



EPERC Newsletter

European Pressure Equipment
Research Council

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Well, now that the former AISBL has been dissolved, it is necessary to find a new organization for EPERC.

As already clarified in the last General Assembly of the former EPERC-AISBL, in the intention of all the members **the dissolution of the AISBL** (not-for-profit organization according to the Belgian law) **should not mean the dissolution of EPERC**: for this reason it is now necessary to convene a meeting with the participation not only of the members of the former AISBL, but also of **all the organizations involved in research activities on Pressure Equipment**, and particularly of **all the possible candidates to the role of Operating Agent of the new EPERC**: an institution that should come back to **the original idea laid down by the European Commission almost 30 year ago**, that is summarized in the **EPERC Constitution**, downloadable from the Commission's web site in all the European languages, and also present in 3 languages in our web site (see <https://www.eperc-aisbl.eu/about/>): because **the web site of the former EPERC-AISBL still exists**, the fee for the web site hosting up to the end of 2024 has been already paid with the last funding remaining in the AISBL's account, and the web site has been partially updated in order to be ready also for the future activity of the new EPERC. The former "restricted area" is now called the "**members area**", which still contains **all the material developed during the life of EPERC** (conference and seminar procedures, minutes of the Task Group meetings, etc.), and will be available for the present and future members.

The first problem that we have to face is **the statute of this new EPERC**: certainly, an association with less bureaucratic constraints and **better focus on research activities, particularly on pre-normative research**: the Task Groups meetings and the seminars and conferences organized by EPERC will become, as it was in the past, **the best locations to discuss the theory to be used in the preparation of CEN harmonized standards**, without the constraints imposed by the CEN rules, and possibly proposing and organizing **suitable research projects financed by the Commission**.

However, the organization of such meetings, seminars and conferences requires time and money, and therefore **the presence of a secretariat, possibly managed by an organization having already an ad-hoc structure** capable of contacting all the European entities and individual experts who can participate in these research activities. It is clear that **the work of the secretariat must be financed by the members**: but **how can this financing take place**? Shall we repeat the old structure of the association fees of the former AISBL, **very low for individual members, higher for company members, making a difference between SMEs and Large companies**? Or shall we make an association with **no annual fee for the individual members** (in order to enlarge our membership), asking only for **a ticket in case an individual member wishes to take part in a specific meeting**, while company members would still pay a yearly association fee, but no ticket for the participation in the TG meetings? And what could be **the legislation applicable to the new association**, certainly still a not-for-profit association, however an association without legal personality?

To discuss all these problems, **I therefore would invite all the people possibly interested in the survival of EPERC to an informal virtual meeting** (that we can still call a General Assembly) for March 27th at 9:30 CET: among them, the present members, the experts who took part in the various Task Group meetings held in the past, and the possible candidates to the secretariat. All participants must still register themselves at <https://www.eperc-aisbl.eu/next-eperc-general-assembly-march-27th-2024/>.

In case of doubts and questions, feel free to contact me still at the address of the former AISBL (the web site hosting also includes the mail system).

Thank you very much and best regards.

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