

## **"The United Arab Emirates University in Collaboration with the Works Department – Abu Dhabi, and the Society of Engineers organizes the Ninth Arab Structural Engineering Conference in Abu Dhabi, November 29 – December 1, 2003"**

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After the great success of eight previous Arab Structural Engineering Conferences held in different Arab countries, the **Ninth Arab Structural Engineering Conference (9ASEC)** will be held in "Beach Rotana Hotel & Towers" in Abu Dhabi from November 29 to December 1, 2003, under the patronage of **H. H. Sheikh Nahayan Mabarak Al-Nahayan**, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research at UAE and Chancellor of the UAE University. The conference is held every two years in the capital city of an Arab country. The previous eight conferences were held in Egypt (1985, 1991 and 2000), Jordan (1987), United Arab Emirates (1989), Libya (1993), Syria (1995) and Kuwait (1997). This series of conferences used to be an excellent opportunity for researchers and practitioners in the Arab world to meet and share their knowledge in the field of Structural Engineering. However, the organizers of the 9ASEC tried to give it an international dimension by inviting Arab and non-Arab scholars from all over the world to participate in the conference, and to discuss and exchange ideas on "Emerging Technologies in Structural Engineering." International experts will present keynote lectures on interesting topics in the field. **His Excellency Prof. Dr. Eng. Mohamed Ibrahim Soliman**, Minister of Housing, Utilities & Urban Communities in Egypt, will be the Guest of Honor, and will deliver the Keynote Address of The Conference on "Urban Development in Egypt: Strategy and Implementation" immediately after the opening ceremony, which will start at 9:30 am on Saturday, November 29. One of the keynote lectures presented on the second day of the conference and delivered by Professor Astaneh-Asl from the University of California, Berkeley, will be on the "World Trade Center Collapse, Field Investigations and Analyses." Four other keynote presentations will be delivered by distinguished researchers in the United States and Canada.

The main objective of this conference is to provide a forum for practitioners and researchers from around the world to meet and discuss the best examples of current and developing practices and research, and to exchange ideas on future directions in the field of Structural Engineering in order to promote the advancement of this important field. The conference is intended to unify Arab efforts in fostering productive partnership in Structural Engineering, and to strengthen the fruitful collaboration among universities, research centers and construction sectors in the Arab world and worldwide. Over 160 technical papers, distributed over 32 technical sessions, will be presented and discussed during the three days of the conference. The papers cover the fields of structural engineering, construction and building materials, construction management, structural damage assessment and repair, seismic design, and foundation engineering. The specific conference themes are as follows:

1. Composite Behavior & FRP Applications in Construction
2. Modern Trends in the Analysis and Design of Concrete Structures
3. Innovations in the Analysis and Design of Metallic Structures
4. Repair, Retrofit, and Rehabilitation of Existing Structures
5. Advances in Bridge Analysis, Design, and Evaluation
6. Innovative Seismic Retrofit of Building and Bridges
7. Recent Advances in the Seismic Analysis of Structures
8. Neural Networks and Fuzzy Logic Applications in Structural Design

9. Emerging Computing Technology in Structural Engineering
10. Non-Destructive Assessment of Structural Systems
11. Advances in Structural Analysis & Design
12. Foundations & Soil-Structure Interaction
13. Advances in Geotechnical Engineering
14. Recent Advances in Structural Stability
15. Case-Studies in Structural Engineering
16. Analysis & Performance of Structures under Adverse Conditions
17. Construction Management
18. Material Modeling & Behavior

An Engineering Exhibition will be held during the conference period (November 29 to December 1, 2003) at the conference hotel. The exhibition inauguration will be at 10:30 am on Saturday, November 29, 2003. The exhibition will provide an excellent opportunity for local and international companies to display their latest products, services and projects in the areas of structures, construction, and building materials. High profile officials from all municipalities, public works departments, and other governmental and private sectors will be invited to visit the exhibition. All engineers interested in the mentioned areas are also invited to visit. The exhibition will be open to the public, in addition to the conference participants, from 8:00 am until 6:00 pm throughout the conference period. We expect a large number of construction contractors, suppliers, architects, engineers, construction management firms, and engineering consultants to participate in the exhibition.

For further information about the conference and the accompanying exhibition, please visit the conference web site at <http://9ASEC.uaeu.ac.ae>.

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Representatives at the Press Conference:

Professor James R. Williams, Dean of the College of Engineering, UAE University  
Dr. Aly S. Nazmy, Conference Chair  
Dr. Ashraf Biddah, Conference Secretary General  
Eng. Ahmed Al-Mazrui, Chairman of the Society of Engineers – UAE  
Dr. Abdul-Rahim Sabouni, Building Design Expert, Works Department – Abu Dhabi