

PIANC Belgium in 2018

National activities

The board gathered five times: four times in Brussels and traditional once end of November in Namur, the day before the SPW seminar.

The **General Assembly** took place on March 16, 2018 in Tournai (Doornik), the second oldest city of Belgium.

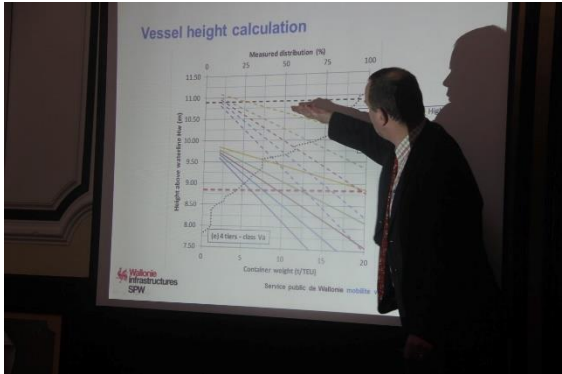


Participants in the General Assembly 2018 @Herbert Smitz

About 35 members participated in the meeting. After the statutory part of the meeting there was a presentation of the “process advancement” of two working groups WG 179 – *Towards a new CEMT inland ship classification* and WG 194 – *A Framework for Early Contractor involvement in Infrastructure Projects*. This was followed by a presentation concerning the “widening of the Scheldt passage” in Tournai, the Kain lock and barrier and the “Port platform at Pecq”.

Further in the afternoon, a visit was made to these construction sites on board of the Eureka.

At the same time there was a lunch as well.



Didier Bousmar during his intervention WG 179 @Herbert Smitz



Embarkment on the Eureka on the river Scheldt @Herbert Smitz



Sail under the “Ponts des Trous” bridge @Herbert Smitz



The Kain lock and barrier in the background. @Herbert Smitz

The traditional **summer event** was organized September 7, 2018 in the COOP building at Brussels, the former milling Moulart along the Brussels - Charleroi Canal. From the top of this building you got a splendid view on Europe's capital.



Participants in the Summer Event 2018 In Brussels COOP @Herbert Smitz

The summer event ended with a dinner on the spot.



Ca 42 participants in the Summer event 2018 during the technical presentation Leopold II Tunnel works in Brussels (also under the Brussel - Charleroi canal) @Herbert Smitz

More than 20 presentations were given by people affiliated with Belgian companies or institutions at the successful PIANC World Congress 2018 in Panama.

The Knowledge Centre Ship Manoeuvring in Shallow and Confined Water and the Belgian Section of PIANC together invited the Belgian PIANC members for a **one-day conference** in Brussels on 2 October 2018 at the University

Foundation Centre. In total 62 members participated. The majority of the Belgian papers have been presented and discussed. The conference was an ideal occasion to extend the knowledge gathered in Panama and to create a network with people from the sector.

Finally, on November 23, 2018 the "9th **regional autumn seminar**" of the 'Service Public de Wallonie' was organized in Namur by the Walloon Directorate General for Mobility and Waterways. The theme of this year's seminar was *'From inspection to extraordinary maintenance. A necessity for our infrastructure'*. The seminar gave us from various perspectives a view on the existing and future Walloon, Flanders and French knowledge concerning rivers and canals maintenance. Nearly 72 participants.



The speakers and organizers of the SPW seminar @Herbert Smitz

The program and the presentations of all these activities can be found on the website of PIANC Belgium at www.pianc-aipcn.be.

Young Professional activities

2018 offered a variety of interesting activities for the Belgian Young Professionals. We started the year with a **cultural walk** in the centre of Brussels on February 2nd, 2018. Together with 17 people we discovered the history of the "Zavel" area of our capital town.



Cultural walk Brussels @Frederik Sanders

The next activity was located in the Netherlands on March 3th 2018. PIANC.be / YP **visited the BIJL company** where they produce composites profiles. We were informed about these new structures and their application in bridges and as sheet piles. Also, a visit to the production unit and a strength test in the laboratory was on the program.



BIJL company composites profiles @Frederik Sanders

May 22nd, 2018 PIANC YP visited the **renovation works of the old quay walls along the river Scheldt in Antwerp**. It was very impressive to see how the old quay walls are upgraded to new state-of-the-art quay walls.



Renovation Quay wall Scheldt river @Frederik Sanders

On June 26th, 2018 the young professionals visited the construction wharf of the **new Coastal and Ocean Basis (COB) in Flanders**. With this COB the Flemish government invests in a new maritime laboratory to study the impact of waves, tides and wind on ships and constructions at sea.



Coastal an Ocean Basis wharf @Frederik Sanders

The last technical visit took place October 5 at **Ronquières** (Walloon area). Ca. 13 Young Professionals participated in this visit concerning the restoration works at the “Ronquières incline”.

So, in global 2018 offered once again a variety of interesting activities for the Belgian Young Professionals.

International activities

The Belgian board and/or PIANC YP participated in the PANAMA AGA (a delegation of 7 members) and the World Congress in May 7-11, 2018 in Panama too, as well as the Med-Days 2018 in Seville (Spain) (October 17-19).

Facts and figures

Membership 2018

Platinum partners:	2
Life Members:	21
Honorary Members:	3
Individual Members:	93
Pensioners (except Life members)	19
Student Members:	0
Small Corporate Members:	34
Large Corporate Members:	8

Board and General Assembly

The Board met on January 22 (Brussels), April 11 (Brussels), June 27 (Brussels), September 7 (Brussels) and November 22 (Namur). The General Assembly took place on March 16, 2018 at the Cathedral Hotel in Tournai.

Text by Ir. Herbert Smitz, webmaster and commissioner and Ir. Frederik Sanders (MBZ and PIANC YP): photos as mentioned.