

CEAS Annual Report 2010

By Joachim Szodruch

This year was filled with intensive work in many areas and to start with we can be very grateful for the many highly engaged and enthusiastic colleagues we have in the Board of CEAS. They all have worked hard to bring our society forward and to achieve the goals we have set ourselves at the beginning of this year. Of course also all of the active members from the all our societies have contributed to the success of 2010 in their specific field. Thank you all for this great achievement! We strengthened our position of being the only general Aeronautics and Space Society in Europe.

On 17th December 2009 in Brussels Dr. Joachim Szodruch from the DGLR, the German Aerospace Society was re-elected as President continuing the programme established by the former Trustees under his leadership.

Board meetings during the year 2010 had taken place at the NLR in Amsterdam (23th April), in Hamburg during the DGLR annual Conference (2nd September) and in the DLR offices in Brussels (2nd .December). We are very grateful to the local hosts of all the CEAS Board meetings. We had an excellent reception at all the various places. This year again we have seen a number of changes in the Board and all the outgoing representatives devoted quite some time and effort to CEAS. The following changes occurred:

There was a discussion initiated by the President concerning the role and the future position of the Branch Chiefs. It was concluded that despite that we urgently need these two positions for organising the technical work efficiently across Europe. Thus at the Amsterdam meeting Joachim Szodruch resigned as the interim Branch Chief Aeronautics. He gave an update on the status of the Branch and was happy to report that Christophe Hermans was ready to take over this position. The Board of Trustees agreed unanimously to appoint Dr. Christophe Hermans Chairman of CEAS Aeronautics Branch.

With the changes in the Spanish Society we also had to appoint a new Vice President Finances. Pierre Bescond volunteered for this position and the Board unanimously approved his appointment as Finance Vice-President. In order to ease the handling of our accounts the Board unanimously appointed Mercedes Oliver as the new Finance Manager a position newly formed which will greatly improve the efficiency of our operation in the hands of the General Director. All necessary changes with the bank account are successfully completed as well.

After forming a new PCC we were informed at the Amsterdam meeting that this group has taken now all the necessary steps in membership and tools to be used to work efficiently in the future. Mr. Jean-Pierre Sanfourche was appointed Chairman of the PCC. The proposal from the PCC was unanimously approved.

The President thanked all newly appointed members for their willingness to serve CEAS and wished them good luck and success in the new position. Furthermore it needs to be mentioned that the former VP Finance Antonio contributed greatly to the CEAS goals and successes. The President and all the Trustees thanked him for his intensive and engaged work.

The last Board meeting in the year in December will be preceded by the 5th General Assembly meeting and a number of changes in the Board of Trustees membership are foreseen. Also on the agenda will be the approval for full membership of the Polish society as well as the application of a new member society. We are proud that now also the Czech Republic community is highly interested to be represented in CEAS.

One of the major goals in 2010 was the successful introduction of our more political influenced bi-annual conference series, here the CEAS conference “Aerospace for Europe – more than just flying” in Brussels in beginning of December. From the start this was arranged in cooperation with ASD and it is embedded in a larger action of ASD, the “Aeroweek” in the European Parliament. At this point we only can thank the DGLR as conference organiser, the ASD, the Programme Committee, the committed speakers and the sponsors of this first new CEAS conference for their engagement, their support and their excellent work. We are also aware that on one hand the timing of this conference is excellence since a number of decisions on the new Framework Programme of the EC are about to be taken. On the other hand we feel the burden of organising an ambitious conference at difficult times.

Other European Conferences were performed successfully as well. As one of the annual events the 38th European Rotorcraft Forum was held in September in Paris. Again it demonstrated that the ERF is one of the premier events in the industry’s calendar bringing together manufacturers, research establishments, academia, operators and regulatory agencies to discuss advances in research, development, design, manufacturing, testing and operation of rotorcraft. The Board decided to support this event with sponsoring the Cheeseman Award which is now a dedicated plaque with inscriptions, containing both CEAS and ERF logo’s.

As part of the overall conference programme CEAS also supports the initiation of new conferences. The Board was informed by Prof. Holzapfel about the 1st CEAS Specialist Conference on Guidance, Navigation and Control to be hosted by DGLR in Munich in April 2011. Most of the CEAS countries are represented in the International Technical Committee.

Due to our commitment and discussions with the European Commission the planned ‘Aerodays’ conference in March / April 2011 will be supported by CEAS. Two event are planned, a European student competition as well as a local (Madrid) organised paper flying competition with school kids.

Finally the 2011 CEAS Air and Space conference will be held in Venice. Two excellent proposals from the Swedish and the Italian societies were presented and in a very close vote we decided for Venice. Thanks again to all who were involved and we all agreed to consider Sweden for the next conference.

Another goal was to start this year a new era for scientific publications in the field of aeronautics and the air transport system as well as for space. The Aeronautical and the Space Journal are collecting papers for the two CEAS Journals. The process was slow and we all need to support the launch of these important Journals by an even more intensive communication of all the member societies.

Again this year we saw an impressive improvement and an increase in the interest in our CEAS Bulletin. We continue the distribution towards representatives from the European Commission, European Parliament, European professional organisations, research and industry in general.

Our cooperation with other countries or organisation will be further strengthened by the proposed MoU between CEAS and the European Association for Aviation Psychology (EAAP). The MoU is supposed to be signed in the Brussels meeting in December.

In summary 2010 was quite a successful year for CEAS. Unfortunately not everything could be mentioned in this report but every little detail of work was of importance to our progress. Based on the goals set by the President we can conclude

- 1) The preparation by ASD / DGLR of the CEAS 2010 political Conference in Brussels was excellent and engaged also thanks to all supporting societies. Now we only can hope to have started successfully our new bi-annual strategy and policy conference.
- 2) The publication of two new Aeronautical and Space Journals by the end of this year has been not been reached, however we came actually very close as the first issues should appear soon.
- 3) Concerning our young people activities we started discussions with Euroavia and we will support students for the CEAS conference in Brussels as well as for the Aerodays 2011.
- 4) We did fill our empty positions notably the new Branch Chief for Aeronautics and the VP Finance
- 6) We will enlarged our perimeter by adding one new European Aerospace Societies to our CEAS Membership
- 7) We successfully started the preparation for new conferences

Those of you who are heavily engaged in CEAS and also the supporting members of CEAS, we all can be proud of what has been achieved so far. This is a result of our common efforts as well as your personal achievements and I would like to thank you all for that.

Joachim Szodruich
President of CEAS in 2010

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