



Minutes of ISO annual General Assembly 2012

Time: Friday, March 16, 2012 at 19:00 – 21:00.

Place: Conference Room at the M/S Princess Maria from St. Petersburg, Russia.

Delegates present at this 55th annual ISO General Assembly were the ISO members participating in the Congress 2012, see separate participation list. The *Management Committee* had in a meeting Thursday 15th at the Myymälä exhibition in Helsinki prepared the recommendations for GA approval according to separate *MC Meeting* minutes.

1. Welcome by the president.

ISO President *Francois Mathéron* welcomes the assembly to the annual ISO Congress and meeting.

The meeting has been timely announced with a 60 days' notice according to the statutes, and is competent to pass solutions.

The welcome was well received; there was no request to speak, and no objections to the agenda.

2. Absence apologies.

Member Jochen Smith of Swarovski has sent his regards and proxy of voting to the president. No MC members were absent.

Auditor Jorgen Mikkelsen of Vangsgaard DK was excused, but Tommy Andersen of the same company had the vote.

NSE, Norway is multinational member, why Morten Gron-Hansen, NSE Norway had one, and Andrzej Pudelek, NSE Poland had the other vote. MG-H brought greetings from past presidents Volker Otto, D and Hans Benschop, NL.

February 3, 2012, at age 66, past president of ISO, and CFA, *Paul Meyer, France*, regretfully passed away. He was a very active ISO Member since 1965, he joined most ISO congresses, study tours, and organized tours for the young members of our industry.

President Francois Matheron proposed a quiet minute to pay tribute to the memory of Paul Meyer..... Thank you.

3. Minutes and approval of the General Meeting May 28, 2011 in Prague, Czech Republic.

The minutes were approved and signed by the President and Secretary General.

4. Treasurer's report and budget.

Treasurer *Herman Jurrius* presented and commented the financial situation:

The audited "Annual account 2011 and Budget update 2012" had been forwarded to all in advance in a form dated 4 February 2012, attached to the final calling of the GA.

The fiscal year deficit is €7.555. The assets per 31.12.11 were Euro 40.460.

The cost of the ISO Meeting Point at the Euroshop was €8.840 paid in 2011, plus an extra nonpaid amount of €1607 in connection with the – otherwise successful – VAT refund, which is budgeted, paid and booked in February 2012.

The operational result of 2011 *without the Euroshop* was a profit of €1.285 which is better than the original 2011 budget.

The accounts have been properly audited and signed by the bookkeeping, Treasurer and ISO elected Auditor.

It is noted, that ISO is a not-for-profit organisation, which must be related to the transfer of assets from the former Secretariat and Treasurer in Switzerland per 31.12.2005, total €27.600. The General Assembly is therefore recommended by the MC, Treasurer, and Secretariat, to approve coming events (Baltic Factory Tour, Congress 2013, Euroshop 2014) to be supported by ISO funds, offering attractive terms and prices to members, as an incentive of higher participation numbers, and promotion of ISO towards new members.

This also applies to the present Congress, where the limited participation number unfortunately is expected to lead to a deficit instead of a budgeted profit of approximately €1000, but it has been decided, notwithstanding to offer full meals & beverage, as well as transport, and a short, complimentary sightseeing tour in The World Design Capital, Helsinki Saturday morning 17.03.12.

A revised 2012 and new 2013 budget, which also takes into consideration that a few members are not fulfilling their financial obligations in 2012, will be discussed at the Baltic Region MC Meeting in October 2012.

The General Assembly approved the Treasurers report and the audited accounts for 2011.

The budgets and comments for 2012 and activities in 2013 and 2014 were noted and accepted.

5. Election of the management committee, MC who elect among them for three years the president, vice president, and treasurer.

According to recommendation of the management committee GM confirmed the election of Tony Kramps, Holland, as new president for the coming 3 year period, Herman Jurrius, Holland to continue as Treasurer, and Dovydas Dublys, Lithuania as new vice president. His company Solid Supply being full ISO member from 2012.

All the other MC members were reelected: Past presidents Francois Mathéron F, Carsten Schemberg D, and Morten Gron-Hansen N. The MC is according to the statutes hereafter still open to new members from all member countries except Holland (as 2 are max.)

6. Election of the auditor for one year.

The auditor Jorgen Mikkelsen Denmark was reelected for 2012.

7. Next Annual General Meeting May 2013, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

The Secretary presented a very attractive offer by the **4 Points by Sheraton Hotel Dubai** (same as our congress Hotel in China 2010, but even better) and invitation to visit the DECO Emirates Ltd. Shopfitting manufacturer, Dubai. DECO has approx. 400 employees, and count Louis Vuitton, Burberry, Cartier, and other high-end retailers among their customers. The General Manager Hugh Bigley, and Sales Manager Leslia Almeida are very open to ISO participation and part sponsorship of an UAE ISO Congress, and sends their best regards to the 2012 Congress. Furthermore a Regional Shopfitting Exhibition is preliminary scheduled to take place in connection with either of the 2 suggested terms, which is why the ISO MC recommends to wait for the actual dates to be settled. Other attractions are the World's largest shopping malls, the World's tallest building, largest indoor ski-park, and much more. Flights are of course more expensive than within Europe, but many good offers are available. Other costs are difficult to budget, but the MC suggests a moderate Congress participation fee in line with the past 3-4 years to stimulate the participation interest, and if necessary, supported by ISO.

As Friday is the local holiday, the Congress should be held **Saturday-Tuesday May 11-14 or 18-21, 2013**, depending on the possibility of the mentioned regional Retail Interior Exhibition in the same period.

The final dates, program, and budget shall be presented to the MC for approval at the October meeting, including suggestions of optional pre- or post-congress extensions to the program.

The proposal of the 2013 ISO Congress in Dubai, UAE was unanimously agreed by the GA.

A 2014 Congress could be in Turkey, Holland, Morocco (Treasurer's proposal), but other suggestions are very welcome.

8. Other ISO activities, open discussion, no decisions at the meeting.

A Retail & Factory study tour to the Baltic States Lithuania and Latvia in October is based on an invitation from Dovydas Duoblys, Solid Supply, Vilnius, and from Jakob Hauptmann, BAC Metal sia, Jelgava, both active and serious ISO members.

In September 2011 the Secretariat visited the two companies and was impressed with their professional production capabilities at competitive prices.

Dovydas has his project management and sales headquarter in central Vilnius, as well as his own factory not far away with about 40-50 workers, mainly in wood manufacturing. He also rely on a number of very efficient sub-suppliers in finishing, special "organic" design furniture, heavy- and sheet-metal works, glass, plastics, installation and project management. At the mentioned visit he actually presented 9 production facilities!

Jakob in Jelgava (40 km from Riga, on the way from Vilnius) established his company ca. 20 years ago with used "HOVI" machinery (from A+PB's former factory in Copenhagen) and have over the years expanded and modernised the premises and production impressively. At present a new 1000 m2 addition with automatic powder coating is under establishment (the 20 year old semi-automatic plant having served him well so far), and the rest of the factory is fully equipped with efficient machinery, cutting, welding, punching, bending, Laser cutting, and finishing wire, sheet metal and tube. He can make most metal parts for shopfitting, but does a lot of work for other industries as well. BAC Metal is exporting almost all to Scandinavia at present. The Economic review for Latvia is attached.

The tour planning will involve flying in/out of Vilnius and/or Riga, 3 overnight stays, and bus transfer between the sites. The suggested dates are Tue-Thur. 23-25 October 2012. The program and invitation with a presentation of the companies we visit is expected to be published in early August with registration deadline early September.

The Autumn *MC meeting* is suggested the following day in either Riga, Copenhagen and/or Malmö where the *Emporia Mall* is opening.

Contracting the Euroshop ISO Meeting Point 2014 could be to a member "shopfitter" (example Solid Supply), or a project Managing "Ladenbau" company, such as Simone Jäger, Witzhausen (spouse of Stephan Brübach, NSE), who is willing to apply for ISO membership in the same connection.

However the situation is still open, why all concerned members should announce their interest by contacting the Secretariat at their first convenience. A preliminary decision must be taken at the MC Meeting in October 2012, and for time reasons the implementation must start before next year's ISO Congress in Dubai. Euroshop bookings takes place 1½ year in advance of the events.

ISO Web-site www.iso-shopfitting.com

It is important that all members make sure their entry to the ISO Web-site members' list is updated, as we get many mails, which we answer by recommending our members accordingly. The web-site also generates many direct hits. In the UK alone, *Iso-shopfitting* are recording an estimated 567 monthly visitors, almost 7.000 a year! Don't miss this free advertising effect to your ISO membership.

Succession of the Secretariat, 2014.

It should be noted by the members that the present ISO Secretariat Thornberg-Bailey AB in Sweden does not expect to keep up the pace for too many years to come. Anna and Preben Bailey do not mind to continue after January 2014, but with a reduced workload as a presumption. The MC, and members, should therefore keep an eye open for a timely succession whenever feasible after 2014.

president thanked the audience for their participation, and the Secretariat for a well organized ISO Congress, and adjourned the General Assembly.

9. Meeting adjourned.

Nobody else wanted to speak to the GA, why the new ISO president Tony Kramps thanked the audience.

After a brief resume of the Economic Reviews of the Member Countries, which was already distributed in printed versions, everybody went downstairs to the excellent Gala Dinner, and celebration of the evening and the night at sea.

06.04.12

Preben Bailey

Secretary General

ISO, International Shopfitting Organisation