May 2017 Newsletter

Foreword

Welcome to the May issue of RISEN newsletter.

During our first year anniversary in April, many of our EU Institution Partners spent time and effort to help delivering the annual progress report, which was successfully submitted. Whether it is big or small, any contribution is counted. I would thus like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone. Hope to see you all during the Project Midterm Review on Friday 20th October 2017 at Poli Milan.

Considering our revised secondment plan, if you need some changes due to any circumstance, please kindly contact me. Please note that the decoration on EU Participation Portal should be updated and the signed declaration uploaded to the portal within 20 days after the commencement of each secondment.

I have noted a number of publications and outputs by our EU researchers. If you have any recent publications, news and events, we would be grateful if you could kindly inform us. We will promote them on our newsletter and website.

Last point: please kindly note that we hope to see new ECRs in July 2017 during the 2nd Training Workshop + Research Conference + STEM activity at UPV in Spain.

Best wishes and please keep watching our new ‘RISEN2Rail’ YouTube Channel,

RISEN Coordinator

Dr Sakdirat Kaewunruen, the University of Birmingham, UK. www.risen2rail.eu

UOB RISEN Team hosted 2017 Concrete Society Workshop

UOB RISEN Team helped organising the 2017 Concrete Society West Midlands Workshop on ‘Back to the Basics’. This workshop attracted over 20 participants from construction industry. Concrete is an important structural materials in railway built environment and has been utilised in various components in railway infrastructures. In this workshop, various aspects have been discussed such as durability, fundamental mechanisms and chemistry, performance and recent advances in concrete, cement, and aggregates.

RISEN participated in UKACM Conference 2017

RISEN UOB team participated in and gave a presentation in the 25th UKACM Conference on Computational Mechanics held at the University of Birmingham. UKACM 2017 was an ideal forum to foster ideas & establish new collaborative research links, helping to build strong research networks within UK and at an international level.
RISEN UOB Team visited Saudi Arabia

RISEN UOB Team was invited by Saudi Ministry of Higher Education to take part in International Conference and Exhibition in Higher Education 2017 held in Riyadh. Over 5,000 visitors had visited and discussed on various educational and research aspects. A couple of students plan to join RISEN project in the near future.

RISEN UOB Team visited Oman

RISEN UOB Team was also invited by Omani Ministry of Higher Education to take part in 2017 Global Higher Education Exhibition and Conference held in Muscat. RISEN research outputs have been promoted to over 2,000 audiences. An invited presentation was also given to students and academic staff about RISEN Project at Sultan Qaboos University (20 March).

RISEN UOB Team visited RITI

RISEN UOB Team (Dr Kaewunruen) took part in ISO Standard Committee Meeting hosted by Railway Technical Research Institute (RTRI) in Tokyo Japan in April. During this visit, Dr Kaewunruen also visited the University of Tokyo, Tokyo Institute of Technology, and Laboratories at RTRI to discuss potential joint research via RISEN. RTRI’s Dr Keiichi Goto will join UOB Team in October 2017 for collaborative research on railway sleepers.

RISEN ECRs Participated in the 1st PGR Symposium

RISEN UOB research students participated in and gave research presentations in the School of Engineering First Annual PGR Symposium at Civil and Mechanical Engineering Building, the University of Birmingham. The symposium was an opportunity to discuss various research activities in the School and gained various soft and hard skills.

RISEN Team Participated in Railtex 2017

RISEN UOB team participated in Railtex 2017 at the NEC in Birmingham from 9th to 11th May 2017. Railtex was the all-encompassing showcase for technological innovations across the entire rail supply market. Railtex 2017 offered an exciting variety of feature areas and associated events, which were open to all visitors to attend.

News and Events (please kindly submit your news, marketing and event items to s.kaewunruen@bham.ac.uk)

- In July 2017, Polytechnic University of Valencia in Spain will proudly host the second RISEN ECR Training Workshop to provide training in public speaking and engagement, research commercialisation skills, intellectual properties and open access publication strategies for RISEN young researchers and scholars. If you would like to participate, please send an e-mail to RISEN Project Researcher Chayut Ngamkhanong (chayut.ngam@gmail.com). **The deadline for registration is June 1, 2017.**

- RISEN Research Conference will be organised together with ECR Workshop. All participants will be invited to submit a contribution for a special issue on ‘Railway infrastructure engineering’ in *Infrastructures*. This gold open access journal complies with European Commission H2020 Article 29. The submission is **free** until the end of 2017. For more details, please visit [http://mdpi.com/si/9564](http://mdpi.com/si/9564).

- The 2nd Joint Workshop on Tribology will be held in Tokyo Japan from 15 to 16 November 2017. This workshop is jointly organised by RISEN Brno University of Technology (Prof M Hartl) and RTRI (Dr Chen). You all are invited to attend this event. The event program will be posted on RISEN website (www.risen2rail.eu). Note that the **participation is free**. Please kindly RSVP via e-mail: chen@rtri.or.jp (Dr Chen) by the end of October 2017.