



International Federation of Surveyors  
Fédération Internationale des Géomètres  
Internationale Vereinigung der Vermessungsingenieure  
**Commission 5**  
Positioning and Measurement (2002-2006)  
[www.fig.net/figtree/commission5](http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission5)

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Dear Colleague,

I am writing to you on behalf of the FIG Commission 5 Steering Committee, which is made up of myself (as Chair) along with the Vice Chairs (Chairs of the Working Groups) and the Vice Chair for Administration. You are receiving this as a national delegate or correspondent member of Commission 5 for your country.

This letter has three purposes:

- To ask for your assistance to increase participation in the Commission 5 Working Groups.
- To report to you on the recent FIG Working Week in Paris in April 2003.
- To inform you of future events involving FIG Commission 5.

### **The Commission 5 Working Groups**

The new Commission 5 web site, including the Work Plan, for 2002 to 2006 is now available at <http://www.fig.net/figtree/commission5/>

As you will see from the Work Plan there are three Working Groups within the Commission:

- Working Group 5.1 - Standards, Quality Assurance and Calibration
- Working Group 5.2 - Reference Frame in Practice
- Working Group 5.3 - Integrated Positioning, Navigation and Mapping Systems

You are invited to be involved in one of the Working Groups. If you are unable to be involved, please forward this to suitable people in your country who may be interested in our Working Groups.

There are two levels of possible participation:

- The first level of participation is as a “core member” of a Working Group contributing directly to discussions, publications etc.
- The second level of participation is as part of a “reference group” to review publications, provide feedback on issues etc.

People interested in being involved in one of the Working Groups should contact the Chair of the relevant Working Group and send a copy to the Vice Chair for Administration (contact details are given on the web site and at the end of this letter).

There are also Joint Working Groups with other Commissions (as detailed in the work plan). People interested in becoming involved in one of the Joint Working Groups should contact the Vice Chair for Administration.

All responses should indicate the desired level of participation, either as a “core member” or as part of a “reference group”.

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## **FIG Working Week in Paris, France 13-17 April 2003**

The Working Week 2003 was held in Paris, where FIG was founded 125 years ago. More than 600 delegates and 200 accompanying persons attended. More information about the Working Week is available on the FIG web site at: <http://www.fig.net>

During the technical symposium, there were 27 technical sessions, 3 plenary sessions and the 125th Anniversary Session where more than 120 papers were presented. Together with 60 poster presentations, the total number of professional papers exceeded 180. The full conference proceedings are available online and free of charge at: [http://www.fig.net/figtree/pub/fig\\_2003/index.htm](http://www.fig.net/figtree/pub/fig_2003/index.htm)

Commission 5 was responsible for 3 sessions in the technical symposium:

- TS 5 – Reference Frame – 5 presentations and 1 poster
- TS 12 – Standards – 4 presentations and 3 posters
- TS 19 – Best Practice in Positioning – 4 presentations and 5 posters

There was also a session jointly sponsored by Commissions 4 and 5:

- TS 8 – Reference Frame: Vertical Datum – 4 presentations

During the Working Week there was also an open meeting of Commission 5, which was attended by 16 people from 12 nations. A major topic of discussion was the work plan and how to maximise involvement in the working groups. There was also an outline of coming events where Commission 5 will be involved (see below). The Commission 5 Steering Committee also met during the Working Week to further the overall management of the Commission.

### **Events for the Coming Year**

- 7th South East Asian Survey Congress, 3-7 November 2003, Hong Kong, China.  
(<http://www.seasc2003hk.org>). Commission 5 is sponsoring Technical Sessions.
- 2nd FIG Regional Conference, 1-5 December 2003, Marrakech, Morocco.  
(<http://www.fig.net/figtree/events/morocco/MoroccoA4.pdf>). FIG has instituted a program of Regional Conferences to cover topics of interest in the region and with emphasis on cooperation with UN Agencies. Commission 5 topics for Morocco are:
  - Regional horizontal and vertical reference frame.
  - Positioning and measurement technologies and practices.
- 9th International Symposium on Mobile Mapping Technology, March, 2004, Kunming, China. This event (also co-sponsored by IAG and ISPRS) was to take place in August 2003 but has been postponed until March 2004. Updated details will be available soon on the Events pages of the FIG web site.
- FIG Annual Working Week, May 22 - 27, 2004, Athens, Greece.  
(<http://www.fig2004.gr>). All national delegates and correspondent members of the Commission are encouraged to attend and should check the web site for updates, including the release of the Call for Papers.

### **Conclusion**

The Vice Chairs and myself look forward to your reply and to your continued involvement in FIG Commission 5.

Your sincerely

**Matt Higgins, Chair FIG Commission 5**

22 May 2003

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## **FIG Commission 5 Contact Details**

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## **Chair Working Group 5.1 - Standards, Quality Assurance and Calibration**

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## **Co-Chairs Working Group 5.2 - Reference Frame in Practice**

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## **Chair Working Group 5.3 - Integrated Positioning, Navigation and Mapping Systems**

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