

## **70th IIW Annual Assembly and Conference 2017 – Experience Report**

Shanghai China, 25-30 June, 2017

The 70th Annual Assembly of the International Institute of Welding (IIW) is an event dedicated to welding in its different branches, where top professionals and researchers from worldwide gather and debate the trends and goals of welding research and technology. Given that, attend such a conference is an indispensable experience for the young researcher and/or professional since all the committees of the IIW seat to have their annual meetings where new technologies or even standards are discussed.

What an amazing experience, was to attend the IIW assembly, in Shanghai, China. Taking into account that Shanghai is now one of the most dynamic hubs for infrastructure of Asia, a fit venue to debate and share, with the welding community, the future of welding research, particularly applied, to welding of large structures.

This event was the greatest experience I had concerning the interaction with the welding community and the opportunity to attend the technical visits scheduled by the local organizing committee. The event was a truly international assembly, where the delegates came from different parts of the world shared their research and insights into the fundamental problems related to welding as a science and technology.

I have never seem before such a large number of enthusiastic people about the science and technology and welding and related disciplines. The audience attending the conference truly recognizes the importance of welding in the development of a country's welfare, knowing that each manufacturing route will face some sort of joining/welding process and the knowledge necessary to make the manufactured goods reliable and durable, accounting for productivity, will certainly have a positive impact in a country's competitiveness as well.

In addition, as a motivating experience, the annual assembly and conference was an opportunity for exchange of work experience and establish network between young professionals, like myself, and world experts with valuable contributions to the welding community. The conference was, with no doubt, an event where sound partnerships and lifelong friendship were established.

While at the conference, I have attended to Commission XII in which I was engaged in valuable discussions relating pipeline welding infrastructure. I also engaged on task group Young Professionals, becoming a member of it. Moreover, I presented a research paper in the commission IX and profited the feedback given by the audience which will be employed in future work.

Personally, I am thankful to have joined Canadian delegation to the IIW and represented Canada in this prestigious conference. I would like to thank you the Canadian Council of the International Institute of Welding (CCIIW) for the opportunity to attend this event. It was my first time attending this to IIW assembly and certainly not the last one. I am looking forward to attend the next IIW assembly in Bali, Indonesia next year from July 15<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

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