

PRESS RELEASE



Opening of the FIDIC World Consulting Engineers Conference

2011 Davos Conference

GEARING UP TO MEET GLOBAL CHALLENGES

Geneva, 23 September, 2011—The world conference of the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC) opens in Davos on 3rd October under the theme “Local Resources – Global Perspectives.” From then until Wednesday 5th October, 600 of the world’s leading engineers from 75 countries will be discussing today’s leading issues, such as finding solutions to climate change, sustainable infrastructure, energy efficiency, urbanisation, water and waste issues, and new forms of risk sharing, including public-private partnerships.

“Never before in human history has the role of the consulting engineer been so important,” states FIDIC President Gregs Thomopoulos. “With expanding globalisation, the need to transport people and goods continues to increase, energy demands are growing to match higher standards of living, and we are facing never before seen environmental and demographic challenges.”

The consulting engineer: a driver of sustainable economic development

High quality drinking water. Safe, accessible transportation. Renewable energy sources. Better infrastructure to cope with natural disasters. These are just a few examples of how consulting engineers help shape society every day. “Current issues require a global vision,” states Enrico Vink, Managing Director of FIDIC, “with no single country able to meet these challenges on its own. The available expertise to offer better solutions needs to be harnessed across international borders”, he added. “This requires closer collaboration and knowledge sharing, so that global solutions can be applied at the local level.”



Originally to be held in Tunis, the FIDIC conference was compelled to move to a neutral location, with Davos able to offer suitable venues and infrastructure to meet the requirements of the world consulting engineering conference.

About FIDIC

The International Federation of Consulting Engineers was founded in Switzerland in 1913. It now represents 87 national associations and the majority of consulting engineering firms around the world and a total of 1.5 million engineers.

The FIDIC conference in Davos is organised in collaboration with the Association of Consulting Engineers Tunisia (ANBEIC), and the Association of Consulting Engineers of Switzerland (USIC).

Source: International Federation of Consulting Engineers

www.fidic2011.org

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