



## Echoes from Brno 2017

The EICF EURO Workshop celebrated in BRNO, May 10 to 12, with the theme “INSPECTION CAPABILITIES FOR TOMORROW’S FOUNDRY – A BEST PRACTICE WORKSHOP FOR FOUNDRY PRACTITIONERS” was the largest ever workshop held by the EICF, this time in association with the Czech Investment Casting Association SPL with over 160 delegates from 20 countries attending. The high quality of presentations and speakers provided a state of the art status on the theme. This was complemented by an exhibition and three alternative Industry visits. The EURO WS Web Site is still open. Photographs and proceedings from the event are available to members, where they can be downloaded.

Please check at : <http://www.eicfbrno2017.com/photo-galleries>

Professor Milan HORÁČEK was recognized with an EICF award, by his contribution to the Investment Casting Industry and his personal involvement in the making of this unique workshop in Brno.



*Steve Irwin (EICF chairman), delivers the award at the Brno reception party*

Professor Horacek (Faculty of Mechanical Engineering – University of Brno) delivered the workshop “Key Note Lecture” on the subject of “Brno - Center of education and research of Investment Casting in Czech Republic”

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## New EICF web site; New corporate image and revised value proposition to members

The EICF is about members and to provide value to members. During 2017 the EICF Board of Directors have been working in building up a new Strategic Plan to be implemented within the next 4 years to provide the transformation and enhancement of the value proposition offered to members and stakeholders. Early manifestation of this revised strategy is the new corporate image and the new web site to be online by year end.



*The EICF Board of Directors at their meeting in Porto, 22 of November 2017, where Strategic Plan was reviewed.*

## Research Programmes

Investment Casting is a complex technology, which requires investment in R&D&I in order to remain competitive. Research is key to lead that competitiveness. Within the EICF members, we have the privilege to count with a series of reputed Research & Technology Organizations. In addition, the EICF hold relationships with many other European Universities and research Institutes. EICF has been sponsoring Research Programmes under the EU funded scheme and a Research Working group was created to drive that process. EICF is committed to support research activities for our members taking advantage of the leadership and experience that our RTOs have in driving research collaborative projects. To that purpose within the first semester of 2018 a process to identify topics and areas of interest shall be conducted to establish the future projects. Your cooperation and contribution is expected with great interest.

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## Education & Qualification of IC professionals

The specifics of the Investment Casting industry require special training and experience acquisition for professionals beyond their technical studies. Companies devote a significant effort in building up this knowledge into the professionals they recruit. In addition, the profile of new technologies might divert professionals to be attracted by this industry. Many members have suggested to develop an education course in cooperation with Tech institutes all across Europe with the aim to provide qualification and serve as a job bank for EICF companies wishing to recruit new professionals, which could build up a joint opportunity for Professionals and Companies.

EICF shall be building on a progressive path a set of dedicated education & qualification courses. Again, those interested in cooperating please contact the EICF for further information.

## Close cooperation with IC associations worldwide

Working in the field of cooperation, means to cooperate with other existing associations within their geographical area of influence. The EICF has established and sustained relations with the Investment Casting Institute from America, the Japan Foundry Society from Japan, the Investment Casting Branch Association of China Foundry Association, the Taiwan Foundry Society and others like India and Korea. These associations networking facilitate the interchange of experiences and the integration of market and statistical data to the benefit of the European members.

JFS , ICI and EICF organize every 4 years the World Conference on Investment Casting WCIC. Next WCIC shall be the 15th World Conference on Investment Casting & Equipment Expo to be celebrated in October 18 - 21, 2020, at the Disneyland Hotel Anaheim, CA, USA.



*JFS, ICI and EICF representatives at a dinner in Tokyo Sep 2017*

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NEWS LETTER - DECEMBER 2017

## 29<sup>th</sup> EICF International Conference – Porto 2018

The year 2018 bring us a new EICF event, this time it will be our 29<sup>th</sup> International Conference & Exhibition to be celebrated in Porto (World Heritage).

EICF 29<sup>th</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Associação  
Portuguesa de  
Fundição

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>APRIL 2018</b>						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Download and print calendars from [www.calendarstemplate.com](http://www.calendarstemplate.com)

The conference & exhibition is organized in association with the Portuguese Foundry Association and it will include an Industry Visit and a new edition of the Turbocharger Seminar. The venue for the conference and exhibition shall be the Congress Centre of EUROPARQUE <http://www.europarque.pt>



The conference will present the latest status of the World Investment Casting market with 4 international papers covering the different global geographical areas. Technical sessions are structured into 9 thematic sessions (*Shell Systems & Technology, Equipment & Process Innovation, Wax Technology Additive Manufacturing, Management, Alloy & Alloy Processing, Process Modelling, Industry 4.0 & Core Technology*) providing a total of 34 technical papers. Turbocharger seminar is structured into two technical sessions, covering with 9 papers all the latest information about these relevant products for the automotive industry

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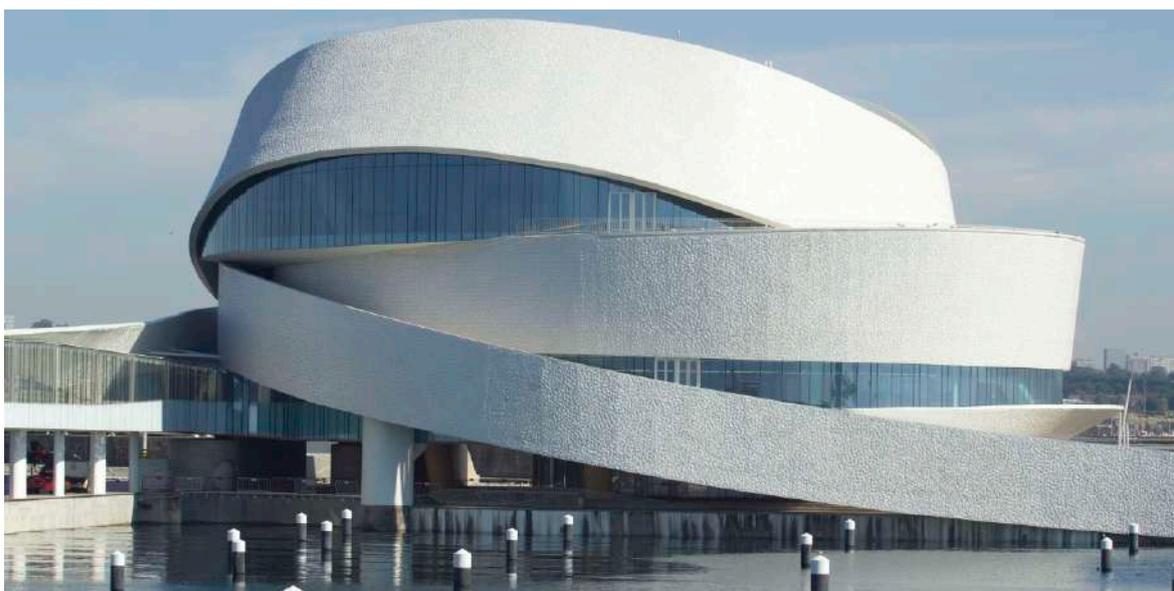
NEWS LETTER - DECEMBER 2017

Exhibition has provision for 50 booths and will have dedicated time on the Monday afternoon. Technical sessions will run in parallel as usual on the EICF conferences allowing delegates to choose the topics of their interest.

Reception party shall be celebrated at the historic building of Porto Chamber of Commerce (Palacio da Bolsa), close to the Ribeira area.



Gala dinner shall be celebrated on the Porto Cruise Terminal



These social events constitute a perfect environment for delegates networking.

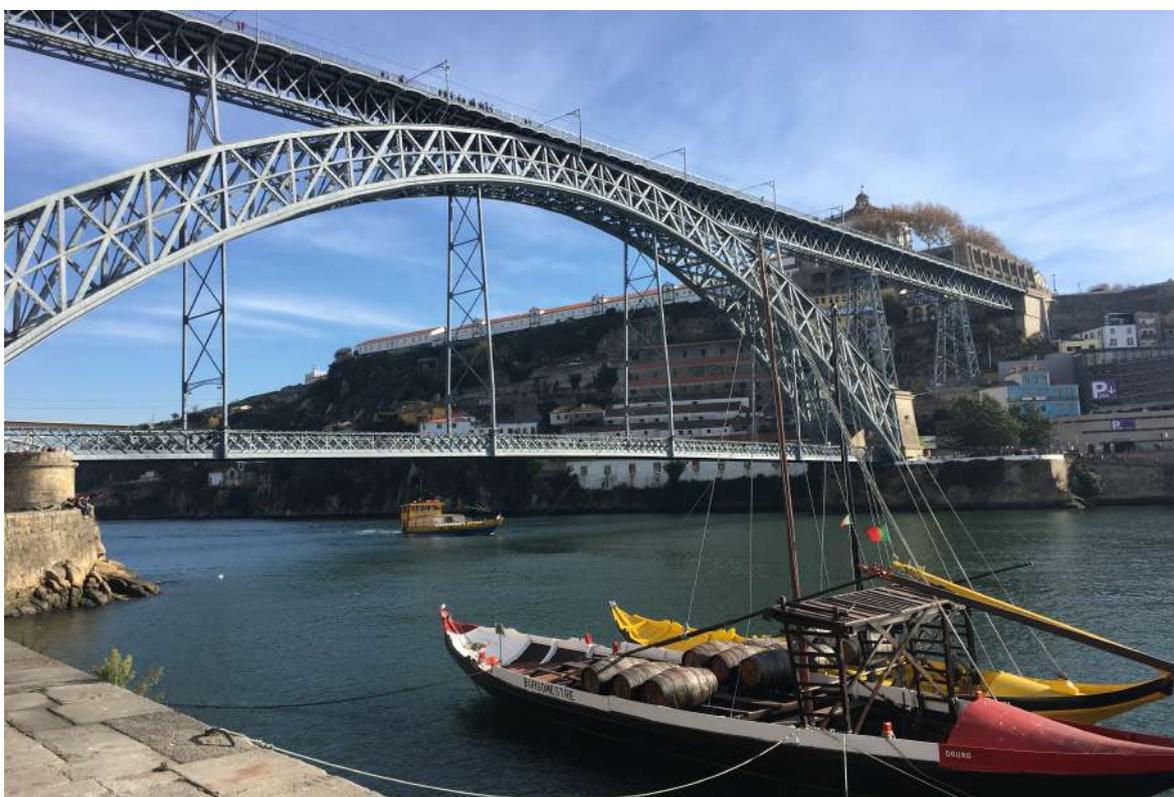
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## Porto

Porto also known as Oporto is the second-largest city in Portugal after Lisbon and one of the major urban areas of the Iberian Peninsula. The urban area of Porto, which extends beyond the administrative limits of the city, has a population of 2.4 million (2011) in an area of 389 km<sup>2</sup> (150 sq mi), making it the second-largest urban area in Portugal. It is recognized as a gamma+ level global city by the Globalization and World Cities (GaWC) Study Group, the only Portuguese city besides Lisbon to be recognised as a global city.

Located along the Douro river estuary in Northern Portugal, Porto is one of the oldest European centres, and its historical core was proclaimed a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1996. The western part of its urban area extends to the coastline of the Atlantic Ocean. Its settlement dates back many centuries, when it was an outpost of the Roman Empire. Its combined Celtic-Latin name, Portus Cale, has been referred to as the origin of the name "Portugal", based on transliteration and oral evolution from Latin.

One of Portugal's internationally famous exports, port wine, is named after Porto, since the metropolitan area, and in particular the cellars of Vila Nova de Gaia, were responsible for the packaging, transport and export of the fortified wine. In 2014 and 2017, Porto was elected The Best European Destination by the Best European Destinations Agency.



*The Dom Luís I Bridge by Théophile Seyrig, a disciple of Gustave Eiffel*

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## Lifetime Achievement Award

The Porto conference shall provide the perfect environment, in front of the European IC community, to present the EICF Lifetime Achievement Award recognizing the contributions over the whole of a career, of a European Investment Casting professional.

## Speakers, Exhibitors & Sponsors

Speakers, exhibitors and sponsors are welcomed and encouraged to participate into the EICF events and technical sessions. These sessions and special events are an opportunity to network with potential customers throughout the conference.

The EICF want to recognize and express gratitude to these genuine contributors which provide the essence that allow EICF events to be performed and to be of value and interest to delegates.

