

**International Research Group on
Wear of Engineering Materials**

IRG - WOEM

TRIBOTESTING & TRIBOMETERS

TRIBO-DATA APPLICATIONS

LUBRICATED SYSTEMS

FAILURE CRITERIA

WEAR PREDICTION

WHAT IS THE IRG –WOEM?

The International Research Group on Wear of Engineering Materials (IRG-WOEM) is a unique body: an informal grouping of tribologists with a wide range of backgrounds, united with a common interest in the wear of materials. It was founded 50 years ago, and holds discussion meetings every one to two years. The core of the membership is a group of national representatives, formerly from OECD countries, all active in the field of tribology, who provide a very broad international base. Members take it in turn to organise meetings, and the twenty five meetings, which have taken place so far, have moved especially all over Europe and one to Japan.

The classic topics on which the IRG is more active are:

- Tribotesting & Tribometers
- Tribo-data applications
- Lubricated systems
- Failure criteria
- Wear prediction

WHAT DOES THE IRG-WOEM DO?

The main theme in the discussion meetings, which typically last two days and attract 20 to 50 participants, is informality and the freedom to discuss new, and in some cases controversial, results and ideas in a friendly forum. For the initial meetings, proceedings are not published, although speakers produce short abstracts of their presentations which are circulated to members of the group after each meeting; contributors are, however, encouraged to submit their work for journal publication where appropriate.

Each meeting tries to address a particular topic within the main interests of the group, although contributions within the field of wear, of any type of material, are always welcomed. Topics which have received particular attention in the past, and will continue to do so, include: all aspects of

wear and friction testing; failure criteria and mechanisms for lubricated, concentrated contacts; methods for wear control, including materials characterisation and numerical modelling; and methods for presentation and analysis of tribological data. The IRG has also organised collaborative projects among its members, notably leading to a multilingual glossary of tribological terms, and the IRG transition diagram for representing the behaviour of lubricated contacts.

There is no membership fee, and the group is self-financing through the modest registration fees charged for meetings, and the generosity of organisations, which act as hosts.

HOW DID THE IRG-WOEM CONSTITUTE?

Executive Committee:

President	Prof. Ian Hutchings
Scientific Secretary	Prof. Amilcar Ramalho

For more information, please contact the technical secretariat:

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WHERE DID THE IRG-WOEM MEETINGS TAKE PLACE?

1. 1970, April TNO, Delft, The Netherlands
2. 1972, April CNRS, Paris, France
3. 1973, July Imperial College, London, UK
4. 1974, October BAM, Berlin, Germany
5. 1976, April CNRS, Paris, France
6. 1978, September University of Leeds, Leeds, UK
7. 1979, September BAM, Berlin, Germany
8. 1981, May 19-21 ISMCM, Paris, France
9. 1982, September 21-24 LSRH, Neuchatel, Switzerland
10. 1984, April 17-19 University of Eindhoven, Mierlo, NL
11. 1986, April 28-30 University of Uppsala, Uppsala, Sweden
12. 1987, October 11-12 BAM, Berlin, Germany
13. 1988, June 6-8 University of Leuven, Leuven, Belgium
14. 1989, June 11 VTT, Espoo, Finland
15. 1990, September 17-19 University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK
16. 1991, September 9-10 Ecole Centrale, Lyon, France
17. 1992, September 14-15 University of Leeds, Leeds, UK
18. 1993, August 26-27 University of Twente, Amsterdam, NL
19. 1995, October 26-27 University of Tokyo, Tama, Tokyo, Japan
20. 1996, November 7-8 CSEM, Neuchatel, Switzerland
21. 1999, March 25-26 University of Twente, Amsterdam, NL
22. 2000, September 21-22 University of Cambridge, Cambridge, UK
23. 2002, May 6-7 University of Coimbra, Coimbra, Portugal
24. 2003, October 16-17 University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
25. 2005, June 13-14 Uppasala University, Uppsala, Sweden
26. 2006, October 5-6 Ecole Central de Lyon, France
27. 2008, Sept. 30-Octob 1 BAM, Berlin, Germany
28. 2010, April 8-9 Univ. Rey Juan Carlos, Madrid, Spain
29. 2012, September 27-28 University of Twente, Amsterdam, NL
30. 2015, October 1-2 Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisbon, Portugal