

Heritage Preservation International, 10–12 August 2017: Final press release

Strong interest from abroad in restoration expo HPI in Shanghai

International congress with speakers from seven countries

Shanghai/Leipzig • Heritage Preservation International (HPI) in Shanghai, the trade show for restoration and museum technology, has drawn to a successful close. From 10 to 12 August 2017, goods and services offered by 84 exhibitors from China, Germany, Russia and Canada were examined by about 3,200 registered trade visitors from nine countries. The exhibitors at HPI largely comprised restoration companies, universities and planning companies as well as manufacturers of building and restoration materials, measuring instruments, scanners and 3D visualization technology.

The high number of participants from abroad was gratifying. As well as a stand devoted to the restoration of murals hosted by the Russian Ministry of Culture, a 20-strong delegation from Russia made up of representatives of the Ministry of Culture, the city governments of Moscow and St Petersburg, and the Russian Association of Restorers arrived to take part in the congress and explore possibilities for collaboration with China. “Chinese colleagues have expressed great interest in our technologies,” declared Oleg Ryzhkov, Russia’s Deputy Minister of Culture.

“The stream of visitors continued until the last day, confirming our high expectations,” stated project director Ulrich Briese from LMI. “Shanghai proved to be an ideal location for HPI. No other city in China has such a rich European architectural heritage as Shanghai. The Chinese are keen to involve restorers, planners and manufacturers from Europe in Shanghai’s restoration since know-how and certain materials are required which are in short supply in China.”

Specialists found the international congress programme featuring speakers from China, Germany, Italy, Nepal, Russia, Sweden and Turkey especially interesting, and sometimes there was standing room only. Experts spoke about successful examples of restoration from all over the world as well as training courses, the repurposing of industrial architecture, and the use of new technology such as 3D scanning and digitization. Moreover, companies held a series of workshops where they presented their products. And German architects reported on restoration projects they’d carried out in not only Germany but also China.

For the first time, Leipziger Messe International and Shanghai Jianwei Cultural Heritage Conservation Tech Co. Ltd. joined forces to organize HPI after previously hosting their own trade shows in Jinan and Shanghai. HPI’s key Chinese partners include the SACH State Administration of Cultural Heritage, the Palace Museum in Beijing’s Forbidden City, and ICOMOS China.

HPI will next take place in Shanghai at the end of August 2019.

Exhibitors' statements:

Oleg W. Ryzhkov, Deputy Minister of Culture of the Russian Federation, Moscow (Russia):

"The main aims of participating in Heritage Preservation International were to showcase Russian restoration technology and introduce Russian companies to the Chinese market. Chinese colleagues have expressed great interest in our technologies. The main focus is on the restoration of buildings originally built in China by Soviet specialists. The delegation's participants signed important agreements with Chinese restoration firms. To find out more about our experience in this field, experts from China will be visiting the international trade fair denkmal Russia-Moscow in November this year."

Alexei Menshov, Director of MNRKhU (Interregional Scientific Restoration Artistic Management, Moscow)

"The Russian Federation was represented at HPI in Shanghai by the Interregional Scientific Restoration Artistic Management, OOO Meander, the Russian Association of Restorers and the Grabar Art Conservation Centre. We're delighted that our workshops on the reproduction of frescoes on the final day of the expo went down so well with visitors."

Hans Reiner Meindl, CEO Glashütte Lamberts, Waldsassen (Germany):

"We had amazingly good contacts and meetings. It was very important for us to put in a second appearance at the expo in Shanghai."

Moscow Department of Cultural Heritage (Russia):

"Heritage Preservation International 2017 is a significant event. Senior staff from the Government of Moscow's Department of Cultural Heritage played an active part in all areas of the exhibition. We're especially pleased that the Chinese government is keen to invite foreign restoration and conservation specialists."

Xinchao Song, Deputy Minister of SACH/Chairman of ICOMOS (China):

"Building heritage shows the history and prosperity of a country. We are very glad to have this exhibition in the field of cultural heritage preservation in China."

Jixiang Shan, Director of The Palace Museum/President of Cultural Relics Academy (China):

"It's my first time attending an exhibition which combines architectural heritage protection and a trade fair. I'm very impressed by the exhibition! It shows that the conservation of cultural relics has become a cultural undertaking which attracts broad public involvement."

Shiling Zheng, Academician, Chinese Academy of Sciences (China):

"As far as I know, this is the first exhibition about building heritage in China. I think this exhibition is significant."

Zhou Lv, Vice Chairman of ICOMOS China, Vice director of School of Architecture, Tsinghua University (China):

"We know our past through building heritage, so we need to preserve our cultural identity which is important to social cohesion nowadays. We hope we can learn from our colleagues and discuss with them at the HPI how to promote the development of conservation."

Yiwen Chen, Cultural Heritage Management Office, Wuhan University (China):

"The biennial frequency of HPI is very appropriate so that we can finish a new excellent case. This is the first time that I participated in this kind of exhibition and I found most of the exhibitors were using lectures to show their cases. We will participate in the exhibition next time and we will use more ways to display our cases including interacting with the public."

Contact:

Ulrich Briese - Project Director / Leipziger Messe International
Tel: +49 (0)341 678 7917 / Email: u.briese@leipziger-messe.de / www.heritage-china.com