. One of the highlights is the GNSS Rebroadcasting Facility that enables mobile phones, GPS and satellite activity to function within the forum.

The XXIV International FIG Congress offers delegates from around the globe the opportunity to share knowledge, discuss issues and be exposed to global strategies that can be applied locally in their part of the world. We hope delegates will experience the international pride in their profession and obtain a greater appreciation of its broadening role in modern society.

Paul Harcombe  
FIG2010 Congress Director

### Breaking News

Please note the following changes to the agenda:  
Today, After Lunch Talk 1 – John McLaughlin (Canada) is giving his presentation on the Fourth Wave of Property Reform (rather than as originally scheduled on Wednesday).

On Wednesday, After Lunch Talk 2 – Brent Jones, from ESRI (USA) will be speaking on the Geospatial Response to Haiti. (Damian Spangrud (USA) is no longer speaking.)

### Did You Know?

Did you know that you are one of 2000 people attending the FIG 2010 Congress? This means that opportunities for networking are greater than at any other FIG event. The number of attendees and the breadth of their knowledge and experience provide a unique opportunity to get 'up close and personal' with the leaders of our profession – and to play an active part in the increasingly important role of our profession in a global society.

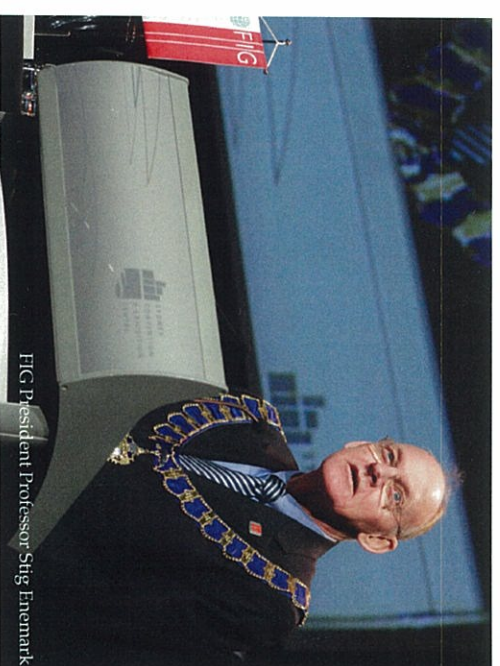


FIG President Professor Stig Enemark



## Opening Ceremony

The Congress officially began with a 'Welcome to Country' by members of the Cadigal tribe which included a reference to the 'songlines' that connect the Aboriginal people to the land and to each other. These ancient connections provided an apt introduction to a conference focusing on a profession that is as old as time itself.

In his opening address, FIG President Professor Stig Enemark said that addressing the land development issues of the small island developing states is of particular importance to this Congress and will be the subject of a special seminar which will take place later in the week. FIG 2010 is the largest FIG conference ever held,

Enemark said, with more than 800 papers from more than 100 countries.

Marie Bashir, the Governor of New South Wales, spoke about the importance of surveyors' the modest and often unsung heroes' in Australia's history.

Her talk ended with the unveiling of a new statue, of colonial surveyor James Meehan, which will be placed in an unoccupied cupola of the New South Wales Department of Lands building. The statue is on display in the Exhibition Hall.

In his address to the 1500 attendees, keynote speaker Professor Tim Flannery urged the surveying profession to take a leading role in raising awareness among ordinary Australians about the importance of action on climate change.

'You are not only the custodians of information in this area; you are the people who can explain what it means.'

## Welcome Reception

The recently refurbished Sydney Town Hall provided a magnificent venue for the Welcome Reception, the first major event of our Congress, on Sunday evening.

With thanks to our sponsors Intergraph, Position Partners and the Intergovernmental Committee on Surveying and Mapping, this event was an excellent opportunity to showcase our profession to a full capacity grand hall. The haunting sounds of the majestic organ provided an ideal backdrop for the commencement of a week of learning, networking and camaraderie during the Congress.



Opening Ceremony

## General Assembly

Representatives from 47 member associations, along with associates and interested parties, attended the General Assembly on Sunday and heard FIG President Stig Enemark declare FIG 2010 the biggest FIG Congress ever.

During the meeting the following new members were recognised: the Cyprus Association of Valuers and Property Consultants, the Nepal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and the Geodetic Association of Herceg-Bosnia. The total number of FIG Member Associations stands at 100. The change in member association for Australia from the Institution of Surveyors Australia to the Surveying & Spatial Sciences Institute was also recorded. Seven new affiliate members were also admitted.

The General Assembly also presented a Certificate of Appreciation to the Danish Association of Chartered Surveyors DdL, for its continuous support.

Three Honorary Members were appointed: Professor Pedro Caverro (Spain), Professor Paul van der Molen (Netherlands) and Mr Helge Onsrud (Norway).

The three candidates for President 2011-14 (Iain Greenway, Matthew Higgins and Teo CheeHai) and Vice President (Dalal Alnaggar, Chryssy Potsiou and Rudolf Staiger) made presentations to the General Assembly.

Voting for President and Vice President, as well as the 2014 Congress Host (Kuala Lumpur or Istanbul) will take place at the General Assembly meeting on Friday.

## Exhibition

The exhibition was opened with the cutting of the ribbon by FIG President Stig Enemark, followed by a surge of activity as attendees explored the venue.

There was strong interest in the stands of our major sponsors, Titanium Sponsor Leica Geosystems, Platinum Sponsors ESRI and Trimble.

The Surveyors Lounge, sponsored by the University of New South Wales, will undoubtedly become a popular space as the week progresses and delegates seek a little quiet time with their RTA 'Surveying the road to success' stress release cars.

The exhibition is well on its way to becoming a high point of the Congress.

Don't forget to visit GPSat Systems Australia, which is responsible for the GNSS Broadcasting (GPS + GLONASS) facility exhibition, making it possible for all equipment demonstrations to take place within the hall.



## Plenary Session 1

Increased global recognition of the International Federation of Surveyors' at the highest levels' is one of the key achievements of the past four years, said FIG President Stig Enemark at the opening plenary session of the FIG 2010 conference on 12 April.

The organisation has been successfully promoted its global profile through partnerships with UN organisations, focused on the Millennium Development Goals including UN-HABITAT, FAO and the World Bank, said Enemark. Surveyors have a critical role to play in the global agenda, he said, particularly with regard to the pressing issues of poverty eradication and urban population growth, he said. 'No development will take place without having a spatial dimension ... and no development will happen without the footprint of the surveyor.'

## Young Surveyors

Did you also know that this is the first Congress appearance of our Young Surveyors Network? With the goal of bridging a path between young and experienced colleagues, the youthful and energetic ambassadors are the voice of the future for our profession.

Keep an eye open for their activities and technical sessions during the week – you can expect to hear some compelling thoughts.