



Press release AIE Annual event and Council of Delegates 2011

The annual AIE 'Council of Delegates' and Conference was held from 16 – 18 November 2011 in Brussels at NH Hotel du Grand Sablon. This year's AIE event was highlighted by the presence of important worldwide delegations coming from overseas. The AIE had indeed the great pleasure to welcome high ranking personalities of the electrical contractor's associations of the United States of America, South-Africa, Australia and our Hungarian members along the 3 days-event.

The **IFEC-meeting** – International Forum of Electrical Contractors – shared information on the current economic situation in the different parts of the world and its impact on the electrical sector. The international delegates also exchanged experience on how member companies face the current recession, the fast developing technology and the resulting opportunities and trends in the electrical sector, and the change of mind set in the sector from an installer to a planner and integrator.



From left to right: James Tinslay [NECA AUSTRALIA], Mark Mfikoe [ECA SOUTH-AFRICA], Janne Skogberg [AIE president STUL], Rex Ferry and John Grau [NECA United States of America] together with Evelyne Schellekens [AIE Secretary General]

During the **Strategic Forum** on Thursday, the AIE then reflected on how to tackle future strategies in the framework of the AIE strategic roadmap. The outstanding **Conference speakers** Joost Demarest [KNX], Ronnie Belmans [KU Leuven Energy Ville], André Van Poeck [University Antwerp], Stuart Gaunt [Reggiani] and Marc Coroler [Schneider Electric] gave us their Vision of the future and inspired the full audience with new energy, positive ideas and extra volt for each one's business, work and life.

Conference titles were:

> *'Young Generation KNX Projects' by Joost Demarest, Director Certification and Administration KNX*

> *'The world of tomorrow – Research & Innovation' by Prof. Dr. Ir. Ronnie Belmans, "Honorary Chairman Board of Directors Elia, K.U.Leuven-EnergyVille"*

> *'The economic and financial crisis, the euro and the outlook for the world economy by Prof. Dr. André Van Poeck, Professor of macro- and financial economics, Department of Economics, University of Antwerp.'*

> *'Everything you always wanted to know about LED's' by Mr. Stuart Gaunt, Technical Manager at Reggiani UK*

> *'The Key drivers of the future: taking technology to new levels' by Mr. Marc Coroler, Central Europe Senior Vice -President, Schneider Electric*



Delegates at the Statutory Council

The well attended AIE Statutory meeting on Friday afternoon closed the business sessions in a good family spirit followed by a Gala dinner at the enchanting 'Chateau St-Anne' in Brussels!

European Association of Electrical Contractors

"ELECTRICITY SURROUNDS US – TOUCHES EVERY ONE OF US, EVERY DAY, EVERYWHERE.

Who we are:

The European Association of Electrical Contractors – AIE – comprises 20 national associations representing 175,000 contractors, a workforce of nearly 1.000,000 and a turnover of Euro 75 billion.

Monitoring the EU agenda/Directives relevant for the electrical sector, the AIE points out the key strategies and main priorities for the modern electrical contractor. With the increasing complexity of technical installations, the private consumer and house owners are becoming more and more dependent on the knowledge and creativity of the electrical contractor. He is an expert adviser who is able to explain to the client the possibilities and advantages of new technology in a technical and environmental way. Kindly visit our website: www.aie.eu or contact us at info@aie.eu.