

2006: A review of the activities of the Metal WG (Networking, Informing and Sustainability)

Christian Degriigny
Coordinator of the Metal WG

Assistant Coordinators: David Hallam (AUS), Gerhard Eggert (D),
Robert van Langh (NL) & John Scott (USA)



Meeting of the BAC & NDTMA Sub-WGs – 1-2 March 2006 - SOLEIL



ICOM

(International Council of Museum)

- Created in 1946
- **Objectives?** Preservation, conservation and communication of the value of cultural and natural heritage, present and future, tangible and intangible
- 17000 members in 140 countries
- **29 international committees**, 115 national committees



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ICOM-CC

(Conservation Committee)

- Promotion of conservation, research and analysis of cultural and artistic works of art
- The larger of all international committees (1400 members)
- 22 working groups
- 15th triennial meeting: India (2008)



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The Metal WG: some figures...

- **September 2002:** 350 members (less than 50 ICOM members)
- **September 2005:** >700 (**160** voting members + Friends (11) and Student-Friends (2) of ICOM-CC)
- **February 2006:** < 150 official members!!!
(since January 2006 only the paying members must be listed in the directory of the group)

Quid of the 600 other members???



Metal conferences...

- **METAL proceedings:** an important contribution to the field
- Only **every 3 years**
- **Not all the topics and subjects** developed in the field **are covered** (problem of the research themes...)

Sustaining a more permanent activity: **Set-up of communication tool**



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France



France



Chile



Australia



Until 2005...

- **Networking** through the national representatives
- **Informing**: consolidation of the BROMECA (**B**ulletin of the **R**esearch on **M**etal **C**onservation) & activities of Sub-working groups (AIAE, ETIC, **ETNO** and **PCMM**)

ICOM-CC website: a good support for online dissemination of information



Metal WG homepage

- General information
- programme 2002-2005
- The BROMECC
- Promotion of conferences (METALS proceedings and Latin America's congresses)
- Sub-WGs activities

<http://icom-cc.icom.museum/WG/Metals/>

But...


- Until December 2005: free access. Since restricted access: only the paying members have a username and password
- Conscious of the loss of possible contributors the coordination team of the Metal WG has decided to launch a new and fully accessible **METALConsn-info** homepage that contains in addition to other information all those already available on the Metal homepage (February 2006):

<http://rsc.anu.edu.au/~hallam/METALConsn-info.html>



Networking: the directories of the Metal WG and contributors to the METAL Consn-info homepage

- Available from internet
- Updated every 3 months
- Contains the list of professionals and students specialised in metal conservation



COMITTEE FOR CONSERVATION - COMITE POUR LA CONSERVATION
COMITAD DE CONSERVACION

**METAL WORKING GROUP / GROUPE DE TRAVAIL
METAL / GRUPO DE TRABAJO METAL**

**DIRECTORY/
ANNUAIRE/
ANUARIO**

Year 2006/ Année 2006 / Año 2006

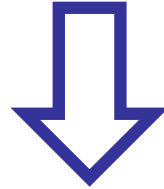
<p>Coordinator: Christian DEGRIGNY* (n°21878) Heritage Malta Conservation Division Diagnostic Science Laboratories Bighi, KAL KARA, MALTA Email: cdegrigny@mcrc.edu.mt or christian.degrigny@gmail.com</p>	<p>Assist. Coordinator: David HALLAM (nr11070) Senior Conservator Technology and Research National Museum of Australia PO. Box 1901 CANNBERRA 2001 ACT, AUSTRALIA Tel: 61 2 6208 5153 Fax: 61 2 6208 5159 Email: d.hallam@nma.gov.au and rzdhalla@mac.com</p>
<p>Assist. Coordinator: Prof. Dr. Gerhard EGGERT (n° 28408) Head, Study Programme Object Conservation Staatl. Akademie d. Bild. Künste Studiengang Restaurierung B Am Weißenhof 1 70191 STUTTGART, GERMANY Tel 49 711 28440 217 Fax 49 711 28440 225 Email: gerhard.egger@abk-stuttgart.de</p>	<p>Assist. Coordinator: John SCOTT (n° 10326) President, New York Conservation Foundation and Conservator of Art and Architecture 560 W 43rd St, 12J NEW YORK, NY 10036 USA Tel 1 212 714 0620 or 1 646 339 6566 Email NYConsFdn@aol.com</p>
<p>Assist. Coordinator: Robert VAN LANGH (n°33699) Head Metals Conservator Dept of Sculpture and Decorative Arts Rijksmuseum Amsterdam Höbemastraat 21 PO Box 74882 1070 DN AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS Tel 31 20 67 47 233 Fax 31 20 67 47 001 Email: R.vanLangh@Rijksmuseum.nl</p>	

* Friends of ICOM-CC, * Student-Friends of ICOM-CC

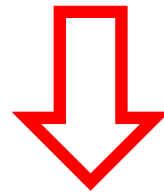


- **150** paying members for the **Metal** homepage (restricted access) & **> 750** contributors of the **METAL Consn-info** homepage (free access)
- **29 countries** represented for the **Metal WG** against **54** for the network contributing to the **METAL Consn-info** homepage (in addition: mainly developing countries. Countries that registered lately: Czech Republic, Croatia, Egypt & Turkey)

**The network of national correspondents of
the BROMECC (Metal WG)**



**The network of the national
representatives of the Metal WG**



**The network of the national contact
persons of the METAL *Consn*-info
homepage**

The role of the **national contact persons**

- Contribution to BROMECC
- Interface between national contributors / members of the Metal WG and the coordination team of the Metal WG
- Promoters of the Metal WG
- Promoters of the research in metal conservation



Informing: the BROMECC & the Sub-WGs

The BROMECC

(Bulletin of the Research On
Metal Conservation)

Objectives: global
perspective of research in
metal conservation

- At international level
- At all professional level
- Regular update
- Funding and collaborations



Editorial

As with BROMECC 10 the number of abstracts in this new issue is rather low. This is no reflection on the Metal Working Group's activity since we are all focussed on contributing to the proceedings of our forthcoming Metal WG interim meeting in Canberra.

This meeting will be the occasion to listen to talks that refer to some of the abstracts which were presented in previous BROMECC issues. In this instance, BROMECC has particularly played its role by informing you in advance of research projects that are currently in progress and outcomes that will be published in the Metal 2004 proceedings.

For this issue, Malta is again in focus, as is shown in the abstract presenting the "Ecorr-Droplet" monitoring technique as a possible spot test for metal artefacts. Other abstracts refer to an outstanding composite triptych currently under investigation and treatment in Lisbon, a EUREKA project which aim is to produce bronze alloys with better corrosion resistance for outdoor monuments and a dissertation work from a conservation student on the conservation of firearms.

Lastly, we look forward to meeting as many of you as possible at the 2004 Metal WG interim meeting in Canberra, Australia (4-8 October 2004). Please note that the reduced rate "Early Registrations" are available for last payment received by 31 August.
<http://rsc.anu.edu.au/~hallam/Registration%20form.html>

Hoping you will find this new issue as useful and as interesting as ever.

Editor
Christian DEGRIGNY
Assistant editor
James CRAWFORD

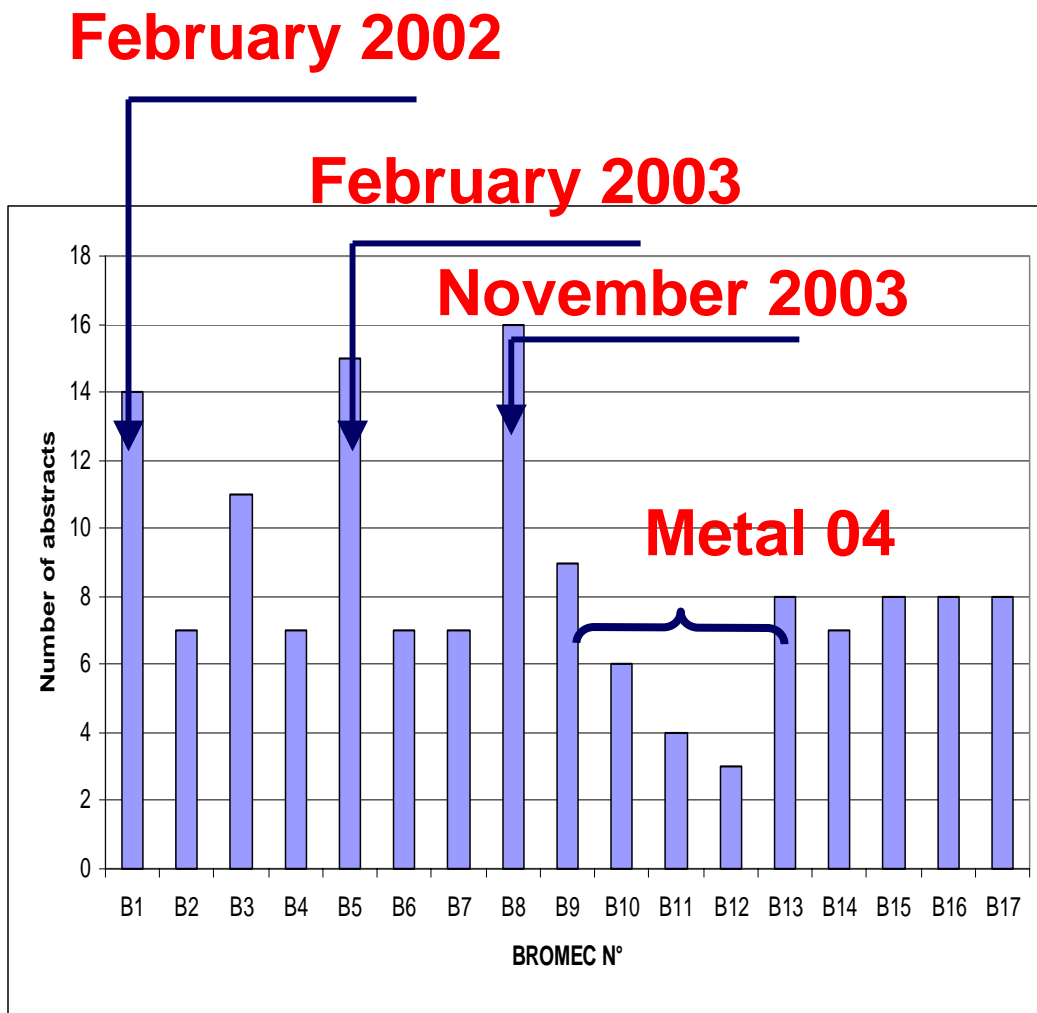


Meeting of the BAC & NDTMA Sub-WGs – 1-2 March 2006 - SOLEIL



The BROMECS

- Starting date:
February 2002 (4 years)
- Every 3 months
- Abstracts only
- English / French
- Available on the **Metal WG** and the **METAL Consn-info** homepages



A very basic search tool...

BROMECC

Abstracts per topics

(+ papers published and project of papers to publish)

Topics

Page 2

Aluminium based artefacts
Composites

Page 3

Copper based artefacts

Page 4

Corrosion studies

Page 5

Electrolytic techniques

Page 6

Ethnographic artefacts
In-situ conservation
Iron based artefacts

Pages 7-9

Iron based artefacts

Page 10

Laser and metal artefacts
Lead based artefacts

Page 11

Management of collections
Non-destructive analysis
Plasma in metal conservation
Sculpture
Seminars

Page 12

Silver based artefacts
Stabilisation

Page 13

Tin based artefacts

- 145 abstracts listed
- abstracts in categories
- per category: titles + BROMECC number
- research of full abstract with BROMECC number

Sub-WGs

- **Voluntary** initiatives, open to all professionals
- Development of **specific themes**
- **Moderators** are **specialists** of their field
- **Conditions:** activities reported to other members of the **Metal WG** and contributors to the **METALConsn**-info homepages

The 4 current sub-WGs

- **AIAE**: Archaeological Iron After Excavation. Moderator: Valentin Boissonnas (CH)
- **ETIC**: Use of Electrochemical Techniques In metal Conservation. Moderator: Christian Degrigny (F)
- **BAC**: Briding Archeometry and Conservation. Moderator?
- **NDTMA**: New Diagnostic Tools for Metal Artefacts. Moderator?

Sustainability

- **Very demanding process** (only the Metal WG is achieving its networking goals within ICOM-CC)
- **Need of an active working group:** the national contact persons are expected to play an active role
 - the BROMECC is developing well
 - except ETIC the Sub-WGs are less successful
- **Feedback** shows that the community of conservation professionals specialised in metal artefacts is satisfied by the activity of the Metal WG

The Metal WG as a European, or even international working force

- **EU programmes: PROMET** (Gr, MT, F, SP, I, Al, Tu, Jo, Eg, CZ, Sy, Mo)
- **Setting-up of new networks: EU COST Action, IAEA**
- **Strengthening collaboration with other existing professional organisations: very difficult....**

... and the future?

- Meetings of sub-WGs in **March 2006**: BAC & NDTMA (Gif-sur-Yvette, F) and ETIC (Ghent, B)
- **28-29 September 2006**: Meeting of the French Section of the ICOM-CC Metal WG (INP, rue Vivienne, Paris)
- **11-13 October 2006**: VDR-AIAE sub-WG Conference in Mannheim, D
- **17-21 September 2007**: METAL 07 in Amsterdam (NL)

Thanks to...

- **National contact persons:** Blanca Rosales, David Hallam, Annemie Adriaens, Gilberte Dewanckel, Petia Penkova, Judy Logan, Johanna Theile, Goran Budija, Dusan Perlik, Karen Stemann Petersen, Wafaa Anwar Mohamed, Eero Ehanti, Marie-Anne Loeper-Attia, Gerhard Eggert, Vasilike Argyropoulos, Balazs Lencz, Paola Letardi, Ineke Joosten, Douwtje Van der Meulen , Isabel Tissot, Dorin Barbu, Andrey Chulin, Jaco Boshoff, Emilio Cano, Helena Strandberg, Valentin Boissonnas, David Watkinson, Paul Mardikian & John Scott
- **James Crawford**, co-editor of BROMECC