

# Minutes of the EPERC General Assembly 2020 and subsequent BOD Meeting

The 2020 EPERC General Assembly has been organized by web visio-conference using Microsoft TEAMS® based on registrations on EPERC website:

**June 25, 2020 from 14:00 to 18:30**

Following to the GA, a BOD meeting organized also via web took place on

**June 26, 2020 from 17:45 to 18:30**

## Minutes of the General Assembly

- **Welcome** by EPERC Chairman *Claude Faidy*
- **General Introduction of GA** by EPERC Chairman: see Chairman's presentation in **Annex 1** *Claude Faidy*
- **Attendance list:** see **Annex 2** (9 members present or represented over 15) – 3 guests
- **Overview from Operating Agent (present situation) - EPERC Membership - EPERC website - EPERC old reports collection management – EPERC seminars – EPERC next events** *Fernando Lidonnici*

The two Operating Agents (LVDV for administrative matters and SIRRIS for technical matters) have both resigned at the end of 2019. Their tasks up to the present date were carried out by Fernando Lidonnici who took care to organize the joint Task Group meetings of Milano at the end of January, and to manage the improvement of the web site with the actual webmaster Owl Solutions. The two membership campaign launched by Mailchimp (the first one at the beginning of 2020 and the second one a few days ago) have brought 7 new individual members and 2 new small company members: unfortunately the number of email addresses used for these campaigns was not large enough: the number of addresses in France, Germany and UK was very low. The reserved area of the web site is now particularly attractive: all the proceedings and the powerpoint presentations made at the Rome conference of April 2019 have been uploaded, as well as the presentations made at the Milan TG meeting and many of the Technical Bulletins (1999-2003) of the old EPERC. However it is vital for the association to activate all the TGs for which at the Milan meeting there was a clear interest among the members: in fact the main reason to join EPERC is either to take part at the TGs or to be informed about the development of the relevant subjects. It is also noted that due to the present sanitary situation for at least one year it will be practically impossible to organize conferences and seminars open to everybody: therefore the only financial support of the association will be the membership fees. On the other end, the new technologies for conducting meetings via internet will certainly reduce the cost of the future TG meetings.

- **EPERC Financial Report** *Fernando Lidonnici*  
The **financial report 2019** together with the budget 2020 can be seen in **Annex 3**. It has to be noted that, despite the profits made with the Rome conference, the financial year 2019 is concluded with a loss of 2260 Euro, worsened by the negative occurrence (2400 Euro) caused by the retirement of one company member, who also refused to pay the fees of the previous 2 years. The favorable results of the preceding years have avoided the risk of financial problems. The budget 2020 was made under the assumption to increase the membership fees of at least 15.000 Euros, which would be the only way to pay the costs of the web site and a reasonable commission to a possible new operating agent.
- **EPERC Operating Agent**  
New proposals will be examined by the BOD after the GA. For the time being this role will be covered by Fernando Lidonnici until a reasonable solution will be found.

- **Updated of EPERC BOD Officers**

It was unanimously decided for the time being not to increase the number of the BOD members. It is noted that Mr. Ludo Verbesselt has resigned at the end of 2019 and has been replaced by Mr. Crescenzo Di Fratta (TÜV Austria Italia). It was also unanimously decided to confirm the 5 actual BOD members (Faidy, Baylac, Tonti, Lidonnici and Di Fratta) who will meet later to elect the chairman and the other corporate offices.

- **EPERC Future Challenges**

EPERC TG programs and EC support through "Innovation and Information short sharing meetings"

The general opinion is that the following TGs must start working a.s.a.p. with web meetings organized by each TG convenor. The chairman has elaborated detailed programs for each one of them just before the GA, that will soon be uploaded on the web site:

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|---|--------------------------------------|
| ○ <b>Fatigue (TG1)</b>                                  | (Convenor: Guy Baylac)               |
| ○ <b>Alternative to pressure tests (TG2)</b>            | (Convenor: Crescenzo Di Fratta)      |
| ○ <b>Bolted flange and Sealing (TG3)</b>                | (Provisional Convenor: Claude Faidy) |
| ○ <b>Nonlinear Design Rules (TG4)</b>                   | (Convenor: Claude Faidy)             |
| ○ <b>Creep Design Rules (TG6A)</b>                      | (Convenor: Guy Baylac)               |
| ○ <b>Creep (TG6B)</b>                                   | (Convenor: Andrea Tonti)             |
| ○ <b>Fitness for Service and Risk Based Insp. (TG7)</b> | (Convenor: Claude Faidy)             |
| ○ <b>PE Recertification (TG12)</b>                      | (Convenor: Andrea Tonti)             |

The chairman proposes that a further TG on **Hydrogen** should also start working. Lidonnici notes that, in his opinion, despite of the logical interest to complete the work already made by CEN TC74 for the calculation of flanges based on leak tightness, the TG3 meeting in Milano was attended by a very small number of people, and only one of the experts of TC74 was present (the Convenor), so that his conclusion was that further TG meetings would not be useful (and in fact he resigned just before the GA). It was noted that the real scope of EPERC Task Groups is to discuss the subjects where a fixed theory unanimously accepted has not yet been formulated, so that a discussion in the CEN Technical Committees, considering the time constraints and the bureaucratic procedures of CEN, would not lead to valid technical solutions in a reasonable delay. It is noted that the Commission may be interested in the work of some of these TGs in case of future Directives concerning recertification of existing pressure equipment or monitoring of Pressure Equipment in service.

- **EC support**

*Hans D'Hooge*

Mr. Hans D'Hooge has listed the points for which the EC could support EPERC. These points were confirmed in a letter written by him just after the GA.

1) Research funding / DG Research and Innovation.

Mr. D'Hooge has forwarded a document explaining the broad lines of the **Horizon Europe** programme (see **Annex 4**). This document includes also names of contact people. He will contact the desk officer to see if they can refer to someone specifically.

2) EPERC membership of WGP

With regard to EPERC becoming member as observer of the WGP, that should a priori not be a problem. EPERC is not yet registered in the transparency register. The registration can be made at the following link:

<https://ec.europa.eu/transparencyregister/public/homePage.do?redir=false&locale=en>

Once this is done, EPERC should indicate the name (+ possibly backup) of the person to be member of the Working Group Pressure. This person will be given access to the CIRCABC interest group (an extranet with all the documents of WGP/WPG, ...) and receive invitation for meetings etc. The next WGP will be in Q1 2021.

3) EPERC website

There used to be a link to the old EPERC website on the PED website. Mr. D'Hooge can add the link to EPERC website next to the other stakeholders such as industry associations (it helps for visibility).

4) At some point, issues were raised with the practical implementation of PED. The instrument we have are the PED Guidelines. The best way is to address via industrial stakeholders, the notified bodies forum or the national authorities proposals for new guidelines if that could be a solution. The Working Party Guideline can analyse such proposals and see whether it is appropriate and feasible to develop a specific PED Guideline (this is referred to the activity of TG12, PE recertification. For the time being, the Commission is not considering a Directive on monitoring PE in service).

- **Possible support from CEN**

*Samuel Gilet*

Mr. Gilet explains that the participation of EPERC to the TG and WG meetings as observer is allowed by the CEN rules, however, this can only be made upon payment of a yearly fee depending on the number of TCs to which this participation is required. Informal meetings with CEN officers and/or TC or WG Convenors are always possible upon request in order to discuss specific standardization problems.

- **Possible collaboration with EPRI**

*Andrea Riva*

Mr. Riva of Ansaldo Energia presents a research program on creep properties of steels promoted by the American **EPRI (Electric Power Research Institute)** to which many European companies and organizations are interested (ECCC, JRC Petten, Ansaldo Energia, TÜ Graz, General Electric, etc.). EPRI is willing to sign a general non-disclosure agreement with a single European organization: this can be done if all the participants are willing to become EPERC members. The general feeling is that this agreement is possible, however the details must first be clarified with EPRI and the potential participants, provided the results of the project (which is financed only by the participants) can be published on the EPERC web site. Further contacts will be made between Ansaldo Energia and Andrea Tonti, Convenor of TG6B (Creep).

<b>18:30</b>	<b>General Assembly Closing</b>	<b>Total: 270'</b>
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## Minutes of the BOD Meeting

Purpose of the meeting was the distribution of the roles in the BOD, according to the provisions of Art. 12.1 of EPERC-AISBL Statute, that states that the BOD members are to be renewed or confirmed every three years. It is noted that the replacement of Ludo Verbesselt by Crescenzo Di Fratta has been approved by the General Assembly. After a brief discussion the voting procedure took place with the following results:

**Chairman: Fernando Lidonnici** (3 votes over 5)

**Vice chairman: Andrea Tonti** (unanimously)

**Treasurer: Fernando Lidonnici** (unanimously)

**Technical Advisor: Guy Baylac** (unanimously)

The new chairman shall prepare and distribute the draft minutes of the GA and the subsequent BOD meeting. Approval and/or comments should take place before the end of the month in order to provide the official translation into French that will be forwarded to the Notary for publication in the Belgian "Moniteur".

<b>18:30</b>	<b>BOD Meeting Closing</b>	<b>Total: 45'</b>
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### **ENCLOSURES: (distributed to members only)**

- **Annex 1 – Chairman’s presentation**
- **Annex 2 – Attendance List**
- **Annex 3 – Financial statement 2019 and Budget 2020**
- **Annex 4 – Horizon Europe Program**

## How to contact us?

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