

# **PROCEEDINGS OF THE 8<sup>th</sup> ICOLD EUROPEAN CLUB SYMPOSIUM**

## **Dam Safety - Sustainability in a Changing Environment**

**22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2010  
Innsbruck, Austria**

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# Forward

The International Commission on Large Dams recently celebrated its 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. One of the aims of ICOLD is to gain a common understanding about how "to deal with" dams, the environment and related infrastructure.

Tailored to meet the regional needs the International dam community concentrates its efforts in "Clubs" for a suitable approach. The "ICOLD European Club" already discussed the following European related topics:

- Repair and Upgrading of Dams
- New Trends and Guidelines on Dam Safety
- Dams in a European Context
- Long-term Benefits and Performance of Dams

The 8<sup>th</sup> ICOLD European Club Symposium is devoted to the topic "Dam Safety under the Sustainability in a Changing Environment". Several key aspects as e.g. education and knowledge transfer are of high interest.

Education considering the historic development, the social, regional and ethic differences is a future key issue to an open minded society. Due to the "Bologna Process" the educational system in the European member countries is currently being reshaped. The changing abilities of engineers need a modified approach of the knowledge transfer in companies. An individual adaptation to this situation can be assumed but a systematic approach is required.

The way how to provide the safety of dams and to carry out the required measures is widely discussed within the contributions of the proceedings under the topics Sustainability of Know How, Public Awareness of Dams and Dam Safety, Maintenance and Rehabilitation, Regulations and Guidelines, Small Dams and Surveillance Practice.

Additionally, the entire dam safety process needs to be economically optimized. However, economy has to be reshaped in a way to better serve for the development of civilization. On the one hand it is essential to consider good performing economic figures, on the other hand each process has its' natural optimum – which should widely be discussed during our Symposium and eventually reached. The discussion upon the "dam safety" process for a change to unification or retaining of national divergent approaches in Europe will be of future benefit.

The contributions from the authors to the proceedings herein, the support of the reviewers, the scientific and organizing committee as well as the members of the organizing Institutes are gratefully acknowledged.

Gerald Zenz

President of Austrian National Committee on Large Dams

systematic. This is especially common among species that have an early life stage or nest below ground before moving to the surface.

As a result, many species have developed antifungal mechanisms and some

are able to produce a range of different antifungal compounds with different

activities against different types of fungi. These include:

#### • Fungi must be present

#### • Fungi can

cause damage to components and

can either "attack" fungi or break down dead material. Most

fungi require a host to live on, although some are

detached from their host.

Some fungi are toxic to living organisms, causing death or disease, while others are

not. Some fungi are useful to humans, such as those that produce

antibiotics and those that help to break down dead organic

material. In fact, many of the most common fungi are

harmless, although some can cause problems if they are

allowed to grow uncontrollably, such as mold on food or

infecting plants or animals.

Fungi are found in soil, water, air, and on plants and animals.

They are also found in rocks, trees, and other organic matter.

There are many different types of fungi, each with its own unique

characteristics and functions. Some fungi are beneficial, while

others are harmful, causing disease or damage to plants and

animals. Fungi play an important role in the ecosystem by breaking

down dead organic matter and recycling nutrients back into the

soil, which helps to support new growth.

Fungi are also used in medicine, agriculture, and industry.

For example, some fungi produce antibiotics that are used to treat

diseases like tuberculosis and fungal infections.

Other fungi are used in food production, such as yeast, which is used to

make bread and beer.

Some fungi are used in

cosmetics, such as

perfumes and skin care products.

Others are used in

construction, such as

insulation and insulation materials.

Some fungi are used in

agriculture, such as

pesticides and fungicides.

Some fungi are used in

medicine, such as

antibiotics and antifungals.

Some fungi are used in

industry, such as

paper production and

textile production.

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*The conference is jointly organized by*

Graz University of Technology, Graz, Austria

University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria

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Vienna, Austria

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## Conclusions

Thanks to the automatic measurement of various important parameters within the scope of dam monitoring, continuous monitoring of these parameters can be performed, which means that rapid decisions can be made in the case when something begins to go wrong, i.e. when measured values exceed the limit values.

Technical monitoring of the dams on the Drava River in Slovenia is now performed to an extent which is comparable, with regard to quality and quantity, with systems used on similar dams across Europe. The aim of future technical monitoring of dams in Slovenia is to obtain as large as possible a data-base about the results of the measurements, which could be useful for diagnosis of the condition of the dams and their surroundings.

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